

# NORTH OKANAGAN WOMEN'S SOCCER ASSOCIATION

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

Revised 2023

### GENERAL

#### N.O.W.S.A. Divisions

1. **Division I** Open to women 18 years or older by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year in which play ends
  2. **Division II** Open to women 18 years or older by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year in which play ends
  3. **Masters** Open to women 35 years or older by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year in which play ends  
\*Each team is allowed 3 players between the ages of 30 to 34 years old by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year in which play ends
  4. **Super 8** Open to women 18 years or older by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year in which play ends
  5. **Indoor** Open to women 16 years or older by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year in which league start
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- a) Division I & Division II teams may have an unlimited number of players that turn (18) eighteen years of age in the calendar year and a maximum of (3) three members (16) sixteen or (17) years of age in the calendar year.
  - b) Masters division teams players must be \*(35) thirty-five years of age in the calendar year with the exception that each team is allowed a maximum of three (3) players 30 to 34 years of age in the calendar year.
  - c) Players playing in Division II may also play in Masters in the same calendar year.
  - d) Players playing in Division II may play up to 5 games in the Division I in the same calendar year.  
\* Players must register on the registration form specific to this rule in addition to the Division II registration form
  - e) The **Outdoor** playing season will be from April to September.
  - f) **The Indoor playing season will be from October to March.**
  - g) **Outdoor** teams must submit a minimum roster of eleven (11), on or before the second Monday in February.
  - h) **Indoor teams must submit a minimum roster of eight (8), on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>.**
  - i) **Outdoor** Teams must pay NOWSA a \$1,000 installment on league fees on or before the first Monday in February and the balance owed by the second Monday in June.
  - j) All player league fees are paid to the team rep. Refund policies are team discretion.
  - k) Each team will appoint one representative to vote on issues at meetings and by email.
  - l) Players may spare for a team up to 3 times even if playing on another team within that division.
  - m) In the event that there are not enough teams to run a Division I and II league they will be combined under an OPEN division title and will follow Division II play rules.

#### TEAMS

- a) A team shall be eligible for affiliation with NOWSA upon receipt of the team's registration fees and forms.
- b) Individual BCSA registration forms will be filled out by each player.
- c) A BCSA Team Affiliation form will be filled out by all teams.
- d) **For Outdoor** a minimum of (7) seven and a maximum of (20) twenty registered players may be dressed for each game.
- e) **For Indoor a minimum of (8) players may be dressed for each game.**
- f) A maximum of (25) twenty-five players may be registered per team.
- g) BCSA ID Cards will be required in order to be eligible to play in a game.
- h) Any player without an I.D. card is considered an ineligible player.
- i) Referees will check player ID cards prior to the game.

- j) Late players must show the referee her player ID card prior to entering the field to play.
- k) A photo ID card may be used for up to five seasons.
- l) A player may transfer to another team as per BCSA Rule 7 *TRANSFER OF PLAYERS*.
- m) Teams may pick up a player off the registered spare list provided by NOWSA. They may pick up players as often as needed.

## UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

- a) Each team must use a set of uniforms of a color approved by the league.
- b) In the event of conflicting colours, the home team will be required to provide an alternate.
- c) Home team will provide a game ball (good quality and properly inflated).
- d) **For the outdoor league** each team must provide one set of corner flags.
- e) **For the outdoor league** each team must provide one net when necessary.

## SCHEDULING

- a) Game schedules will be completed 30 days prior to the start of the season.
- b) Practice fields will be the responsibility of each individual team to arrange with Parks and Rec.
- c) Reschedules will be allowed only for games called by the referee due to inclement weather or injury.
- d) Air Quality: If air quality is 7 or higher games will be cancelled and rescheduled if possible.
- e) Temperature Considerations:
  - a. If the temperature during a game is between 30 and 34° C players should have a drink break every 30 minutes. This can be done using substitutions so as to not affect game play. In the event a team does not have any subs a break will be given at the 30-minute mark in each 45-minute half. The break will be no longer than 3 minutes.
  - b. If the temperature is 35-39° C game length should be modified and each half should be reduced to 30 minutes.
  - c. If the temperature exceeds 40° C at game time the game shall be cancelled.

## PLAYING RULES

- a) All games will be played under FIFA rules.
- b) Substitutions are unlimited and shall be made at the discretion of the referee.
- c) **For the outdoor league** any team not fielding a team of a minimum of 7 players for a scheduled game will default the game, be assessed a fine, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.
- d) Games terminated by the referee before half time will be rescheduled by NOWSA.
- e) Games with no referee may be played if both teams agree on a substitute referee. If no referee is available the game will be rescheduled.
- f) League standing will be determined by 3 points for a win; 1 point for a tie.
- g) No slide tackles will be allowed in the Master's league.
- h) Only BC Soccer registered referees must be used for NOWSA games.

