

Academy League - Birmingham

Game Day Formats & Rules

Updates for Fall 2025

7v7 (9U & 10U)

- 25-minute halves.
- Rosters required at every match
- Players may play a maximum of **two games per weekend**.
- Substitutions allowed with referee permission
- **No punting or heading.**
- **TRUE build-out line will be used as preference** – half-way between midline and Penalty box – cones can be used to mark line on the sidelines
- Ball live on goal kicks once played.
- **No slide tackling.**
- Clock runs during water breaks; players may exit the field.
- In lopsided games, [Competition Safeguarding](#) should be used - teams may add players at stoppages after notifying the referee.
- Must notify the League Administrator & opponent of field closures.

9v9 (11U & 12U)

- 30-minute halves.
- Rosters at games required.
- Players are limited to **two games per weekend**.
- **NO Punting, heading or slide tackling allowed**
- Normal offsides rule applies as Law 11
- Substitutions allowed with referee permission.
- Same water break and lopsided game procedures as 7v7.

Rosters

- Game-day roster must be given to the referee before kickoff.
- Acceptable formats:
 - GotSport match roster, OR
 - GotSport player pool printout (highlight participants).
- The coach/manager must appear on the roster or have a valid USYS pass.
- **Referee collects signed roster post-game, keeps for 30 day**
 - Must provide roster to AL Soccer if requested.
 - Verifies score with both coaches
 - Referee can enter score in GotSport

Referee Fees

- 7v7: **\$40 per game.**
- 9v9: **\$50 per game.**
- Paid in cash, half from each team, directly to the referee prior to the game. Referees can agree to be paid via Venmo, Paypal, etc.

Scoring

- The winning team enters the score into GotSport **immediately after the game.**
- Scores are not public.
- Failure to report → **\$75 fee.**
- No team should win by more than **6 goals.**
- Instructions and links provided for score entry.

Rescheduling

- Must use **D-League rescheduling form.**
1. **Rainouts** → reschedule within 24 hours, no fee.
 2. **More than 8 days prior** → \$75 fee.
 3. **Less than 8 days prior** → \$125 fee (may be waived for emergencies).

Rainouts & Field Closures

- Contact **League Administrator (Maddie@alsoccer.org)** immediately.
- Admin will notify the referee coordinator. Failure = club responsible for referee fees.
- Teams must also notify opponents directly via GotSport (chat or contact info).

Fines & Discipline

- Fines may be issued for:
 - Repeated blowouts,
 - Poor sideline behavior,

- o Winning margin >10 goals,
 - o Canceling or changing listed match days.
- Games cancelled without approval → **\$100 fine.**
- Rescheduling fees: **\$75 before Wednesday noon or \$125 after Wednesday noon.**
- Repeated failure to enter scores → **\$75 fine per occurrence.**
- Final decisions rest with the League **Administrator & ASA Technical Committee.**