

Rules of the Eastern Zone Primary Schools Soccer Association
Incorporated Revised January 2014

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1 Laws of Soccer

- 1.1.1 Games will be played in accordance with FIFA Rules as determined from time to time and include modifications as may be made by SAPSASA and Eastern Zone to allow for the younger age groups.
- 1.1.2 For 8s, 9, 10s and 11s corner kicks to be taken from the corner of the penalty area on the larger pitches at the discretion of the Supervisor or the referee.

2 Competition

- 2.1.1 The Eastern Zone Primary Schools Soccer Association Inc. is not a club. Instead it is an organisation aimed at arranging soccer games for students in primary schools in the SAPSASA District of Torrens River, North Adelaide, North East Adelaide, East Adelaide and South East Adelaide. The association is run and administered by volunteers.
- 2.1.2 Games are intended to allow students to participate as a means of encouraging exercise, learning and enjoyment.
- 2.1.3 Team Nomination Applications must be received by the date set by the Management Committee. Late applications may be approved by the Secretary and accompanied by the appropriate fee.
- 2.1.4 For 11s division and younger, games will be just for fun in as much as no points will be awarded and no division tables kept. For these age groups, divisions will be adjusted throughout the season to strive for equal competition in each division.
- 2.1.5 For the 12 and over, games will be competitive. However some preliminary games will be used to place teams in divisions to strive for equal capabilities.
- 2.1.6 For the 12 and over Division, Premiership points will be awarded as follows:
 - 4 points for a win
 - 2 points for a draw
 - 1 point for a loss
 - 0 points for a forfeit
- 2.1.7 In a situation where a team forfeits for any reason, the opposing team will be awarded a 2-0 win and will earn 4 points for that win.
- 2.1.8 For the 12 and over division, in situations where games are abandoned due to poor weather or pitch conditions, the following arrangements will apply.
- 2.1.9 Abandoned or cancelled matches will only be rescheduled and completed where there is scope within the soccer playing calendar for those games to be replayed on a Saturday morning.
- 2.1.10 ALL games within the affected round MUST be completed for any of the results in that round to be counted. If any games in the affected round cannot be completed then no results from that round will be counted.

- 2.1.11 The results of any games for a given round that are completed prior to the abandonment or cancellation of matches will stand and will not be required to be replayed provided that ALL matches in that round are subsequently completed. If ALL the matches in that round are not subsequently completed then the results of games completed in that round will be cancelled.
- 2.1.12 For schools with more than one team in the 12 and over age group, lists of the players in each team are to be submitted to the Secretary before the start of the season games. These player lists will apply for the whole of the season to include the Cup and Challenge Trophy Games
- 2.1.13 the transfer from one team to another will not be permitted except under exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Management Committee.
- 2.1.14 The penalty for playing an unauthorised player is:-
- Loss of points for the game.
 - Repeat offence will result in all the Championship points being lost.

3 Player Qualification

- 3.1.1 Boys or Girls may play in all divisions except for the Girls only Division where only girls may play.
- 3.1.2 Players MUST be attending the Primary School for which they play. However, if any school has players transferred during the season to a new school these players will be allowed to play for the team for which they commenced the season.
- 3.1.3 Players attending High School or ,Primary Schools outside the Eastern Zone defined areas, are NOT permitted to play.
- 3.1.4 A Combined Team of Primary Schools within the Eastern Zone defined area may participate on a seasonal basis providing this has been approved by the Management Committee and the Principal or their delegate of the schools concerned.
- 3.1.5 Rule 2.1.12 (above) applies
- 3.1.6 Rule 2.1.13 (above) applies -The transfer of players from one team to another will not be permitted except under exceptional circumstances with prior approval by the Management Committee.
- 3.1.7 Teams' breaching the above Rules regarding player qualifications may result in these teams being withdrawn from further games. For the 12 and over teams breaching these rules shall forfeit 4 points for the action of the day plus 4 points from the overall point's total.

