



ADULT OUTDOOR HOUSE LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS

Table of Contents

<u>Code of Conduct</u>	2
<u>General Expectations</u>	2
<u>Player Expectations</u>	2
<u>Coach/Team Captain Expectation</u>	3
<u>Referee Expectations</u>	3
<u>Spectator Expectations</u>	3
<u>Alcohol Policy</u>	3
<u>Good Neighbour Policy</u>	3
<u>Game Ball</u>	4
<u>Registration of Teams/Players</u>	4
<u>Team Fees / Payments</u>	4
<u>Roster Cap</u>	5
<u>Number of Players</u>	5
<u>Substitution Rules</u>	5
<u>Player Equipment</u>	5
<u>Pinnies</u>	7
<u>The Game</u>	7
<u>The Start of Play</u>	8
<u>Ball in and out of Play</u>	8
<u>Method of Scoring</u>	8
<u>Fouls and Misconduct</u>	8
<u>Player Bans / Suspensions</u>	8
<u>Goal Kick</u>	8
<u>Game Protest</u>	10
<u>No Show and Default</u>	10
<u>League Tie Breakers</u>	10
<u>Abandoned Games</u>	10
<u>Discipline</u>	11
<u>League / Club Contacts</u>	12

RULES OF PLAY

OSC Adult Outdoor House League games will follow the [FIFA Laws of the Game](#) and the [OSA Playing Rules](#) for Outdoor Soccer unless otherwise stated in Oakville Soccer Club Rules.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Oakville Soccer Club expects and mandates that all participants affiliated with any OSC programs will conduct themselves in a manner which allows all players the opportunity to reach their full potential and most importantly, enjoy the game of soccer. The following requirements and OSC's [Fair Play Code of Conduct](#) provide the principles by which everyone associated with OSC must comply. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action that could result in the suspension/termination of the membership of a player, member team, and/or coach or suspension/termination of the employment of referees.

Spectators who fail to comply with these requirements and the Fair Play Code of Conduct and the Fair Play Code of Conduct will face disciplinary action in accordance with the [Town of Oakville's "R-Zone" policy](#), which the OSC has adopted. This zero-tolerance policy ensures a safe and leisurely environment for all participants at all Oakville facilities, parks and programs.

**OSC reserves the right to amend this Code of Conduct without notice at any time.*

The Oakville Soccer Club mandates the following for all players, coaches, referees and spectators:

General Expectations

- Abusive behaviour and communication styles are not acceptable.
- The use of profanity is prohibited.
- Alcohol or other controlled substances are prohibited from all Town of Oakville recreational grounds; this includes parking facilities; Town of Oakville By-Law 1999-159.
- Smoking or vaping of cigarettes or e-cigarettes and other controlled substances in the playing and spectator area is prohibited.
- Keep fields and parks clean of garbage.
- Respect all municipal by-laws and area residents by parking respectfully in designated areas.

Player Expectations

- Play co-operatively with team-mates
- Treat opponents, game officials, coaches, and spectators with respect
- Arrive a minimum of 5 minutes before game time in uniform ready to play
- Shin guards must be worn for all games and practices – no exceptions
- Must not wear metal cleats
- Must not enter field area or benches until 5 minutes prior to game time or previous group has completely vacated the facilities
- Must not wear any jewelry (including wedding rings) and all piercings must be removed
- Must not wear metal or glass eyeglasses. Sports spectacles/goggles are allowed if safe for the players themselves and for other players
- Players must not change clothing/uniforms in a public area including on the field, on the sidelines or in the parking lot
- A captain or player must turn off the field lights, shut and lock the gate before leaving the field if they are the last game of the evening. The last team to leave the field is responsible for ensuring the lights are turned off

Coach/Team Captain Expectations

- Demonstrate fair play, respect of others and good sportsmanship through example during the season
- Speak respectfully to players, officials and spectators
- Offer constructive criticism in an effort to improve the skills of their players
- Rostering of players each season
- Accuracy of game sheet
- Turning off lights, shut and lock the gate, if you are the last game of the evening
- Ensure that all players on your team are aware of and abide by the [Code of Conduct](#) and league rules

Referee Expectations

- Officiate the game in a fair, non-partisan and unbiased manner
- Adhere the rules set by the governing body; i.e. FIFA
- Be respectful when addressing players, coaches, and spectators

