

# **BY-LAWS OF THE SMSL**

## **BY-LAW 1**

### **RULES OF THE GAME**

1. Rules of the game shall be those established by OSA and FIFA Mini Soccer Rules
2. **SMSL shall not deviate from these rules** as these rules have been established for the best interest of all children involved in minor soccer and are consistent with the rules abided by all towns in the area and in Ontario.
  - a) Goals inside the goal crease are valid for all age groups
  - b) Offside is not called in U8 but will be called in U10 and U12. To ensure that all children have fun and games are fair; obvious “cherry-picking” will be called by referees.
  - c) Throw-in will be used for all age groups.

## **BY-LAW 2**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. SMSL has established a code of conduct for all coaches, referees and parents to abide by
2. Failure to abide by the code of conduct will result in discipline by this league
3. All coaches and parents will be made aware of this code of conduct at the beginning of the season.

## **BY-LAW 3**

### **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

1. Ages and Divisions - there are currently 3 different age groups that play in the Saugeen Mixed Soccer League that shall be governed by these bylaws. These are groups are U8, U10 and U12. These are mixed teams of both boys and girls.
2. A player must be registered with their home soccer club before they may participate in practices or games

## **BY-LAW 4**

### **REGISTRATION**

1. All rules and regulations of each home club will govern registration and payment criteria; SMSL assumes that all local rules have been adhered to and that children are registered and insured to play.

## **BY-LAW 5**

### **SCHEDULING**

1. All teams will be provided a schedule at the beginning of the season in the SMSL guide and also posted on various websites. Coaches will provide parents with this schedule
2. Scheduling assumes that all fields submitted for play have appropriate insurance considerations with field providers.
3. Scheduling will be as fair as possible with distance between towns during the school year considered.
4. Tournament scheduling will be decided on by the executive once the number of teams has been established in April.

**BY-LAW 6****WEATHER**

1. In the event of inclement weather during a game in progress:
  - a) if the game has played ten minutes into the second half, and the referee stops the game, the score is taken as is.
  - b) if the game is stopped before the allotted time, the game must be rescheduled within two weeks. Contact the Convenor.
2. Referees can only cancel games at game time.
3. If a playoff game is called due to weather conditions, the game will be completed at another time. If the game is more than two-thirds played, results stand and the game is not rescheduled.

**BY-LAW 7****GAMES**

1. Games will be played according to the Saugeen Mixed Soccer League Rules for U8, U10 and U12.
2. Game length shall be:
  - U8 – 2 – 20 minute halves with 5 minute half time
  - U10 – 2 – 25 minute halves with 10 minute half time
  - U12 – 2 – 35 minute halves with 10 minute half time

**BY-LAW 8****TEAM MAKE UP**

1. SMSL teams consist of both boys and girls in the age group of the team U8 (7 and 8 years old), U10 (9 and 10 years old), and U12 (11 and 12 years old)
2. Teams should make best efforts to have 40% girls on the team (if possible based on registration). Deviation from this will be reviewed by the SMSL executive
3. When playing, at least ½ of the girls available should be on the field at all times.
4. If there appears to be an issue with the number of girls available for the game, coaches should communicate prior to the starting to obtain agreement with the team make-up
5. Lack of girls is not a reason to forfeit, but a report must be made to the convenor for follow up if necessary.

**BY-LAW 9****DISCIPLINE, PROTESTS & COMPLAINTS**

1. A Disciplinary Committee is made up of the President, and two other town contacts not involved in the issue. If the discipline in question involves the town that the President represents, the Vice President will represent the President on the committee.
2. Any unresolved complaint to be official and requiring action must be put in writing and sent to the President. The complaint must precisely state the problem.
3. The Disciplinary Committee must review within 10 days and may decide to interview those involved in the issue; these interviews will take place as soon as possible. Information regarding the incident will not be provided to the individuals involved prior to the interview.
4. The final decision will be made by the Disciplinary Committee within 21 days of the infraction. The concerned individuals will be advised of the decision and rationale. Guidelines will be

available for the committee.

5. Any disputes between coaches must be settled by the Convenor of the League; if this is not possible, the convenor shall elevate to the disciplinary committee.

#### **BY-LAW 10**

#### **REFEREES**

1. The decision of the referee is **FINAL**. No coach or player will question his/her work during or after the game. No coach will walk onto the field of play or leave the field of play without his/her permission.

#### **BY-LAW 11**

#### **SCORE REPORTING**

1. All scores will be reported to the appropriate convenor within 48 hours of play
2. If scores are not reported within this time frame, convenor has the right to give team not reporting a 0.
3. Both teams are responsible to report scores to the appropriate convenor.

#### **BY-LAW 12**

#### **EXECUTIVE**

1. Any member of the Executive who misses three consecutive meetings, without a reasonable excuse, can be replaced by appointment. A motion will be made after the individual has been notified in writing.
2. Any other matters not covered within these By-Laws may be discussed, decided and voted upon by the Executive, and a new By-Law added.

#### **BY-LAW 13**

#### **TOURNAMENTS**

1. Tournament location(s) will be agreed to by the SMSL executive.
2. Tournament costs shall be reimbursed to the town(s)
3. Tournament schedules will be posted and communicated to coaches by the appropriate convenor
4. A first aid designated individual

#### **BY-LAW 14**

#### **INVOICES/PAYMENTS**

1. All outstanding invoices must be forwarded to SMSL Treasurer to ensure payment is made prior to AGM.

#### **BY-LAW 15**

#### **CHANGES TO BY-LAWS**

1. Changes can be made to the by-laws at any time during the year but must be voted on by the executive at an executive member meeting.