



Game Day Criteria

Fields

1. All teams are required to have a home field.
2. Respect each field; respect the neighbors, pick-up trash, NO foul language – NO alcohol at fields (unless you have a license to sell alcohol through your concession stand at your stadium).
3. Home Teams are responsible for their full field costs.
 - Should a team not have a home field, they will pay for the field costs when they play their “Home” games at their opponent's field.
 - Receipts must be provided before reimbursement is made.
4. Home and Visitors on one side of the field, and spectators on the other side (or in the stands of both sides as long as there are standard bleachers away from the sidelines).
5. **Home team must provide benches, tent if needed, and water.**

Roster

- Each team must carry a minimum roster of 15 players.
- Each team may only roster 18 for each game (changes to player selection is allowed at the field prior to the start of the match).
- Players on the sidelines must wear bibs/pennies while not in the game.
- All players under the age of 18 must have a Youth Waiver.
- All Coaches must be cleared by Risk Management if youth are on the team.
- All Coaches must have a coaching pass from US Club Soccer.

Scheduling

- The schedule posted on the league website is final. The only exception would be an e-mail or phone call from the league scheduler.
- Games should kick off between 4pm and 8pm. Games can be arranged at other times if both teams agree.
- The new season schedule will be posted at least 1 week prior to the first game.
- It is each team's responsibility to review the schedule and confirm home field availability.
- Once the season starts, the league does not plan to change the schedule.

- If a game needs to be modified due to a field issue, you must contact the league scheduler and ref coordinator in advance.
 - **Changes must be made at least 1 week (7+days)** before the scheduled kickoff, otherwise you may receive a forfeit. Also, the league may re-assign your game to an available field or the other team's field at the same date/time if available.
- After two forfeits, your team may face expulsion from the competition

Uniforms

- Every player must be in matching uniforms – shirts, shorts, socks.
- Jerseys must have number on the back.
 - Referee will not allow a player on the field without appropriate uniform.
- If there is a uniform conflict, the home team changes (home team is the one listed as home team on the website, not necessarily the team playing on their "home" field)
 - The visiting team should bring both home and away jerseys.

Forfeits

A forfeit occurs when a team is unable to attend a scheduled game and the teams are unable to come to terms on a time to reschedule (after the scheduling deadline has passed). A forfeit will result in a 3-0 win to the team, not at fault. The forfeiting club will be fined \$300 to cover all referee and field costs if they inform the opponent less than 120 hours before the scheduled game time. A team unable to attend a scheduled game because of an accident, or "Act of God" should immediately notify the opponent and the League Office. In these circumstances, the League Office will review and rule on the situation.

- If both teams have at least 7 players, the game must start at the posted Kickoff time.
 - The grace period is not for a team to have more than 7 players.
- If either team has less than 7 players at posted game time, a 15 minute grace period will begin.
- If after 15 minutes a team still has less than 7 players, a forfeit will be declared.
- **If cards have not arrived after the 15 minute grace period ends, the game should be played under protest and the passes checked by the league office after the game. Driver's licenses can be used in this situation and/or electronic passes from the US Club Soccer system.**

Fines

1. Team dropping from the league after Completed Schedule - \$500 per team
2. Forfeits, no-shows or cancellations with less than 120 hours notice - \$200 (used for referees) + travel expenses and field fees (based on club invoice).
3. Forfeits, no-shows or Cancellations with 120+ hours notice - \$100 per game

4. Failure to schedule matches by the league scheduled deadline September 8 - \$50 per game
5. Failure to reschedule a canceled match within 48 hours - \$50 per game
6. Failure to provide shade/tents for both teams - \$50 per occurrence
7. Failure to provide water for both teams - \$50 per occurrence
8. Failure to provide benches for both team - \$50 per occurrence
9. Any team who does not complete payment within 60 days will be subject to a late fee of 15%

Aside from fines for forfeits (which go to the hosting club, if appropriate), all fines will be added to the travel fund for teams qualifying for national events via NorCal competitions, after the deduction of admin costs.