Spectator Expectations

- Treat players, referees, opponents and other spectators with respect
- **Spectators must stand on the opposite side of the field from the players and coaches and must not step onto the field during the game**
- Adhere to the Town of Oakville RZone Policy
- To avoid injury to themselves and players, spectators must maintain a distance of not less than three metres from the field during the game
- Ensure young spectators in their care do not interrupt the game and remain well away from the field.
- Must not play with a ball any closer than five metres from the field
- Pets must be leashed at all times as required in Town of Oakville By-Law 1999-159 and are prohibited at a number of fields. If a referee deems a pet to be a nuisance the pet must be removed at once.

Consumption of Alcohol or Substances

The Oakville Soccer Club takes the behaviour of its membership very seriously and have taken steps to ensure that everyone enjoys a 'positive soccer experience'. The consumption of alcohol/controlled substances by its members pre or post-game on Town of Oakville grounds is expressly prohibited. Upon notification of a team consuming alcohol or marijuana or substances at an OSC Adult League game by OSC or Town of Oakville staff, that team shall be suspended from the league immediately. There are no exceptions to this rule and no appeal or refund shall be granted.

Acceptable Use of Town Facilities - Good Neighbour Policy

Implemented by the Town of Oakville, the Acceptable Use of Town Facilities/Good Neighbour policy is a procedure for managing inappropriate behavior by permit holders – sports organizations, teams, players or residents – who are using the town's sports fields. The disciplinary procedure details are as follows:

- **Inappropriate behaviour including aggressive or bullying behaviour, foul language, public urination, littering, smoking, drinking alcohol on public property, or leaving field lights on afterplay is finished can now be reported online through a new [Inappropriate Behaviour Reporting Form](#).**

- Teams must turn off Field Lights after the completion of nighttime games.
- Reported incidents involving permit holders will be investigated within five business days. If the details are confirmed, disciplinary action will be taken within 10 days. Action can include a verbal and/or written warning, \$150 fine, permit suspension or termination of permit, depending on the severity of the incident and any prior violations. If town staff is unable to confirm the complaint or accurately identify the offenders, no action will be taken, but the report will be kept on file.
- Permit suspensions can be appealed within 14 days. New evidence must be submitted along with a fee of \$250. Appeals will be reviewed by a panel chaired by the commissioner of Community Services. If the appeal is successful, the suspension will be lifted and the fee will be refunded in full.

Team Names

Adult League Players have a responsibility to maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of individuals and other persons by demonstrating respect to individuals regardless of body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, race or perceived race, nationality, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, class, marital status, family status, religion, political belief, physical or mental disability, economic status or source of income. Please note that the use of team names, logos and/or uniforms which go against this policy shall not be permitted and the offending team shall be required to change their name/logo/uniform to meet the rules of the Oakville Soccer Club.

REGISTRATION OF TEAM/PLAYERS

A player must be registered with the Oakville Soccer Club before he/she plays in a league game. Players are required to register and pay in full 48 hours before the start of their first league game. If they have not completed the paperwork and submitted on time, then he/she will be forced to sit out the first week. A team using players not on their team list (unregistered players) will be subject to disciplinary action.

No new registrations will be accepted after the team has played 6 games. Teams must have a minimum of 11 players registered before they are eligible to play in a league game.

Players who are registered to play in any Adult House Leagues with the Oakville Soccer Club must provide a photo headshot for the game sheet or have a photo taken at the Pine Glen Soccer Centre. The game sheet indicates who is eligible to play on any given team; the purpose of the photo game sheet is to eliminate ineligible players.

Identification Photograph

Players are required to submit a head shot photograph for the roster. Photographs are used on the game sheet to properly identify players and eliminate any ineligible players. If a player does not have a usable photograph, one can be taken at the Pine Glen Soccer Centre, or by OSC Adult League staff. If a player does not have a photo they will not be allowed to participate. Players with no photo after game 6 will be removed from the roster and not be allowed to play for the remainder of the season.

The League reserves the right to approve or deny acceptance of a team and/or player application.

PAYMENT OF TEAM FEES

Captains are now solely responsible for the payment of team fees. This includes the payment of the deposit and the payment of the remaining balance by the payment deadline. Teams will not be put on the schedule until their team fee has been fully paid. Teams playing before paying the full balance of league fees and any applicable incurred fines or penalties risk match forfeit and cancellation of additional matches, as well as removal from league.

