

SIGNAL MOUNTAIN STORM SELECT SOCCER

OPERATIONAL RULES

Signal Mountain Storm Select Soccer is governed by the Signal Mountain Soccer League, a Tennessee nonprofit corporation (SMSL).

The SMSL Director of Coaching—Darren Bird (DOC) is each team’s primary SMSL point of contact.

The primary goal of Signal Mountain Storm Select Soccer is to provide players with the best possible soccer experience.

Questions about these rules may be directed to Drew Clark drewsoccer@comcast.net or Darren Bird darren6789@bellsouth.net. Any interpretational questions or matters not discussed in these rules will be determined by the SMSL Board of Directors.

Forming and Organizing a Team

Proposed teams must be approved by the SMSL Board of Directors.

If you are interested in forming a team, contact the SMSL Director of Coaching—Darren Bird (DOC). Contact the DOC at darren6789@bellsouth.net and let him know the proposed age group and coach. If you don’t have a coach, the DOC can recommend a coach to you. The coach must be approved by the DOC.

Each team must hold an initial try out. Try outs must be advertised by a newspaper notice and notice on SMSL web site. Try outs must be conducted during the time periods prescribed by the Tennessee State Soccer Association (TSSA). Try outs are not required for subsequent seasons.

Once your team has been approved and players selected, contact the SMSL Registrar for a registration packet. The Registrar is Karen Barrett

kvbarrett@comcast.net. The documents should be completed and returned to the Registrar in one complete packet:

- Player commitment letter
- Parent recruiting form
- Medical release from
- Team contacts form
- Roster form
- Birth certificate copy for each player (to verify correct age)
- Copy of coaches license (minimum of E required)
- Checks: ***please contact Registrar regarding the payment amounts.***
kvbarrett@comcast.net

Please make out checks to “Signal Mountain Soccer League” or “SMSL.”

Please do not provide incomplete packets.

The Registrar will review the packet and forward to the SMSL President for final approval. Please allow a reasonable turnaround time for this review and approval. The packet will then be forwarded, with an SMSL check, to TSSA.

In addition, all coaches must register for a background check at tnsoccer.org.

You will be contacted when TSSA has approved your team. TSSA will send player and coach cards to SMSL and the cards will then be given to you.

Team registration is effective for a one-year period: August 1 through July 31.

All player recruitment activities must comply with TSSA rules.

Each team should have a pre-season meeting to discuss team goals and policies, expectations, finances, etc. Player development—improving the players’ skills—should be a primary goal for every team. The team may want to agree on a policy for minimum playing time: e.g., no player gets less than x minutes per game barring unusual circumstances.

Maintaining the Team's Registration

The team's registration must be renewed each year. Please let the DOC know of your plans for continuing the team in subsequent years.

To renew your registration, all documents described above must be provided, in a complete packet, to the Registrar Karen Barrett kvbarrett@comcast.net. (One exception: copy of birth certificate is not required for returning players. Copy of birth certificate is required for any new players.)

- ***please contact Registrar regarding the payment amounts.***
kvbarrett@comcast.net

Field Maintenance Assistance

In order to keep team costs down, parents of select players are required to assist with field and facility maintenance. This assistance may include measuring and lining fields, assembling goals, relining fields, etc. Be sure your team parents know about this requirement. Providing this assistance is a condition to continued registration of the team. Other soccer associations in the area have this same policy.

Field Space and Referees

To reserve field space for practices or games, please contact the Scheduler, Greg Goodgame ggoodgame@kleenamatic.com. Rec teams have priority for fields.

Field closings are announced at 517-1700 and signalmountainsoccer.com.

To obtain referees for games, please contact the Ref Assignor Rob Pompelio rjtlpomp@aol.com. Please give the Ref Assignor reasonable prior notice of

requests and any changes. Your team is responsible for paying the referees before the game begins.

Age Classifications

Players' ages are determined based on a 8/1—7/31 year. Select soccer begins with u-9.

For example, for the 8/1/10—7/31/11 season, each u-9 player would have his or her 9th birthday during that period. (These players would play on "Storm 2002." Storm 2001's players will turn 10 during the 8/1/10—7/31/11 season. And so on.)

Younger players may practice with a u-9 team with the coaches' approval and the DOC's approval.

U-9, U-10, and U-11 players must play "on age"—must play within their age classification. Exceptions are permitted for players in the same school class as the older age group. Any other exceptions must be approved by the coach of the affected on-age team and the DOC. U-12 and older players may try out for older teams.

Fall Rec Participation for U-9 and U-10

U-9 and U-10 Storm select players who live on Signal are required to play Fall SMSL recreational soccer. Select team parents and coaches should be supportive of the recreational program. Select teams should avoid conflicts with Fall rec soccer activities.

In particular, U-9 and U-10 teams may play only one Fall tournament that conflicts with a scheduled rec soccer weekend. In the Fall, u-9 and u-10 generally may have no more than two select events per week (e.g., one select practice and one select game). Thus in the Fall the total number of soccer events per week generally will not exceed 4: one rec game, one rec practice, and two select events.

The foregoing requirements only apply to U-9 and U-10 teams, and only apply during the Fall season.

This Fall rec participation policy was adopted by the SMSL board on December 4, 2007.

Update May 2010: On a trial basis, rec soccer will not be mandatory for u-10 players during the Fall 2010 season. Rec soccer will be mandatory for u-9 players during the Fall 2010 season.

Uniforms

Uniforms must be black and white. The “home” shirt should be black with white accents, and the “away” shirt should be white with black accents.

Shirts must display the approved Storm logo.

Playing Time

Playing time for team members is determined by the coach. Playing time need not be equally allocated. As mentioned above, teams may want to set parameters for playing time during a pre-season meeting.

Team Equipment

Equipment bought by the coach with his or her personal funds remains the coaches’ property. Equipment bought with team funds or donated by SMSL is team property. If the team disbands, team property may become SMSL property.

Disagreements

Disagreements between teams or within a team may be brought to the attention of the DOC. If necessary they will be resolved by SMSL, acting through the board of directors.