

2023 Women's College Club Soccer League By-Laws

Section I – Purpose

The College Club Soccer League (W-MCCSL) exists to further the development of mind, body, and spirit of college students through the beautiful game of soccer.

Section II - Membership

Membership in the College Club Soccer League (CCSL) is restricted to 2-year and 4-year accredited colleges and universities in Michigan and surrounding areas.

Section III – Executive Committee

The College Club Soccer League shall be led by a Commissioner who will guide the league and participating teams in order to ensure organization and league rules. The league's important decisions should be voted upon by each team's contact person. The Commissioner may serve as a final authority on any issue not decided upon by the member teams. Decisions will be made with the team's best interest in mind.

Section IV - Annual Dues

There are two annual dues that are paid by all teams in the League:

- Referee Assignor Dues: The league has agreed to pay \$120 to a referee assignor.
 - Teams are responsible for referee payments for home games and securing home field locations (CR = \$90, 2 ARs = \$70 Each).
- Post Season Tournament Dues:
 - Every team in the League (including those who do not qualify for the tournament) will equally split the costs for the referees (and field location if needed) for the end of the season tournament. Fee for the upcoming fall tournament location will be \$_____ (last year was \$212) per team. This fee is subject to change per season. Total tournament fee is initially covered by the host team, then reimbursed by all teams in League. Fees for the tournament is paid in full to the host team by the last day of the regular season.
- If the League hosts a Spring Season Tournament, the teams attending will split the costs for referees and field location.

Section V - Schedules

By accepting membership in the W-CCSL, each member school agrees to schedule and participate in all league matches. Changes to the W-CCSL schedule may be made with the consent of all affected schools. Failure to satisfy league game commitments will result in losses for those matches.

Section V - a. Invitationals

Teams may gather at invitationals to play, so long as the 'home' and 'away' teams are designated beforehand. See V.b. for the responsibilities of the home team.

Section V - b. Match Obligations

- Host Team Responsibilities: Teams hosting home matches (invitations and single game matches) are expected to:
 - Schedule fields.
 - Set game times.
 - Provide game information (date, time and game location) to the visiting team a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled contest.
 - Paying official's fees and field costs (if any) in a timely manner unless otherwise discussed between teams.
 - Contacting the Referee Assignor as soon as possible if any changes (game location, date, time, etc) are made to the schedule after the scheduling period in July.
 - Contacting the Referee Assignor in the event referees have not shown up 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game and the costs of officials.
- In the case of a match being canceled because of the failure of a host team to meet its responsibilities or the team is a no show, the team at fault will be awarded a 0-1 loss.
- Clubs are encouraged to accommodate traveling teams during unforeseen circumstances.
- Host and Visiting Teams: Game information needs to be emailed and/or telephoned to all participating teams, the League Commissioner and placed on the google document for scheduling.
- League games shall consist of two, forty-five minute halves, whenever possible, with no overtime.
- See Section IX for all other information on Canceled games (forfeits, referee attendance, inclement weather)
- Game officials are the responsibility of the Referee Assignor (RA). The RA will attempt to assign three (3) USSF, NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA, or MHSAA licensed officials at every match. All games shall be played under FIFA college rules with exception for unlimited player substitutions (High School Rule).

Section V - c. Rescheduling Games

Rescheduling games: All games postponed should be made up at least one week prior to the postseason league tournament. Reasonable efforts* to reschedule games must be made by both teams. If reasonable effort is made and the game is not rescheduled before the final day of regular season, then the game will be recorded as a 0-0 tie with 2 points awarded to both teams. If it is

determined that one or both teams did not make a reasonable effort to reschedule, then the game will be recorded as a 0-0 tie with 0 points awarded to one or both teams.

- **“Reasonable efforts”* includes:
 - Communication (via email) within a week of rescheduled game to attempt to find alternate date/time for game before end of season.
 - Efforts to reschedule the game to that same day and same time in an alternative location if the cause of the rescheduling is fields that are determined to be unplayable.

Section VI- Player Eligibility

Each team should consist of no more than 24 dressed players during each match. All members of a team must be enrolled at the institution they represent, during the term/semester of the regular season. Current professional players (any time during the calendar year) or currently rostered NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA varsity players are not eligible to participate.

Transgender Eligibility: W-MCCSL will allow all transgender student athletes to have the opportunity to participate and compete in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity.

All jewelry including piercings, necklaces, rings, bracelets, and watches must be removed before the start of games due to risk of injury. Anything that cannot be removed (such as new piercings that have not healed or medical bracelets/devices) must be covered with tape, a bandage, or a wristband. It is the responsibility of the team's leadership to enforce the removal/coverage of jewelry, not the referees.