ROSTER CAP

Team rosters will be capped at 21 players per team for all adult outdoor programs. Captains can add additional players past this point for a fee of \$75.00 per player

NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Unless specified otherwise by the rules of the competition, a match shall be played by two teams, each with no more than 11 players (including a goalkeeper) and no less than 7 players (including a goalkeeper) on the field of play. The rules of the competition shall state the number of players on each team who may be dressed to play.

***Coed Division – a minimum of 4 women and 4 men must be on the field at all times. If a team can only field 3 female players or only 3 male players at any point in the game they're not permitted to add another player in replacement and must play a player down.**

All persons dressed to play shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referee.

SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutes may be used in any match in accordance with the rules of the competition. The game shall not be delayed by allowing substitution, except for the substitution of the goalkeeper. Any of the other players may change places with the goalkeeper, provided that the referee is informed before the change is made, and provided also, that the change is made during a stoppage of the game. Substitution is done when the ball is out of play on the team's own throw-in, goal kick, and kick-off; there is no limit to how many players can be subbed on or off in a match. A team may substitute on the opposing team out of play possession only if the opponent is substituting players and if the referee gives permission i.e., "Piggy Backing".

Injured players may go down at any point during the game if they need to be taken off and the referee will blow the play dead. This player can be replaced by any player on the bench and play will resume.

PLAYER EQUIPMENT

If there is controversy or debate over the safety of a player's equipment the referee will have the final say on its eligibility. Players shall not wear anything which is dangerous to themselves or

another player.

- The basic equipment of a player shall consist of a numbered shirt, shorts, socks, shin guards and footwear. The footwear shall be appropriate for the outdoor game.
- Shin guards must be covered entirely by socks and worn during all games and practices.
- Team colours shall not conflict with each other. Goalkeepers shall wear colours which distinguish them from each other, the other players and from the referee.
- It is mandatory for all players on the team to have the same shirts with different numbers.
- Jewelry must be taken off before the start of the match and cannot be worn during games
- Must not wear metal or glass eyeglasses. Sports spectacles/goggles are allowed if safe for the players themselves and for other players

GAME BALL

The ball must be a size 5. The home team shall be responsible for providing the game ball. The ball shall be judged fit for play by the referee and/or facilitator and shall not be changed during the game unless authorized by the referee/facilitator.

PINNIES

In the event that both teams have the same-coloured jerseys/uniforms, the home team must wear alternate jerseys and/or pinnies. Pinnies can be signed out at our Client Services desk prior to the match. Oakville Soccer Club employees are not responsible for bringing pinnies to games. Pinnies must be returned to the Club within 48 hours of finishing the match.

THE GAME

Games must start and finish on time and teams must be ready to play five minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time. The team captain must submit the game sheet to the referee before the game begins. A minimum of 7 players are required to start a game. If teams cannot field a team at their scheduled times, they have 10 minutes before the result of the game is a forfeit (3-0). The game will consist of two 45-minute halves (Ladies Over 30 will consist of two 25-minute halves); games starting later may have their game time reduced. At half time the interval shall not exceed 15 minutes, except by the consent of the referee.

All games will consist of 10 outfield players and a goalkeeper (11v11).

Slide tackling is permitted in the following age groups:

- Men's Open Age (18+)
- Ladies Open Age (18+)

Slide tackling is **NOT** permitted in the following age groups:

- Men's Over 35 (35+)
- Ladies Over 30 (30+)
- Co-Ed**

PLEASE NOTE:

**Sliding without attempting to contact the opposing player is not considered to be a slide tackle,*

therefore, no foul.

***A slide tackle that does not contact the player will result in an indirect free kick; a slide tackle that makes contact with the player will result in a Yellow Card and an indirect free kick*

Time shall be extended to permit a penalty kick to be taken at or after the expiration of the normal period in either half. Teams and players must not enter the field of play until 5 minutes prior to the start of their time slot and must leave the field of play immediately after the conclusion of their match.

After 60 minutes of play the result stands, whether the referee calls the game, or the play has stopped due to serious injury.

The Start of Play

Kick-Off: A kick-off is a way of starting or re-starting play:

- 1) At the start of the game.
- 2) After a goal has been scored.
- 3) At the start of the second half.

