

Ohio Wesleyan University Intramural Sports Program

Official Soccer Rules and Regulations

IM Code of Conduct

- a) Understand, appreciate and abide by the rules of the game.
- b) Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials and the intramural staff.
- c) Be responsible for your actions and maintain self-control
- d) Do not taunt or bait opponents and refrain from using foul or abusive language.

Note that any violation of the Intramural Code of Conduct by a participant or team is grounds for dismissal from a game or the league

The Players

- a) In-season varsity athletes are not eligible to participate in intramurals. In the case of soccer which is offered in both the fall and the spring, this would mean that fall sport athletes are ineligible during the fall season and spring sport athletes are ineligible during the spring season. Additionally, no varsity soccer players are eligible to participate.
- b) Each team shall consist of nine players on the field with a limitless roster. A team can agree to begin with 6 players, but both teams must agree.
- c) Unsportsmanlike conduct and rough play, including but not limited to taunting (verbal or physical) and/or over aggressive physical contact, will not be tolerated, resulting in the dismissal from a game at the discretion of the referee and may result in suspension from intramural activities. Any inappropriate language and/or gestures toward the referee of the match will result in immediate dismissal from the game. The Intramural Coordinator will attend all matches and all disputes should be registered with him or her. All disputes will then be directed to the Intramural Council for review.

The Game

- a) The game shall consist of two 20 minute halves with a 5 minute half time. There are no time outs.
- b) The game is to start on time or a forfeit will be declared.

Playing Regulations

- a) **Kickoff:** At the start of each half and after each goal. The ball must travel on circumference and be touched by a second player before being played by the player who originally took the kick. A goal may not be scored directly off a kickoff.
- b) **Throw-In:** After the whole of the ball has passed over the whole of the touchline the team who did not last touch the ball throws the ball in. The technique involves both feet on the ground, two hands, and the ball starts behind the back of the head and is brought over in one continuous motion. If an improper throw-in is made the opposing team gets possession of the ball for another throw-in. A goal may not be scored directly from throw-in.
- c) **Goal Kick-** After the whole of the ball has passed over the goal line (with obvious exception between the goal posts) after having last been played by the attacking team, the defense shall put the ball into play from anywhere in their goal area. The ball must be kicked out of the penalty area to be put in play and all of the offensive team must remain outside of the penalty area until the ball is in play. A goal may not be scored directly from a goal kick.
- d) **Corner Kick-** After the whole of the ball has passed over the goal line (with the obvious exception of between the goal posts) after having last been played by the defending team; the offense shall put the ball into play from the closest corner of the field. The ball must travel the distance of its circumference

- to be put into play and all of the defensive team must remain at least 10 yards away until the ball is in play. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.
- e) **Overtime:** During regular season play, games can end in a tie. In post season if there is a tie after regulation there will be a 5 minute sudden death period. If the game remains tied, then there is a 5 player shoot out. If still tied, continue with shot to shot competition until the tie is broken.
- f) **Fouls and Misconduct:** Free kicks are taken from the point of infraction unless within the penalty area of the field. The offense must take free kicks on the goal box parallel to the goal line at the point closest to the infraction. The defense may take a free kick anywhere within the penalty box.
- a. **A direct free kick will be assessed for the following fouls:** (should a defensive player commit one of these fouls in the penalty area, a penalty kick will be awarded to the offensive team regardless of where the ball is)
- Kicking
 - Tripping
 - Jumping an opponent
 - Charging in a dangerous or violent manner
 - Charging from behind
 - Striking (or attempting to strike) an opponent (this includes spitting)
 - Holding
 - Pushing
 - Handling the ball
- b. **An indirect free kick will be assessed for the following fouls:**
- Slide tackling subject to rules for tripping
 - Dangerous play (i.e. high kicks, attempting to kick the ball while in possession of the keeper, etc.)
 - Charging fairly when the ball is not within the playing distance and players involved are definitely not trying to play it.
 - Intentionally obstructing an opponent (Note the exception of walking the ball out of play)
 - Charging the goalkeeper
 - Goalkeeper 1) takes more than 4 steps with the ball 2) touches the ball before another player after releasing it into play 3) touches the ball with his/her hands after it has been kicked by a teammate and 4) delays the game
 - Offside - A player is offside if he/she is nearer to the opponent's goal than the ball unless 1) he/she is in his/her own half of the field or 2) is not nearer to the opponents' goal line than at least two of the opponents. A player shall not be declared offside by the referee merely for being in an offside position unless the player is interfering with the play or with an opponent or is seeking to gain advantage by being in that position. Offside is called when the ball is touched or played by one of the player's teammates. Offside does not exist on goal kick, corner kick, or throw-ins.
- g) **Sliding:** Sliding at any time, on offense or defense, as a result of weather, intentional or unintentional, will not be tolerated at any time.

Equipment

The IM department will provide soccer balls and goals as well as necessary markers for the field of play. Players are not to wear items with sharp edges such as casts, watches, metal cleats, etc.