

SIGNAL MOUNTAIN SOCCER RULES

Coaches & Parents: Please keep this information for numbers & game rules. Any questions, contact the appropriate person from the contacts list below.

President –	Daniel Lamsey	886-6772	Anything not answered by anyone else
Registrar –	Karen Barrett	667-5654	Player Information for Teams
Referees –	Forrest Walker	886-7210	Scheduling Refs
Field Scheduling –	Greg Goodgame	886-3445	Coordination of Field Usage
Uniforms –	Darren Bird	886-2180	Coordinates Distribution of uniforms

Notes:

Coaches' #'s are available on your league roster

RECREATIONAL SOCCER ALL PLAYERS MUST HAVE EQUAL PLAY TIME

Parking: Do not park in the circle unless you are on the SMSL board and have a permit displayed. Use either the upper or lower parking area, not the side of the road.

Rain on Game Days: Coaches and parents are to check the website at www.signalmountainsoccer.com or call **517-1700** to see if fields are open for play. If fields are closed, no team may practice or play on that day. Unless you hear otherwise, we will always have practices or games. In case of cancellation, your coach should have provided you with a team plan.

Referee Calls are FINAL. Parents or coaches who verbally abuse referees will be escorted from field. In severe cases, that person will be banned from attending scheduled games.

Parents: This game is for the children – goal is for them to play the game the best that they can with guidance from their coaches, their peers, and their families. We want your children to appreciate the sport, learn the rules, learn good sportsmanship, teamwork, new skills, and, most of all, have fun. Please reinforce the practices of your coaches in regards to those matters. Please limit your interaction, on the field with your children, to positive encouragement from a distance. During games, please **DO NOT** sit on the player/coach side of the field. Please treat the referees with the respect they deserve.

Sportsmanship: Coaches will be responsible for teaching the players good sportsmanship. If there is a problem with a child, please contact that child's coach. Parents are responsible for their child's behavior on and off the field. Aggressive behavior (other than what is appropriate on the field), cursing, cutting down other players (teammates/opponents), teasing, and negative comments will not be tolerated. Recurring problems will be dealt with appropriately.

Complaints: Regarding parents, players, coaches should be addressed to the commissioner first, then the Board. Serious complaints need to be in writing.

Equipment: #3 Ball for U-6 & U-8; #4 ball for U-10 & U-12; #5 ball for U-14. Soccer cleats (no steel spikes), shin guards, drink bottle - (game uniforms will be provided – socks, shorts, and jersey in the fall, t-shirts in the spring.) Shin guards must be covered by socks.

Goalie: (AKA – Last Defender) Must wear different colored shirt from teammates and players of opposing team. Can wear goalie gloves. No goalie in U6.

Goalie can use hands on ball only while in penalty box.

Exception: If player intentionally kicks ball back to own goalie, goalie must kick the ball- cannot touch with her hands even when in box.

Goalie will keep ball no longer than 6 seconds (within penalty box). Referee should use reasonable discretion and warn before making this call.

Rest of Team is made up of field players in any combination to make up forwards, mid-fielders, and defenders. Players may use any part of the body to move the ball except area between shoulders and fingertips. (Hand balls do count in U-10)

Object of the game: Move the ball down the field and get it into the other team's goal.

Kick-Offs: Coin toss by team captains. Winner can elect to kick off or chooses side of field. Ball is placed in center of field. Players, of team kicking off, line up on center line, when whistle blows, 1 of those players moves ball forward and she may not touch it again until someone else touches it. Opponent team will have lined up on their side of center line but outside the center circle. Kick-offs are also used at start of 2nd half or after a goal is scored.

Ball may move in any direction and may be touched an unlimited number of time by any player or team.

Offside: (rule begins @ U-10 level) A violation where an offensive player receives a pass or is otherwise involved in play when there are less than two opposing players (typical scenario is goalie & 1 defensive player) between herself and the end line. This rule avoids goal-hangers.

Free Kicks: Free kicks are awarded for fouls. Opposing team must stand 10 yards away from ball at time of kick. Kick may be "direct" or "indirect."

Direct Kick: Ball may be kicked directly into goal from the kick.

Direct Fouls: kicking, pushing, tripping, jumping @ someone, hitting, charging, holding, handball.

Penalty Kicks: (rule begins @ U-10 level) Awarded for direct fouls in the penalty area. Kick made by player with only goalie to go through.

Indirect Kicks: Kick must touch at least a 2nd player (on either team) before going into goal.

Indirect Fouls: Poor conduct, offside violation, dangerous kicks (anything near head), obstruction, goalie interference, goalie infractions.

Corner Kicks: Defending team kicks ball over their end-line. Offensive team kicks ball back in from corner. Opponents have to stay @ least 10 yards back. Players can score from a corner kick.

Goal Kick: After offensive team kicks ball over opponent's end-line, defensive team kicks ball from anywhere in six-yard box. Ball must leave penalty box before anyone else can touch it.

Throw Ins: If the ball is sent over the sideline, the other team throws it back in overhead using both hands evenly, both feet planted on ground.

Subbing: Coach may sub in any number of players on his throw-ins, half-time, goal kicks, after a goal, or for an injured player. **Lines are part of the field:** Ball is not out of bounds until entire ball crosses the line. Goal is not awarded until entire ball crosses goal line.

Hurt Player: Common courtesy – should the ref decide, the play will be stopped, all players should sit down in place (away from injured child). Players should remain quiet and refrain from disruptive behavior. Coaches/Parents will assist child and evaluate situation. Any medical professional ALWAYS welcome to come check out the situation and give guidance.

Let's Have A Great Season!