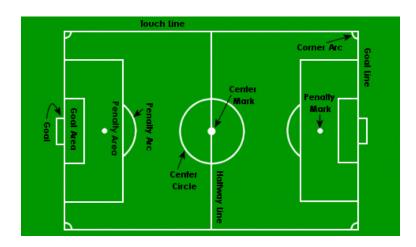


## LEAGUE RULES

BOBCATS REC DIVISIONS	BALL SIZE	DURATION	Players	Offsides	Penalty Kicks	Slaughter Rule
Freshman (Pre-K – K)	3	10 min Quarters	4 x 4 No Goalkeeper	No	None	NA
Sophomore (1st – 2nd)	4	25 min halves	7 x 7	No	Penalty Area Line parallel to goal line	If 4 goal difference, team behind can add 1 player. If 7 goal difference, team ahead subtracts 1 player.
Junior (3rd - 5th)	4	30 min halves	9 x 9	Yes	Penalty Area Line parallel to goal line	If 4 goal difference, team behind can add 1 player. If 7 goal difference, team ahead subtracts 1 player.
Senior (6th - 8th)	5	35 min halves	11 v 11	Yes	Penalty Mark	If 4 goal difference, team behind can add 1 player. If 7 goal difference, team ahead subtracts 1 player.





The Bobcats follow IYSA guidelines for U8+ teams - coaches should remain on the sidelines during games. Coaching points should be positive and easy to understand. Allow players to make decisions and be creative as they learn the game. Only two coaches per team are allowed on the sideline and these adults must have approved background checks before coaching. All other adults/parents must stay on the opposite sideline from the players and should refrain from coaching during the games. ALL COACHES ARE TO REMAIN ON THEIR HALF OF THE FIELD ON THE SIDELINE WITH THEIR TEAM. NO COACHING FROM ANY OTHER POSITION ON OR AROUND THE FIELD.

## GENERAL RULES FOR ALL BOBCATS REC LEAGUE DIVISIONS

UNIFORMS: A full uniform will be provided by the Tinley Park Bobcats and must be worn for all games. Shirts are to be tucked in the shorts prior to start of the game. The children will get to keep the uniforms at the end of the season.

SHIN GUARDS: Shin guards are required for all practices and games.

**SOCCER SHOES**: Soccer shoes must have rubber tipped spikes with NO toe spikes. Referees will be required to check shoes and shin guards prior to start of each league game. Any child with toe spikes will not be allowed to participate in the game until proper shoes are obtained.

**SAFETY:** A player must not use equipment or wear anything which is dangerous to him/herself or another player (including any kind of jewelry.) All earrings must be removed for the safety of the player. No tape shall be worn over any earrings.

**PLAYING TIME:** Coaches must make sure that all players have an opportunity play at least one half of each game. Players should have an opportunity to play in different positions throughout the season. It is strongly recommended you create a rotation chart in case you are challenged with the placement of a player.

**SUBSTITUTIONS**: For all divisions up to Grade 5, player substitution is on the fly. Players must sub from the mid-line. The player being substituted cannot play the ball on the way off the field. The number of players on the field is the coach's responsibility. Substitutions for the Senior division will be at a stoppage (players should be wait at center line).

**OBJECTIVE:** Our main objective is to emphasize recreational and instructional areas of soccer. The main goal is not to teach players how to win or lose, but how to play the game of soccer. You want to teach the players skills, teamwork, cooperation and good sportsmanship. But most of all, we want the players to have fun!

**SCORING:** The referees keep track of the score as a total for each contest. Scores are important to report so that they can be used to fully understand each team's performance for future evaluation and league balance. Remember this is recreational / instructional soccer, the main goal is to teach players how to play the game of soccer and to improve skills.

**KICKOFF:** At the start of each quarter and after each goal, the game is restarted with a kickoff. The ball must clearly move to be in play and can be kicked in any direction. The same player cannot play it twice on a kickoff (ie the second touch must be by another player). The defending team must stay out of the center circle until the ball has been put into play.

**GOAL KICK:** When the ball crosses the goal line and was played by an attacking player, a goal kick is awarded to the defending team. The ball is placed inside the goal area and put into play by kicking the ball. Defenders must be outside the penalty area when the ball is kicked.



**CORNER KICK:** When the ball crosses the goal line and was played by a defending player, a corner kick is awarded to the attacking team. The ball is placed in the nearest corner kick area and played in by the attacking team by kicking the ball into play.

**THROW-INS:** When the ball crosses the touch line, the referee indicates the team awarded a throw in. The team awarded the throw in puts the ball in play by throwing it into play. Throw ins must be done properly, using two hands over the head and both feet on the ground. The referee has latitude in applying this rule for the sake of keeping the game going.

**FOULS:** When a referee calls a foul (with contact – tripping, pushing, pulling, etc), the resulting play is a **DIRECT** kick to the fouled team. Non-contact fouls result in an **INDIRECT** kick. **Note: there is no slide tackling in rec soccer.** 

**OFF SIDE:** We will call offsides per the IFAB laws for the all divisions except Freshman. The goal is to start teaching players the rules of the game and avoid situations with cherry picking.

**PENALTY KICK:** No penalty kicks for Pre-K to K. See grid for penalty kick location for each division.

**INDIRECT KICK:** When an indirect kick is awarded, the ball is placed and the attacking team restarts the game with a kick. The kick must touch another player before entering the goal or the point is disallowed and the defending team is awarded a goal kick.

**REFEREES (all leagues):** The Bobcats will attempt to provide referees for all games, however, should a referee not show up at the designated time, the game should commence ON TIME with the refereeing duty being shared by the teams' coaches. All referee decisions are final.

**SIDELINES:** For all divisions, coaches are allowed only on one side of the playing field. Parents/spectators are to site on the opposite sideline from the teams. No more than two coaches are allowed on the coach's sideline.

CLOCK: The clock is kept running to have games completed in a timely manner.

## SLIDE TACKLING: No slide tackling allowed!

RED CARD: If a player or a coach is red carded by the referee, they will be suspended 1 GAME. They will not be able to play/coach in their team's next scheduled game. The name of a red-carded player or coach should immediately be reported to the League Representative. Please note, this is a recreational league. Referees should attempt to warn for bad behavior and provide coaching points on how to avoid yellow and red card violations. Red cards should be reserved for serious foul play.

**SPORTSMANSHIP:** Good sportsmanship is when teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials treat each other with respect. The Bobcats want to extend the notation of good sportsmanship to the players. It starts with saying something positive about another player or accepting tough calls with respect for the referee or another player. Referees calls are final and should always be treated with respect. Coaches, players and parents should keep your comments positive on the field. Any concerns should be addressed to the league representatives or referee assignor.

## TP BOBCATS SC LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVES:

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