Section VII- Uniforms

For all league matches, each team shall wear uniforms of matching color. All jerseys (except those of goalkeepers) must be clearly and uniquely numbered on the back with numbers at least six inches in height. All players must wear shin guards. When the uniforms of both teams are similar, the home team shall be required to change. Each team attending a game should have one set of light and dark jerseys (numbered, t-shirt jerseys are acceptable).

Section VIII - Ejections

If an individual player is ejected from a league game via a single red card then that player will be suspended from the next league game. If an individual player received three (3) ejections during one season, he will be suspended from league play for the remainder of the season. Two yellow cards in one game result in ejection for that game and suspension for the following game. Club

coaches/player-coaches shall follow under this same rule. All cards are to be reported through an email to the league Commissioner and the team's next opponent within 48 hours of the occurrence.

Section IX – Canceled Games

Section IX - a. Forfeits: In the event a W-CCSL member has to forfeit a game, the team at fault would receive a 0-1 loss for the game (with the losing team receiving 0 points towards tournament standing and the winning team receiving 3 points). Forfeits occur due to the following reasons:

- Games not starting within 30 minutes of the game time.
- Teams have 7 or less players to start.
- Home team failing to reserve field space or *referees.
 - *Referees are assigned by the designated Referee Assignor (RA). If the RA takes responsibility for failing to reserve referees, no team will be penalized and the result will be 0-0 (2 points awarded to both) or both teams can agree to attempt to reschedule the game.
 - *Referees should be certified by at least one of the following: United States Soccer Federation (USSF), Michigan High School Soccer Association (MHSAA), and/or the National Intercollegiate Soccer Association (NISOA).

In the case of a determination of a forfeit, the Commissioner should be contacted immediately.

Section IX- b. Referee Attendance/Inclement Weather: If the cause of a canceled game is due to referee attendance or inclement weather*, the game will be recorded as a 0-0 tie (with 2 points to both teams towards tournament standing) until the game can be rescheduled (see rescheduling game guidelines).

- *Inclement weather includes field conditions that are determined (by home team, referees, or away team) to be unplayable. Any game with one complete half played can be considered a complete match should the rest be canceled due to inclement weather. If lightning is present, players must wait for 30 minutes to pass after the most recent lightning strike before resuming play.

Section X - Game Results and Standings

Each team will be responsible for reporting their game scores within 72 hours of each game. Failure to report game scores may result in forfeiture.

Standings will be determined on a point basis. A win will count as three (3) points, a tie as two (2), a loss as one (1), and a forfeit as none (0).

All league games will be included in the determination of division standings.

The game results will be placed on the scheduling google document.

Should a game be contested, both teams representatives will:

- Step 1: Consult with the League Commissioner within 48 hours of scheduled game to determine if League Bylaws resolve reasons for contested game.
- Step 2: If League Bylaws do not resolve reasons for contested game, team representatives can either ask the League Commissioner to make a decision, or call an Executive Committee vote to reach a final decision after evaluating each side's concerns.

Section XI - Expansion

Expansion of the league will be subject to a majority vote by league members in good standing upon referral of or to the Commissioner.

Section XII- Postseason Play

The tournament consists of the top 6 teams at the end of the regularly scheduled season games based on overall league points (see tie breaker criteria below). The league champion (#1) and runner up (#2) with the most points at the end of regulation games receives a first round bye and automatically advances to the semi-final round. The tournament hosts will make efforts to create time between games and have adequate warm up space and time.

- First round games will consist of knockout games with the lowest seed (#3) playing the highest seed (#6) and the middle seeds (#4 vs #5) playing each other. Only winning teams advance to the semifinal round.
- Semi-final round games will again consist of the lowest seed playing the highest seed however field locations will not be assigned until after the first round winners are determined to minimize the movement of teams. The league champion (#1) will play the highest seed remaining, and the league runner up (#2) will play the lowest seed remaining.
- The final championship match will consist of the two teams that win in the semi-final round.

A tie in the regular season final point standings will be resolved according to the following sequence:

1. "Head to Head" result(s)
2. Most Total League Wins
3. Best Goal For/Goals Against Ratio
4. Most Shutouts
5. Most Goals For
6. Fewest Goals Against

7. Fewest Red Cards
8. Fewest Yellow Cards

Section XIII – Amendments

The league members can make amendments to these by-laws with a vote.

Section XIV - Commissioner's Statement

In the event a circumstance of significance to the conference arises that is not covered in the League Policies, the Commissioner is empowered to use their discretion to resolve the matter in the best interest of the W-CCSL.

Adapted from the By-Laws of the Midwest Alliance Soccer Conference.