



HAMILTON SOCCER INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE 2025-2026

RULES & REGULATIONS

1) Club and Team Responsibilities:

- a) Member Clubs are responsible for the conduct of all players/team officials and spectators at all times. Players, team officials and spectators shall conduct themselves in accordance with the Rules of Conduct as set out by Hamilton Soccer and Ontario Soccer's Published Rules and Regulations.
- b) Team officials and players must be registered with their respective club through Ontario Soccer's registration system. Each coach must have in his/her possession either a hard copy or electronic copy of the official stamped Ontario Soccer team roster.
- c) Team officials and players must confine themselves to within 1 meter of the players' bench and outside of the playing area when not on the playing surface.
- d) Team officials are not permitted to enter the field of play, unless they receive permission from the referee
- e) Game balls shall be the responsibility of the home team. Size 4 for U10-U12, Size 5 for U13- U18.

2) Player Identification:

- a) Team Officials must be in possession of a properly authorized Ontario Soccer roster.
- b) Game played under protest – If a team feels that the opposition are playing an ineligible player, they must advise the referee before the start of the 2nd half, that they wish to play the game under protest. The team protesting must identify the player(s) that they feel are ineligible. The referee will make note of these players on the game sheet so that the league may investigate.
- c) Failure to produce the Ontario Soccer roster will result in forfeit of the game and potential disciplinary action.
- d) Only players and team officials listed on authorized Ontario Soccer rosters may have their names entered on the game sheet and be deemed eligible to play.
- e) Players may only be registered to one team per division.

3) Player Eligibility:

- a) All players shall be duly registered before playing
- b) Rules and regulations as set out in Ontario Soccer's Policies and Procedures regarding the signing and transfer of players shall apply.
- c) Teams found to have used an ineligible player(s), shall forfeit the game(s) to its opponents. If both teams are found guilty of using ineligible player(s), no points will be awarded. A team found guilty of using ineligible player(s) may be subject to disciplinary action.
- d) Ineligible Player - Although the list below is not all exhaustive, an ineligible player is a player who:
 - i) Is not registered under Ontario Soccer policies and procedures
 - ii) Is registered under a false name.
 - iii) Is under discipline suspension
 - iv) Played under different name
 - v) Played as a guest player without the appropriate approvals

4) League Games:

- a) Duration of all 7v7 games is 2 x 25-minute halves.
- b) Half time will be two (2) minutes.
- c) Call ups/guest players are permitted as per Ontario Soccer policies and procedures.
- d) In the event that one team does not field the minimum required number of players to start a game, it will be considered to have defaulted the game and shall forfeit the points. The opposing team will be awarded the win and a score of 3-0 will be recorded.
- e) In the event that both teams are unable to field the minimum number of players to play the game, both teams shall be in default of the game and no points awarded.
- f) In the event that a team does not show up for a regularly scheduled game, it shall be deemed that the team is in default of the game and will not be awarded any points. The opposing team will be awarded the win and a score of 3-0 will be recorded
- g) League standing purposes in the U13 and older divisions, three points shall be awarded for a win, one point for a tie and zero points for a loss
 - i) In the event of a tie in league points, the winner shall be determined as follows:

- ii) Goal Difference
- iii) If still tied, Goals for
- iv) If still tied, Goals against
- v) If still tied, Most wins

5) Playoffs:

- a) Call – ups/guest players are not permitted for playoff games.
- b) If a game is tied by the end of regulation time, the winner of the game shall be determined by “the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark.” In accordance with the current edition of the FIFA laws of the game.
- c) Each team is to select five (5) shooters that are on the field.

6) Playing Laws:

For all games – Hamilton Soccer Indoor SL Rules & Regulations and Ontario Soccer Indoor Rules will be applied.

7) League Schedule:

- a) League schedule will be posted online on the League website. Schedules will be available two weeks prior to the start of the league.
- b) Games will be played as scheduled unless the game is postponed by the League or the referee.
- c) A game is deemed to be complete, if one half plus one minute has been played.