4 Age Qualification

4.1 It is desirable for all players to play within the prescribed age of their group for age games in that year.

Age Group	Prescribed Age Rules – players may play in a higher age group. See below (Rule 4.2)
8's	Players must be 7 years of age turning 8 years of age in the year of competition.
9's	Players must be 8 years of age turning 9 years of age in the year of competition, or as detailed for the U8 age group (Rule 4.2)
10's	Players must be 9 years of age turning 10 years of age in the year of competition or Players qualifying in the U8 or U9 age (Rule 4.2.)
11's	Players must be 10 years of age turning 11 years of age in the year of competition or Players qualifying in the U8, U9 or U10 (Rule 4.2)
12 and Over	Players must have turned 12 or more years of age or be turning 12 or more years of age in the year of competition

4.2 All players should play in their age group. If a school does not have a team in that age group, then players may play in a higher age group

4.3 Teams breaching these Rules regarding age qualification will be subject to the same penalties as item 3.6.

4.4 Players may only play in a lower age group in special circumstances subject to written application to and prior written approval from the Management Committee.

5 Team Numbers and Substitutions

5.1 Team numbers are as follows:-

8's, 9's, and 10's: 9 players on the field subject to the proviso in 5.2 (see below)

Girls 12Yrs: 10 players on the field, minimum 7 on field.

11's, 12's and over: 11 players on the field, minimum 7 on field

5.2 Teams playing in the 9 or 10 aside Category

- a) In categories where 9 or 10 players aside are listed, teams may play with up to 11 players per side provided the opposing teams have surplus players and the agreement of the two Coaches and the Ground Supervisor is obtained prior to the match commencing;
- b) Team numbers must be equal at all times throughout the time extra players are on the field. If the extra players are from the opposing team to make up team numbers, as players from the team with insufficient numbers arrive, they must immediately take the field to make up the required 9 or 10 players;
- c) If a player is sent off by the referee for an infringement, the player cannot be replaced. If playing with 10 or 11 players aside, the opposing team does not have to remove a player from their team.

5.3 There is no limit on the number of reserves, but it is encouraged all players on the match card should have equal playing time.

5.4 In all divisions players may be interchanged at time of play stoppages and the referee must be notified prior to making the change. The player being replaced must be off the field before the new player enters.

5.5 Players substituted may re-enter the game as a later substitute. Up to 3 players only from the same team can be substituted at the one, play stoppage, time.

6 Playing Times

6.1 The duration of matches may be altered from time to time depending on the number of teams and the availability of pitches.

6.2 At present, matches will be:

8's, 9's and 10's - 15 minutes each half.

11's and 12s - 20 minutes each half.

6.3 All half time breaks will be a maximum of 5 minutes

- 6.4 If for any reason a game is started later than the scheduled time, time must be taken off the half time break or off the playing time, so that the game finishes before the scheduled start of the next game.

7 Clash of Team Playing Colours and Playing Shirt Numbers

- 7.1 In the event that there is a clash of colours, then the second named team is to wear a change strip or provide contrasting coloured bibs supplied by the school involved.
- 7.2 Players must have shirt numbers on each playing shirt or bib. Bibs supplied as per 7.1 are exempt.

8 Forfeits

- 8.1 A team that has not taken up a playing position on the field by 10 minutes after the scheduled start will forfeit the game and be deemed to have lost by a 2-0 score. A friendly game of shorter duration may be played, but the game must finish before the scheduled start of the next game, or if the last game of the day, finish of that scheduled game.

9 Match Balls

These are supplied by Eastern Zone - size 4.

10 Referees/Linespersons

- 10.1 These are supplied by Eastern Zone whenever possible. If no referee is available, team Coaches are requested to supply a referee. If a Coach has to referee, it is suggested that each coach referee half a game.

Note – For Cup Semis and Finals, Eastern Zone may, subject to availability, supply Referees/Linespersons.