A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-off.

Ball In and Out of Play

The ball is out of play when it fully crosses the out-of-bounds line.

Method of Scoring

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line.

FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

Fair Play Code of Conduct

Anyone who commits a foul shall be penalized by the award of a free kick to be taken by the opposing team from the place where the offence occurred.

A player shall be cautioned and shown the yellow card if, in the opinion of the referee, the player:

- Is guilty of unsporting behaviour.
- Shows dissent by word or action.
- Delays the restart of play.
- Fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick or a free kick.
- Enters the field of play without the referee's permission other than in the act of substitution.
- Deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission other than in the act of substitution or directly returning to the team bench after serving a time penalty.

A player shall be sent off the field of play and shown the red card if, in the opinion of the referee, the player:

- Is guilty of serious foul play.
- Is guilty of violent conduct.
- Spits at an opponent or any other person.
- Denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within her/his own penalty area);
- Denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick.
- Uses offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures; or receives a second caution in the same match

Player Suspension and Fines

Misconduct and violation of the rules may result in suspensions, point deductions or expulsions from the league without a refund to the player or team.

Violent behaviour towards the officials or other players will not be tolerated and may result in expulsion from the league and/or a fine.

If a player receives 3 red cards throughout the course of a year playing Indoor or Outdoor, the OSC will review the player's discipline record and will have the authority to ban the player from the Pine Glen Soccer Centre and Oakville Soccer Club leagues.

The Oakville Soccer Club reserves the right to take disciplinary action against any individual player and/or team that has, in the opinion of the Adult League Coordinator in consultation with the Executive Director, acted in a manner deemed to be detrimental to the values of the Club. Such action includes but is not limited to game suspension, denial of access to facilities, and removal of a team from the league.

Players are required to pay all fines issued against them before returning to play, failure to do so may result in player being removed from the league without a refund.

It is the Team's responsibility to pay what is outstanding if the player does not. If the team does not pay within the stipulated timelines, it may result in the team forfeiting games and potentially being removed from league without a refund as well.

** All red cards will result in a \$25 fine to the guilty party. The fine must be paid before any applicable suspensions are lifted.*

Video Recording

Oakville Soccer Club has the right to record video and audio of all Adult League games on Town of Oakville property or Oakville Soccer Club property or permitted fields. Recordings can be shared within the Adult League, to disciplinary officials, and law enforcement at the Club's discretion.

Oakville Soccer Club is not responsible for any video or audio recording that is shared outside of the Adult League by members or participants.

Penalty Kick

A penalty kick shall be taken from the penalty spot by a player on the field at the time of the infraction.

Penalty Shootout

A penalty shootout will occur at the end of regulation time in a playoff match or Oakville Cup match to break the tie. Each team has five shots which must be taken by different kickers. The team that makes more successful kicks is declared the victor. Shoot-outs finish as soon as one team has an insurmountable lead. If scores are level after five pairs of shots, the shootout progresses into additional "sudden-death" rounds. Only players who were on the pitch at the end of play or temporarily absent (injured, adjusting equipment etc.) will be allowed to participate in the shoot-out. If at the end of the match and before or during the kicks one side has more players on the pitch than the other, whether as a result of injury or red cards, then the side with more players must reduce its numbers to match the opponents; this is known as 'reduce to equate'. No player will be allowed to take a second kick until all other eligible players on their team have taken a first kick, including the goalkeeper.

In COED matches the shootout must begin with a female and continue to between female and male for the remainder of the shootout.

Goal Kick

When the opposing team kicks the ball over the touch-line, the defending team is rewarded with a goal-kick. The opposing team must be clear of the penalty area and 10 meters from the ball. A goal may not be scored directly from a goal-kick.

Game Protest

A team can protest the eligibility of an opposing player before the game has begun or prior to halftime. The protest must be made to the referee or league staff, at which point they will confirm the eligibility of the player. If a team is found using ineligible players they lose by forfeit 3-0 and will face disciplinary action. No protest will be accepted with regard to the Match Official interpretation of the "Laws of the Game".

NO SHOW AND DEFAULT

A team not fulfilling its commitment or failing to show up for a game without 24 hours' notice can be subject to league suspension. Any team who defaults three games may be expelled from the entire league. The league is not responsible for any teams forfeiting and there will be no refunds or credits for any games or teams that forfeit their games.

