

ROUND ROCK PARKS & RECREATION

YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE RULES



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Phone: 512-218-5540 Fax: 512-218-5548 Rainout Line: 512-617-2898

Updated 7/9/24

SUPERVISION AND ADMINISTRATION

1. The head of the league shall be the Athletics Supervisor and/or Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) representative.
2. In all matters not covered by the FIFA Rules or City Youth League Rules, the Athletics Supervisor and/or Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) representative shall have jurisdiction.
3. All youth coaches are considered volunteers and are selected by the Athletic Supervisor and/or Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) representative. All interested volunteer coaches must properly complete the Coaches' Information Packet and Criminal Background Check Form at the time of registration to be eligible.
4. All volunteer head coaches must be a minimum of 18 years of age and must pass a criminal background check. The Athletic Supervisor and/or Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) representative must approve all interested volunteer assistant coaches under the age of 17 years.
5. All coaches should demonstrate a positive attitude and provide a healthy environment toward players, parents, officials, and staff. This includes (but not limited to), berating, negativity, and unsportsmanlike conduct. Any coaches reported to be demonstrating anything but a positive environment will be subject to a meeting and/or phone conversation to correct the behavior.

DIVISIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Round Rock PARC offers boys leagues and girls-only leagues in the Youth Soccer Program. Leagues may be combined into CoRec divisions based on registration numbers. Parents that prefer their daughter to play in the boys division should register for the girls division and send a written request to the Athletics Supervisor.
2. There will be five (5) age divisions in the Youth Soccer Program:
LITTLE DIPPERS - U4 – Spring League - consists of boys & girls who are 3 and 4 as of June 1st of the year. Fall League – consists of boys and girls who are 3 and 4 as of June 1st of the year. All participants must be restroom independent. *Participants who turn 5 after June 1st in the spring league, will have the option of participating in either the U4 division or U6 division*
COMETS – U6 - consists of boys or girls who are 5 and 6 years as of December 31st of the year for both the spring and fall leagues.

STARS – U8 - consists of boys or girls who are 7 and 8 years as of December 31st of the year for both the spring and fall leagues.

ASTEROIDS - U10 - consists of boys or girls who are 9 and 10 years as of December 31st of the year for both the spring and fall league.

MILKY WAY – U12 - consists of boys or girls who are 11 and 12 years as of December 31st of the year for both the spring and fall league.

3. All participants must be registered with the Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) to be eligible to participate.
4. Players may only play on one team/one league per season.
5. Players are not able to play “up” unless approved by Parks and Recreation.
6. During games, players and coaches must be in their current uniforms provided by PARD. Failure to wear the proper uniform will result in not being able to participate in games.

FORMATION OF TEAMS

1. All divisions will be formed by the Athletic Supervisor and/or Parks and Recreation (PARD) Representative.
2. Practice night conflicts, coach requests and teammate requests will be taken into consideration, but not guaranteed when placing on teams. A maximum of 4 teammate requests (including coach’s children) for U4, U6 & U8. A maximum of 6 teammate requests for U10 and U12. No exceptions.
3. Same gender siblings will be kept together unless requested by a parent to be placed on separate teams. Siblings of opposite gender will be placed on separate teams unless a written request to place the siblings together in the boys division is submitted.
4. A team shall consist of up to 8 players for the U4, U6 and U8. Up to 12 players for the U10, and up to 14 players for the U12.

SCHEDULES AND EQUIPMENT

1. This program will consist of a minimum of seven (7) league games for the U6, U8, U10 and U12 and six (6) league games for the U4. Should there be a tie for first place, a tie breaker will be used. See Determining Division Winner for more information. Rainout games will be rescheduled.
2. One practice will be scheduled per week. In the event of a rainout, practices will be rescheduled based on time and field availability.
3. The schedules for practices and games are determined by the Parks and Recreation Department. Game schedules will be posted on www.TeamSideline.com/RoundRock and

practice schedules will be sent to coaches at the beginning of the season as well as weekly reminders.

4. Equipment will be issued to each team before the season begins. We will collect equipment at the last scheduled game.
5. Once game schedules are posted, there will be no rescheduled games due to team conflicts. Exception -games that are canceled due to inclement weather or as determined by Parks and Recreation.
6. Any rainout practices/games will be posted on our rainout line. Please call 512-671-2898 for an update. If there is an “old” message, current daily scheduled practices/games are still on.

GAME RULES

Matches shall be conducted in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game unless a rule is specifically modified in this document.

A. COMPETITION

1. Only players may be on the field of play unless requested by an official.
2. In the U4 and U6 Divisions, one coach per team may be permitted on the field (at the discretion of the referee) to help guide on-field players that are not participating in the game. Coaches may not touch players at any time. Coaches may not interfere with the play. Officials reserve the right to ask a coach to step off the field if impeding the play during the game.