- 10.2 Furthermore it is the responsibility of each team to supply a responsible person to perform the duties of a Linesperson (Referee Assistant). Young children should not be given this responsibility.

- 10.3 Linespersons duties subject to the decision of the match referee are to indicate:

1. When the whole of the ball has passed out of the field of play
2. Which team is entitled to a corner kick, goal kick or throw-in
3. At the Referee's discretion - When a player is to be penalised for being in an offside position

11 Player Safety

- 11.1.1 The wearing of soccer boots and mouth guards is not compulsory although highly recommended.
- 11.1.2 The wearing of shin pads is compulsory. Long socks must be worn over the shin pads.
- 11.1.3 No jewellery is to be worn during games.
- 11.1.4 If prescription glasses are worn they should be fitted with safety lenses.
- 11.1.5 Games may be cancelled if in the opinion of the Ground Supervisor the ground is unplayable or unsafe.
- 11.1.6 Eastern Zone does not provide First Aid equipment or provide any qualified First Aid Attendants. It is the responsibility of teams to supply their own First Aid.
- 11.1.7 Eastern Zone does not accept any responsibility for player injury and recommends that players be covered by one of the School Insurance Schemes available. (At Team nomination time Schools are required to acknowledge in writing, on the application form, that this has been communicated to parents/guardians of all children participating)
- 11.1.8 Dogs are not allowed on some grounds. On those grounds where dogs are allowed, they must be on a leash at all times, be under the control of an adult person and kept at a distance of at least 1 metre from the playing area. Dogs must be muzzled as defined under the Dog Act.

12 Coach /Manager Responsibilities

- 12.1.1 All Team Coaches/Team Managers must have completed a Current Police Check which must be sighted by the School Principal.
- 12.1.2 It is the responsibility of first game teams to erect nets with pegs, and the corner flags. If nets etc are not erected by kick off time, time will be taken off the playing time so that the following games can commence as scheduled.
- 12.1.3 It is the responsibility of last game teams to remove nets, pegs and corner flags and return them to the Control Point.
- 12.1.4 Match cards must be filled out by both team Coaches/Managers and the card given to the referee prior to the start of the scheduled match time.
- 12.1.5 If a mistake has been made by filling out the card under the wrong team name, it must be corrected and arrowed clearly to the correct side, or the correct name printed above the card listed name.
- 12.1.6 The Coach /Manager or Referee must return the completed card to the Control Point after the game.
- 12.1.7 It is the responsibility of the Coach / Manager to ensure that the correct score has been entered under the correct team on the score card within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, otherwise the recorded score stands.
- 12.1.8 In all Divisions, Coaches must coach from outside the playing area, unless he or she is refereeing.
- 12.1.9 Sideline coaching must not be of an intimidatory or abusive manner. Coaching should be given in a constructive and informative manner and effort should be encouraged. Intimidatory or abusive coaching is a reportable offence.
- 12.1.10 It is the responsibility of the Coach/Manager to ensure that players and spectators are aware of the code of behaviour and that they adhere to it.
- 12.1.11 It is the responsibility of Teams to provide Linespersons (Rule 10.2) and Coach/Manager to ensure that spectators leave sufficient space for the Linesperson to run the line.
- 12.1.12 It is the responsibility of the Coach/Manager to ensure that their team and spectators leave the grounds clean and tidy, and place all rubbish in a bin.