- i) Winner of the league is determined by the team with the most points at the end of the season. All leagues will play a round robin format. Teams are awarded three (3) points for a win and one (1) point for a tie.
- j) At the end of the round robin the teams shall be ranked based on the number of points awarded that round robin. (Highest points being first, lowest being last.)
  - i. If two teams are tied on points ties shall be broken according to subsection iii. below, and in the order specified. If more than two teams are tied on points, ties shall be broken according to subsection 5 below in the order specified until one team is no longer tied, at which time, the tie breaking sequence will be applied from the beginning to the remaining tied teams.
  - ii. **Ties shall be broken in the following sequence:**
    - a. **Previous Match Results** – The winner of the match between the two teams tied on points shall be awarded the higher position. (Not applicable if 3 or more teams are tied.)
    - b. **Goal Difference** – Goal Difference shall be calculated by subtracting the goals conceded from goals scored. A maximum difference of five (5) goals shall be awarded in each game. The total goal difference calculated for all games played in the initial round robin or complete round robin shall be used.
    - c. **Goals Against.** Total number of goals conceded in the round robin shall be calculated and the team with the lowest number conceded shall be awarded the higher standing.
    - d. **Goals for.** The total number of goals scored on all opponents during the round robin to a maximum of five (5) goals per games shall be totaled, the team with the higher number shall be awarded the higher standing.
    - e. In the event a tie cannot be broken using the rules above, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken as follows:
      - A. Two (2) teams tied - As per FIFA Laws of the Game. Each team names its five (5) initial shooters and the team scoring the most goals is declared the winner. If, after the initial five (5) shooters, the teams remain tied, then penalty kicks continue using different players from the players who are on the field at the end of regulation time with no player shooting a second time until all eleven players have shot once) until one team has scored one (1) more goal and an equal number of shots have been taken.
      - B. Three (3) teams tied - Each team is designated A, B, or C. Three (3) mini games shall be played (A vs. B, C vs. B, C vs. A) consisting of five (5) penalty kicks from each team. The standings after these three (3) mini games shall be determined by the criteria as follows:
        - 1. Most points win; three (3) points awarded for a win; one (1) point for tie. Previous match results as per 7c.5. above but from the mini game just played. Goal difference as calculated from the total mini games involving each team. Repeat mini game process until standings are determined.

Four (4) teams tied - Each team is designated A, B, C, or D. Six (6) mini games shall be played (A vs. B, C vs. D, A vs. C, B vs. D, A vs. D, and C vs. B) to decide the

## TEAM REP DUTIES

- a) Responsible for ensuring their team players are informed of all NOWSA meetings and email discussion.
- b) Responsible for attending all NOWSA meetings or appointing a substitute.
- c) Failure to have a rep at the meeting will result in a fine as set out in the fine schedule.
- d) Responsible for submitting fees, the individual player registrations and team affiliation form to the coordinator by the deadline set by the board.
- e) Responsible for checking that the game report date, time, field, game number and game score is noted accurately and yellow or red cards are noted.

- f) Responsible for ensuring that players that are not in attendance are crossed off the roster and all the numbers and names of players are recorded.
- g) Responsible for ensuring the referee and opponents sign the game report at the completion of the game.

**DISCIPLINE**

- a) All discipline decisions will be governed by the BC Soccer Discipline Policy and Procedures Manual.
- b) The team rep and/or coach are responsible for addressing the conduct issues with their players on or off the field during league play.
- c) Verbal abuse of referees will not be tolerated.

**PROTESTS**

- a) Referee calls are not grounds for a protest.
- b) Protests must be in writing with a \$25 deposit to the office within 48 hours of the occurrence. The deposit is refundable only if the protest is successful.
- c) The protest committee will deal with protests within 2 weeks of receiving it.

**FEES & FINES** \*must be paid to the office before the following league game

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| 1) Failure to produce valid player card/s for game   | \$25  |
| 2) *Multiple failures to produce valid player card/s   | Additional \$25 per offense/game per season |
| 3) Failure to report game results and/or submitting a roster   | \$10.00                                     |
| 4) Failure to have a representative at a league meeting  | \$25.00                                     |
| 5) Playing an ineligible player  | \$25.00                                     |
| 6) Not having a net or corner flags set up for a league game   | \$10.00                                     |
| 7) Failure to field a team   | \$25.00 + field / ref costs                 |
| i. forfeit is considered within 24hrs of game time. Cancellation is outside of the 24 game time start. |   |
| 8) Protest fee (may be refundable)   | \$25.00                                     |
| 9) Accumulation of (3) three or more red cards by a team   | \$25.00                                     |
| 10) Accumulation of (6) six or more yellow cards by a team   | \$25.00                                     |