B. GAME LENGTH

Age Group	Game Time	Quarter/Half Time	Overtime
MILKY WAY – U12 Division	2 – thirty (30) minute halves	10 minutes	None
ASTEROIDS – U10 Division	2 – twenty-five (25) minute halves	8 minutes	None
STARS – U8 Division	4 – ten (10) minute quarters	3 minutes/5 minutes	None
COMETS – U6 Division	4 – nine (9) minute quarters	3 minutes/5 minutes	None
LITTLE DIPPERS – U4 Division	4 – eight (8) minute quarters	3 minutes/5 minutes	None

1. Games shall consist of 4 quarters for U4, U6, U8 and two halves for U10 and U12. See chart above.
2. The official reserves the right to change up breaks as needed (hot weather, more water breaks, etc.).
3. If agreed upon by both coaches before the start of the game, time for the quarters/halves and breaks can be reduced.

C. PLAY TIME

To ensure that all team members play equal time, the following methods will be used. No team member may play less than one quarter in any division. Exception: if a player is missing practices consecutively, the coach may contact the PARD office to ask for less play time for that individual

player. If approved, the parent, field supervisor, officials and opposing coach will be notified prior to the game.

Playing with eight (8) players in the U4, U6 and U8:

1. "A" Unit will play the 1st quarter and half of the 3rd quarter.
2. "B" Unit will play the 2nd quarter and half of the 3rd quarter.
3. Any player may play the last quarter.

Playing with less than eight (8) players in the U4, U6 and U8:

1. "A" Unit will be full and "B" Unit will be short.
2. When the "B" Unit is playing short, the coach may substitute with any "A" Unit players. The coach may not substitute for any "B" Unit players.
3. Any player may play the last quarter.

Substitutions can only be made at the beginning of each quarter or half. During the 3rd quarter, the official will stop the game at the half-way point to allow for subs. Subs can be made throughout the 4th quarter on any dead ball. Exception: injuries (at the discretion of the official).

The U10 and U12 division will be able to free sub during both halves, and we ask coaches to allow each player to play in 50% of the match.

D. FIELD of PLAY/EQUIPMENT

Age Group	Offsides	Ball Size	Players	Goal Size	Field Size
MILKY WAY – U12 Division	Yes	4	9v9 (goalie)	6.5' x 18.5'	50 x 75 (yards)
ASTEROIDS – U10 Division	Yes	4	7v7 (goalie)	6.5' x 18.5'	40 x 60 (yards)
STARS - U8 Division	No	3	4v4 (no goalie)	4' x 6'	25 x 35 (yards)
COMETS - U6 Division	No	3	4v4 (no goalie)	4' x 6'	15 x 25 (yards)
LITTLE DIPPERS – U4 Division	No	3	4v4 (no goalie)	4' x 6'	15 x 25 (yards)

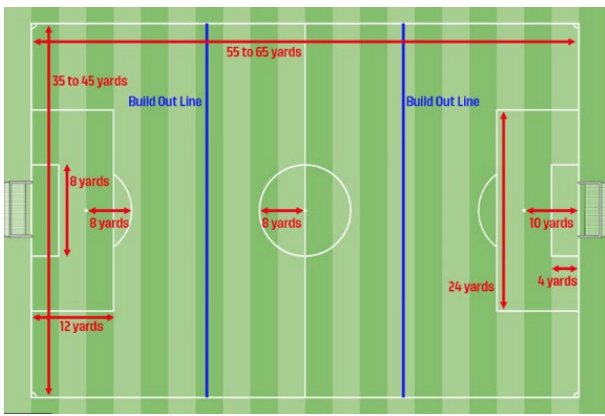
1. Shin guards are **MANDATORY** during clinics, practices, and games. No Exceptions. We prefer socks to be worn over the shin guard.
2. During games, players and coaches must be in current uniforms provided by PARD. Failure to wear the proper uniform will result in not being able to participate in games.
3. Soccer cleats (rubber) are strongly recommended, but not mandatory.
4. Sidelines- There are two sidelines: Team Sideline and Spectator Sideline. All players, the Head Coach, and in some cases, the Assistant Coach, shall be on the Team Sideline. All other spectators shall be on the Spectator Sideline, which is opposite of the Team Sideline. In some instances, the Spectator Sideline shall be marked by an additional line, at least 5 yards from the field of play. Spectators should always remain behind this line.