13 Behaviour of Coaches, Players, Spectators and Officials

- 13.1.1 Proper behaviour is required from players, coaches, spectators and officials at all time. Bad sportsmanship in the form of swearing, rowdiness, and the abuse of players, opposition teams or of the referees will not be tolerated. If a problem arises, the Ground Supervisor should be notified immediately and an incident report made out by the complainant. The incident report MUST be co-signed by the school leadership prior to formal submission to the EZPSSA Management Committee.
- 13.1.2 In situations of inappropriate behaviour, the Ground Supervisor(s) has the authority to ask any coach/spectator/ player or official to leave the grounds. In the case of reportable bad behaviour by coaches, players, spectators or officials, the Secretary shall notify the Principal of the school involved.
- 13.1.3 Teams participate in the Eastern Zone Primary Schools Soccer Association as representatives of their respective schools. Therefore, in the first instance it is the responsibility of the schools to ensure the on-going appropriate behaviour of the coaches, players, spectators and officials associated with their teams.
- 13.1.4 In disciplinary matters relating to reported inappropriate behaviour of players, coaches, spectators or officials, the Eastern Zone Primary Schools Soccer Association will deal directly with either the Principal or the Deputy Principal of the school concerned. The issue of dealing with reported inappropriate behaviour of coaches, players, spectators or officials rests squarely with the school concerned.
- 13.1.5 Following notification of inappropriate behaviour, it is the responsibility of the school Principal or Deputy Principal to ensure that appropriate action is taken to ensure that the reported bad behaviour is appropriately addressed within their school community.
- 13.1.6 The Management Committee shall have the authority to bar players, coaches, spectators or officials from attending future games in situations where the reported behaviour is deemed to warrant such an action.
- 13.1.7 In severe situations where reported bad behaviour is persistent and/or remains unaddressed by a school Principal or Deputy Principal, the Eastern Zone Primary Schools Soccer Association shall have the authority to withdraw the related team from further competition.
- 13.1.8 If a player is sent off by the referee from a game, that player will receive an automatic one match suspension, and possibly a further match suspension if this is found to be warranted by the Management Committee or a designated committee. In either case, an incident report must be made out by the Referee or Supervisor and the school principal will be notified by the Secretary.

14 Rules for the Jim Huffadine Memorial Cup, Bill Bell Cup and Graeme Young Cup Trophy

- 14.1.1 Games for these Cups will be conducted under similar rules to the (FA) Football Association Cup which is a knockout competition with games, semi-finals and Finals played over a nominated number of Saturdays.(see Diary of Essential Dates 2014 Season)
- 14.1.2 The team MUST BE PLAYERS who will play as regular players with that team during the domestic premiership season. Schools with 2 or more teams in the 12yr division must comply with the team sheet filled out at the beginning of the Premiership round. If a team is knocked out of one Cup Competition, players from that team cannot play for teams in subsequent rounds.
- 14.1.3 All Boys and combined Boy/Girl teams will compete in Round 1 for the Jim Huffadine Cup. An “open” or “seeded” draw to determine fixtures will be at the discretion of EZPSSA.
- 14.1.4 All winning teams from Round 1 will continue to the next Round 2 for the Jim Huffadine Cup. Dependant on the number of Teams competing, some losing teams may also advance to Round 2 to makeup numbers.
- 14.1.5 All the other losing teams from Round1 will compete in Round 1 of the Bill Bell Cup as their round 2. Dependant on the number Teams, some losing teams will advance to Round 2 of the Bill Bell Cup
- 14.1.6 All Girls Division Teams will compete in Round 1 for the Graeme Young Cup Trophy. In similar fashion to the Boys cups an “open” or “seeded” draw will apply at the discretion of the EZPSSA. Dependant on the number of Teams competing, some losing teams may also advance to Round 2 to makeup numbers.
- 14.1.7 Once a Team is knocked out of all 3 Cup competitions they will play a “friendly” game in subsequent rounds other than on a Semi Final/Grand Final Saturday.
- 14.1.8 All games will be played with 20 minutes each way. No extra time allowed.
- 14.1.9 Should the score be even after normal time (see above) a penalty shootout will take place with 5 players from each team nominated by their Coach/Manager. Participating players only may congregate in the Centre Circle until individually summoned by the Referee. Should the scores remain “even” after 5 penalties from each side then a further 5 new players from each side will undertake penalties but with a “Golden Goal” rule to provide the advantage goal to determine the winner.
- 14.1.10 First Aid and Ice - it is the responsibility of the Team to provide their own supplies.
- 14.1.11 For the Final, referees and linesmen are supplied by Eastern Zone.