LEAGUE TIE BREAKERS

- Points
- Goal Difference
- Goals For
- Head-to-Head
- Coin Flip

ABANDONED GAMES

In the event that a game is abandoned or cancelled due to a referee decision, the game will either be rescheduled, or the game will stand depending on the amount of time played. If 60 minutes of the match have been played then the result is final, if not the game is rescheduled to a later date.

In the event of a match being cancelled due to field conditions or inclement weather, the matches will be rescheduled using available field time to the best of our ability. All decisions made by the referee regarding playing conditions are final. Reschedule requests will be accommodated to the best of our ability.

If fields are closed by The Town of Oakville all players will be notified as soon as the notice has been received at the Club.

In the event that a team is winning or losing their matches by a substantial margin, or a team requests a divisional change, the league reserves the right to adjust the divisions so that a balanced level of play is achieved.

****In the event of a dispute, the league's ruling is final.***

Field Lights/Gate Closures

It is the responsibility of the **Home team** to ensure that the lights are turned off after any 9:00 p.m. games and that gates are closed and locked (where applicable). Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action from the league.

Discipline

Discipline is administered in compliance with Ontario Soccer policies and OSC Discipline Procedures, and is handled by an independent discipline panel, trained and certified by the Peel Halton District Association, and acting on behalf of Ontario Soccer.

Misconduct is usually reported by the game official but can also be reported through a letter of complaint to OSC which, after investigation, may result in discipline charges. Any such complainant must be willing to be identified and to appear at any subsequent discipline hearing. Reports must be sent to rbowden@oakvillesoccer.ca.

Coaches are subject to Discipline in the event of inappropriate behaviour and can be carded as per FIFA rules.

Any fines or monetary penalties that are incurred by the club due to the actions of a player or team will be expected to be paid by the offending player and team. Failure to do so within the stipulated timelines will result in the player and/or team being removed from the league without a refund of any fees paid for participation in leagues or membership.

Appeals – Players/Coaches

Players/Coaches may request a hearing to appeal a dismissal given to them on the field, however it must be submitted within three days of receiving the dismissal itself and accompanied by the request for hearing fee (\$100). The appeal must be made in writing to the OSC Discipline Coordinator and it must be accompanied by the required Request for Hearing Fee. Appeal requests must be sent to rbowden@oakvillesoccer.ca.

There are two levels of Discipline:

Discipline By Review: Referee reports are forwarded to The Discipline Committee for review and a decision is rendered. Appeals may not be made after a decision has been made by the Discipline By Review process.

Discipline By Hearing: Referee Reports are forwarded to the Discipline Committee who have the right to call a hearing on the issue presented. Players/coaches are required to attend the hearing which may be virtual or in person. Players/Coaches can call witnesses if they wish. These particular cases can be appealed. Appeals must be accompanied by the Request for Appeal fee.

Note: Decisions of the Discipline Committee are final and are not subject to review except in the case of Appeals where allowed.

Video

Video evidence is admissible providing it adds clarity to the issues surrounding the incident in question.

Video cannot be used to provide evidence of issues regarding Referee performance.

Further details about discipline, including the Ontario Soccer discipline policy, are found in the governing body's documents.

Fees and Penalties

Discipline by hearing request resulting from Dismissal	\$100
Request to reschedule hearing	\$100
Failure to show for Hearing - Fine	\$100 (1 st offense), \$200 (2 nd and subsequent offences)
Playing an ineligible player	Forfeit
Abandoned game due to player behaviour	\$100 + Forfeit (1 st offence), \$200 (2 nd offence), \$300 (3 rd and subsequent offence)

Note: Protests resulting from the Match Official interpretation of the Laws of the Game are not accepted.

Note: The Oakville Soccer Club reserves the right to implement changes to the fees and penalties involving matters of Discipline provided that they are incremental to those published.

OSC Contacts

Name	Title	Phone – 905-849-4436	Email
Lorin Berballa	Adult League & Facility Manager	Ext. 4454	lberballa@oakvillesoccer.ca
Richard Bowden	Referee Development Manager/Discipline Coordinator	Ext. 4428	rbowden@oakvillesoccer.ca
Chris Barbisan	Operations Administrator	Ext. 4455	cbarbisan@oakvillesoccer.ca