E. OTHER RULES

1. Kick offs, free kicks, throw-ins/kick-ins, goal kicks and corner kicks are used to start and/or restart play.
2. Goal kicks and corner kicks should be taken in the general vicinity of the respective goal or corner.
3. All free kicks are indirect for U4, U6, U8. Free kicks for U10 and U12 can be either indirect or direct.
 - Direct kicks for U10 and U12 (kicks or attempts to kick an opponent, trips or attempts to trip an opponent, jumps at an opponent, charges an opponent, strikes, or attempts to strike an opponent, pushes an opponent, tackles an opponent, hold an opponent, spits at an opponent or handles the ball deliberately).
4. Opponents should be 10 feet away from the ball on all restarts for U4, U6, U8, U10 and U12.
5. No penalty kicks for U4, U6, and U8.
6. No intentionally heading the ball.
7. No jewelry may be worn during practices/games. Exception: Stud earrings may be worn and must be covered with band aids or athletic tape.
8. Teams must have a minimum of three (3) players to start and/or finish the game for the 4v4, six (6) players to start and/or finish the game for 7v7, and eight (8) players to start and/or finish the game for 9v9.
9. No casts may be worn on any part of the body.
10. Scored goals will not count unless all players of the scoring team are on the opponent's side of the field. The U10 and U12 divisions are excluded.
11. On a goal kick all players of the defensive team shall be on their side of the field. The U10 and U12 divisions are excluded.

U10 & U12 SPECIFIC RULES:

1. No headers
2. No punts from the goalkeeper for U10.
3. U10 field includes a Build out line. All players from the opposing team must be behind this line before the goalkeeper puts the ball in play. Once he/she puts it in play they can move. This also includes goal kicks. See field diagram below.
4. If a goalkeeper puts the ball into play BEFORE both teams are behind the buildout line, play resumes without penalty.
5. The goalie has 6 seconds to put the ball into play once players are behind the build out line (referees may be flexible when enforcing)
6. Indirect/Direct kicks are taken
7. Offsides will be called
8. Penalties are allowed for U10 & U12 according to FIFA laws of the game.



DETERMINING DIVISION WINNERS

1. There will be a declaration of a champion (1st place, team with best record).
2. In the event 2 or more teams are tied for the best record, a head-to-head tie breaker will be used. In the event there is still a tie, the team with the most point difference of the head-to-head competition will be declared the winner.
3. All other participants and places are given a "participation" award at the completion of the season.

OFFICIALS/FIELD SUPERVISORS

1. Game officials will be scheduled by the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. Officials will be certified by an accredited association/agency.
3. Officials will have total control of the field during all games.
4. A Field Supervisor will be located onsite. He/she is responsible for the supervision of practices/games and enforcement of all program rules.

COACHES

1. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their teams and spectators during practices and games.
2. Coaches will remain at the facility until all players have been released to the parent care following practices and games.
3. Coaches are responsible for all communications with the Athletics Supervisor and/or a representative with the Parks and Recreation Department. Coaches are the liaison between the Parks and Recreation Department and the parents.
4. Coaches will follow all guidelines as outlined in the Round Rock Youth Soccer League Rules.
5. Coaches and parents are expected to create and promote a fun and safe environment for the players.

CONDUCT of PARTICIPANTS, PARENTS and SPECTATORS:

1. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their teams and spectators during practices and games.
2. The conduct of the player is the responsibility of the player, parent, and coach. Poor behavior displayed by any player, coach or parent, will not be tolerated. This is at the discretion of the game official, field supervisor and any PARD representative.
3. Parents are responsible for any children not participating in our program. Please remember that field time is set for participants and coaches. Please keep other children clear of the field area and quiet so that the coaches can instruct their teams during practices and games.
4. Officials are responsible for maintaining order on the field. An official has the authority to eject any person off the field and/or facility.
5. Any player, coach, parent, or spectator being ejected from a game will automatically be reviewed by the Athletics Supervisor and/or a Parks and Recreation (PARD) representative. Any further discipline, if needed, will be at the discretion of PARD.

CONCUSSION PROTOCOL:

1. Parks and Recreation provides coaches, parents, referees, contractors, and participants with information from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the signs, symptoms and behaviors associated with sports related concussions and head injuries; and should incident occur be able to recognize, respond and report. The CDC's website includes concussion resources for coaches, parents, officials and youth participants, as well as access to a training course.
2. PARD encourages all coaches, parents, officials and participants to utilize these resources to educate themselves on the signs, symptoms, behaviors and prevention of sports related concussions and head injuries.
3. The following link about sports related concussions and head injuries is provided to all users:
<https://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/index.html>

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY:

We wish to promote effective communication and maintain a respectful dialogue on our social media. In that spirit, here are the guidelines for posting comments:

1. Comments on City posts must be within the scope of the topic under discussion. Your comments must be civil. They must not contain malicious, offensive, threatening, profane or insulting language.
2. No references to the personality of other participants or individuals, or attacks on individual character will be permitted.
3. Information about locating and sharing knowledge and expertise is welcomed, but within the specific discussion provided here.
4. Links to other web sites or pages must be relevant to the topic.
5. Advertising or promotional announcements are not permitted. Event or publication announcements are permitted only if they have direct relevance to the subject of discussion.
6. This is a forum for community issues and not for electoral campaign purposes. Such messages will be removed.