Game Day Procedures

Pre-Game Procedures

Home Team Responsibilities:

- Schedule and post agreed game time in GotSoccer
- Provide properly lined field
- Provide NorCal Game Card (with both team rosters) to center referee, at least 30 minutes prior to kickoff.
- Provide referee with current year US Club Soccer player passes for each player and team official.
- Provide benches and a tent in inclement weather.
- Provide Water

Visiting team responsibilities:

- Provide referee US Club Soccer player passes for each player and team official
 - Have a copy of official NorCal Game Card if needed by center referee

Game Day Procedures

Each manager should have the following at every game

- NorCal Game Card
- US Club Medical Release forms
- US Club Soccer roster of team
- US Club Soccer passes for its players and team officials

Post-Game Procedure

Home team Responsibilities:

- Coach or manager sign the Game Card following the game If no red card is given, the home team holds onto the Game Card until the end of the season

- If a red card is given, see red card procedure above – this requires immediate action from the center referee and manager • Post score immediately after game.
- Game Report

Visiting team responsibilities:

- Coach or manager must sign the Game Card following the game

Rain-outs

- If the field is closed due to rain, the home team calls and emails the visiting team and referee scheduler.
- Complete the game report on the website noting that the field was closed due to rain and the game was not played.
 - LIGA will have the option to contact the field to verify that the field was unplayable.
- When in doubt tell your team to go to the field.
- Communication must occur a minimum of 4 hours before kickoff.

Rules of Play

- **FIFA rules**
 - 90 minutes of play
 - 45 minute halves
 - 10 minute halftime break

Substitutions

- 7 Substitutions are allowed in the first half. Once players are subbed they are out for the remainder of the 1st half. Players substituted in the 1st half may re-enter the game in the second half. Players substituted in the 2nd half are able to re-enter 1 more time. Players substituted twice are out for the remainder of the game.

Game Scores

- **Referees will post scores after the game.**
 - If there are any score disputes, contact mshafai@norcalpremier.com
 - [Ref Coordinator Moe Shafai](#) - (916) 205-9687.

Standings

- 3 points for WIN, 1 point for TIE.
- No overtime.
- Tie-breakers – if necessary
 - Head to Head
 - Goal Differential
 - Goals For

- Goals Against
- Most Wins
- Most Shutouts
- Coin Flip

Referees

- It is LIGA intent to have National (Grade-4), National Candidates (Grade-5) or State (Grade-6), Grade 7 and occasionally FIFA 1 referees to be in the Center and as ARs.
- Any issues with referees, document request, game changes/cancellations to mshafai@norcalpremier.com (916) 205-9687.
- Serious Injuries – Confirm that the referee has documented any serious injuries in the referee report. This is necessary to process the insurance request.

Suspensions

If a Red Card is shown, it will result in a minimum of a **two (2) game suspension**. Red Cards in the result of two cautions may warrant a one (1) game suspension depending on the circumstances. If a player is sent off during the weekend, they may not play the remainder of the weekend, regardless of which event the Red Card is issued in. Games sat out that weekend will count against the suspension, as long as noted on the roster and/or Referee Game Report as such. Any player used during a suspension will be considered an illegal player and the team, coach and club will be punished accordingly.

- Any team/player involved in a fight or violent conduct will be reviewed by the board
 - Teams/Players involved in fighting or violent conduct may be subject to immediate expulsion from the league.
 - Flagrant and disrespectful behavior towards opponents, fans, and referees can warrant up to a **4 game suspension**.

Suspensions can be appealed but must be done through the NorCal PAD committee within 72 hours after gametime.

Player Registration

- All player cards must come from US Club Soccer.
- All Player Cards must be laminated.
- There is no registration deadline

Player Cards – NO CARD – NO PLAY

If a player or team does not have their card(s) and both opponents agree to play the game then the game will be played under protest. A valid id (ie:drivers license) can be used and a photo must be taken of each player without a card. Photos must be sent to League director for final decision after the game is played.

- If the referee observes any issues with the player not matching the photo or signature, the referee will request to see valid ID (a Driver's License, Passport or Birth Certificate).

Privacy

- LIGA will not share your information with anyone.
- All personal and team information will be kept confidential.
- Payment information, credit card and account information will be kept confidential.