8) Player Equipment:

- a) The player's equipment shall consist of their club uniform with a number on the back of the shirt that corresponds to their number on the game sheet. It is mandatory for all players on the team to have the same shirts with different numbers.
- b) The goalkeeper must wear a numbered shirt with colors that distinguish them from the other players on both teams as well as the opposing goalie
- c) The number shall be permanently affixed to the player jersey. Footwear shall be running shoes, indoor soccer shoes (Flat sole), Turf Shoe's or outdoor cleats (Molded Stud). No metal cleats or six studs will be permitted.
- d) If the teams have the same color shirt the home team must change.
- e) Shin guards and socks are always mandatory.

9) Referees:

- a) All games shall have assigned an Ontario Soccer registered match official(s).
- b) The decision of the referee is final.
- c) It is the responsibility of the referee to report ALL discipline issues that occurred in the game to the League within forty-eight (48) hours from the completion of the game. In the case of alleged referee assault, reports shall be forwarded by the Referee to Hamilton Soccer Indoor SL immediately upon receipt.

- d) The Referee is responsible for sending completed game sheets and other official paperwork to the League within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the game.

10) Discipline Administration:

- a) All Discipline and Appeals will follow Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures Section 12 and 13.
- b) Hamilton Soccer League (governed by Hamilton Soccer District Association) discipline will be administered by Hamilton Soccer.
- c) 1st Level of appeal for decisions made regarding games played within the Hamilton Soccer League will be Hamilton Soccer District Association.
- d) 2nd Level of appeal will be Ontario Soccer
- e) 3rd Level of appeal will be Canada Soccer
- f) Discipline Reviews (DBR) and Discipline Hearings (DBH) will be held every Monday and Thursday.
- g) For matters that fall under DBR, a written request for Hearing must be received 72 hours after the dismissal / game where incident occurred, along with the hearing fee as per Appendix "A" (non-refundable as per OS Policy).
- h) Ontario Soccer Misconduct Type 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.13, 1.14 and 1.14A are exempt from the above rule.
- i) Except where a decision has been made that is in contravention of or not in accordance with a published rule, discipline decisions made under the DBR System may not be appealed.
- j) Playing an ineligible or suspended player(s) in a sanctioned game may result in a Discipline Hearing. A loss for the team for all games in which the player(s) participated may result.
- k) If a game is abandoned at any point due to the actions of players, officials or spectators/supporters of a team, the offending team/Club will be subject to discipline and will also be considered a forfeit against the guilty team/Club.
- l) In situations where both teams / Clubs are guilty of a game being abandoned, Rule 11.2 will be followed with the game considered complete and the final score of the game will be the score at the time of abandonment, otherwise the game will be rescheduled.
- m) Fines and sanctions will be assessed as per Ontario Soccer (OS) Rules and per Appendix "A".
- n) Failure to submit payment of fines within 30 days will result in a late fee as per Appendix "A".

11) PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- a) Game protests must be made in writing to the league within 48 hours of the game being played. Protests may only be made by a team official. Team officials submitting a protest must appear on the game sheet of the game in dispute.
 - b) Game protests will be heard by the League in accordance with Ontario Soccer's published rules. All other protests will be heard by Hamilton Soccer.
 - c) No protest pertaining to the decision of a game official will be heard.

12) Registration and Playing Out

- a) A deadline for registration will be established by the league administrator.
- b) All teams interested in participating must register and pay any associated fees before the deadline established by the league administrator.
- c) Once the deadline for registration has passed, the league administrator will determine if there is a sufficient number of teams registered in each age/gender group to run the division for that age/gender group.
- d) If after the administrator has determined that an age/gender group lacks the necessary registration number to run that age/gender group, the administrator will close that age/gender group and inform those who have registered for that age/gender division that they may apply for playing out permission.
- e) Any team who has registered to play, for a division that it has been determined will not run, will receive a full refund of their deposit, or funds paid to date.
- f) No team who has not registered will be permitted to apply for playing out permission.

Appendix "A" - Schedule of Fines, Fees, Bonds, and Penalties

FINES

- Team Withdrawal Fee – After September 30th \$200.00
- Game Forfeit \$100.00

DISCIPLINE FEES

- Discipline Hearing Administrative Fee \$75.00
- Discipline Review Administrative Fee \$50.00
- Request for Hearing Fee \$75.00
- Request for Postponement Fee \$75.00
- Appeals to the District Association \$250.00
- Failure of an individual to attend Discipline Hearing \$100.00
- Failure of an organization to attend Discipline Hearing \$200.00

PENALTIES

- Minimum Late Fee for Fines (15 days) \$25.00