

# ORGANIZATIONAL RULES

Revised 4/1//2010

The following sections contain the organizational rules for the **Carrollton-Farmers Branch Soccer Association**, henceforth known in this document as CFBSA. These rules are designed to benefit the members of the Association. They can be different from the rules and laws established by North Texas State Soccer Association (“NTSSA”), United States Soccer Federation (“USSF”), and FIFA provided that they do not constitute a direct conflict with any of the above-named organizations. These rules are subject to change by the Executive Board.

## **ORGANIZATION OF TEAM MEMBERS**

### TEAM MEMBERS:

A team consists of one head coach, one assistant coach, the players, and may include a team manager.

The head coach will be approved and assigned a team by the appropriate Full and Small-Sided Board will sign the Association Creed upholding the standards set forth by the CFBSA and will attend USSF NTSSA Badge clinics as required by the CFBSA. Coaches attending CFBSA sponsored clinics will not be charged a fee. Coaches attending other associations' clinics will receive, upon completion a fee reimbursement from CFBSA.

The number of players for each team is determined by the Association according to the team's age group.

Teams with less than the maximum number will be required to add additional players if registrants remain in the player pool after the player draft. The maximum for each age group is as follows:

- Under 4            8 players
- Under 5-6        10 players
- Under 7-8        12 players
- Under 9-10       14 players
- Under 11-15     18 players
- Under 16-19     22 players

CFBSA will endeavor to balance the number of players per team within an age group as best as possible.

A team with a nucleus of players who choose to stay together, but whose coach has retired, is not disbanded unless recognized as such by CFBSA which has authority over all teams. If the search for another coach proves futile; the Association will officially disband the team.

## **USSF AND NTSSA BADGE REQUIREMENTS FOR HEAD COACHES OF CFBSA**

NTSSA Recreation Badge Rules can be viewed in it entirety through the below link.

<http://www.ntxsoccer.org/pages/rules.aspx>

Under 4 thru 6 - *G Badge*

Under 7 thru 10 - *F Badge*

Under 11 & above - *E Badge*

A coach must meet the requirements for the appropriate age group prior to the completion of the first soccer year in that age group.

In addition to those clinics scheduled by NTSSA, CFBSA may schedule and organize local clinics to assist coaches in the attainment of the required certificates.

### **ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYERS**

Registrants will be assigned to the teams per NTSSA rules. An Executive Board Member will attend and monitor the draft.

NTSSA Recreation Team formation Rules can be viewed in its entirety through the below link.

[http://www.ntxsoccer.org/FormServerTemplates/ntssa\\_rules\\_01-21-08forweb.pdf](http://www.ntxsoccer.org/FormServerTemplates/ntssa_rules_01-21-08forweb.pdf)

Girls may choose to play on an "all boys" team or an "all girls" team. If no preference is indicated, they will be placed on an "all girls" team.

Returning players that have been returned to the player pool will be drafted as stated above.

### **RECRUITING**

Recruiting is forbidden as stated in the NTSSA Rules.

NO form of player tryouts will be allowed in any age group.

Any coach, assistant coach, or player accused of violating this rule shall be brought before the A & D Committee and may be subject to suspension.

### **ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

#### **REGISTRATION:**

No player may participate in a game without first submitting to the Association, a properly completed and signed registration form with an acceptable proof of age, and a registration fee.

Acceptable proofs of age, as defined by NTSSA, include a birth certificate issued by an appropriate government agency, Board of Health records, passport, alien registration card issued by the United States government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Services attesting to age, or a certification of an American citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. A Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates will not be accepted.

The registration form, registration fee, and proof of age must be submitted at least 48 hours before a player may compete in their first game.

This new registration form and fee will be required each soccer year when membership is renewed. A player is registered with a team for the entire soccer year, which included both the fall season and the spring season.

Any player who has not met the financial obligations required by CFBSA shall be suspended from all CFBSA activities until such financial obligation has been met.

All registered players will be required to participate in the CFBSA's yearly fundraiser if necessary.

## **AGE GROUPS**

A player will register within their age group, determined by their age on July 31. A player must be three years old or older on July 31 of the preceding soccer year to register for the current soccer year. (**NO EXCEPTIONS**) They will remain in the same age group for the fall and spring seasons within a soccer year. If a player turns 3 before the December 31st, they will be eligible to play in the Spring Soccer Season.

### **YOUNGER AGE GROUP:**

A player may NOT play in a soccer age group younger than their own age.

### **OLDER AGE GROUP:**

A player may play in any older age group with written permission from his parents/guardians. If a player wishes to play up more than one year, their request must be approved by the Executive Board.

A player participating in an older age group may return to a younger age group at the beginning of the next soccer year.

## **SAME FAMILY**

Siblings may play on sibling's older team with written permission of the parent/guardian.

If a player leaves a team, the parent/guardian must notify the coach in writing. The coach must timely notify the League Director and withdraw the player from the team roster.

If a player is injured and unable to play, he may remain on his team's roster.

## **TRANSFER OF PLAYERS**

A coach must contact each team player at the beginning of each soccer season to determine the player's status. Any coach violating this rule shall be brought before the A & D and may be subject to suspension.

A coach will NOT be allowed to drop players from their roster for the purpose of adding new players.

A registered player may choose to go back into the draft to be placed on another team. Any player wishing to be placed back in the player pool must have a parent/guardian submit the request in writing to CFBSA.

Youth players who wish to attend tryouts for select soccer teams become free agents as defined by NTSSA, for this purpose only. This applies only to U11 and older players and, specifically, means that during this time frame, players do not need an Association or coach release to attend a tryout. At any other time during the soccer year players must obtain a release in accordance with NTSSA Rules.

Players who are offered placement on a select team must conform to NTSSA eligibility rules and require a CFBSA release.

Players who participate in recreational leagues not available in CFBSA also require an Association release.

**NOTE: FREE AGENCY DOES NOT APPLY TO MOVEMENT IN RECREATIONAL LEAGUES.**

## **ORGANIZATION OF FIELDS AND EQUIPMENT**

### **PRACTICE AND PLAYING FIELDS:**

Game fields provided by the cities of Carrollton and Farmers Branch are to be used solely for sanctioned league games and approved scrimmages, but cannot be used for practices.

Teams should follow school and city regulations regarding use of facilities for practice.

The coach of any CFBSA team found practicing on a game field and may be subject to suspension.

No glass containers or alcoholic beverages are permitted in the playing areas.

The CFBSA will follow the Sports Fields Use Policy and Guidelines for the Carrollton and Farmers Branch Parks and Recreation Departments.

### **NETS, FLAG & EQUIPMENT POLICY:**

For a complete and comprehensive view of Nets & Flag policy refer to [www.cfbsocket.net/netflag.htm](http://www.cfbsocket.net/netflag.htm). Failure to comply may result in a penalty, including, but not limited to loss of point (s) in team standings.

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE GAME**

### **PLAYING SCHEDULES:**

Each League Director, with approval of their respective vice-president, will determine teams within each of the division's conferences.

All scheduling requests must be submitted to the CFBSA office manager or designated person as identified at the beginning of each soccer season, in writing, at least 3 weeks prior to the start of each season or designated date by CFBSA. After the start of the season, the only circumstances that may be considered for re-schedules shall be: weather related, city related or school related.

Scheduler will oversee and coordinate the assignment of fields and the creation of each season's master schedule. The scheduler will keep the master schedule and distribute one to each City, Referee Assignor, VP Cups & Games, VP Referee & Coaches, VP Full Sided and VP Small Sided through email, fax and/or made available through the assigned CFBSA website. The scheduler will be responsible for scheduling all make-up games.

### **HOME TEAM AND VISITING TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Home Team is responsible for uniform cover-ups if a conflict of color occurs.

Home team is responsible for submitting scores. Failure to submit scores within 48 hours of game may result in a penalty. Click on the coaches tab [www.cfbsocket.net](http://www.cfbsocket.net) for detailed explanation on scoring policy and procedure.

Home team shall set up and take down field equipment. Failure to set up or take down the field equipment may result in a penalty. Click on the coaches tab [www.cfbsocket.net](http://www.cfbsocket.net) for detailed explanation of the CFBSA policy and procedures.

The Home team shall furnish an official ball in proper condition for game play.

Home team and visiting team players and coaches will sit on the same side of the field. Parents/spectators of their respective teams will sit on opposite side of the field. View field map layout for designated area at [www.cfbsoccer.net](http://www.cfbsoccer.net).

No coaches, parents or spectators are allowed behind goals or goal line.

#### GAME CARDS (“REPORT”):

The Report must be submitted to the referee by both the home and visiting team prior to start of the game.

A valid Report must be signed by the referee. The Report should list any official linesmen.

Coaches are encouraged to complete referee evaluations for every game. An objective evaluation of the game's referee will benefit both CFBSA and the referee.

Coaches must verify that injuries are documented on the Reports immediately following the game.

Complete Reports must be submitted to the CFBSA office by coaches in a timely manner of any games where any cards were issued or injuries occurred.

#### FORFEITED GAMES:

Violations which will result in a team receiving a forfeit include the following:

- any game in which an ineligible player illegally participated.
- any game not officially canceled in which a team failed to report to the field within 10 minutes of scheduled start time.
- any game in which information appears to be altered, including incorrect final score.
- any game in which a team refuses to continue playing the entire game.

The official score of a forfeited game will be determined as follows:

- If a team forfeits a game, the official score will be 3 to 0 against the forfeiting team.
- If both teams fail to show up for a scheduled game, both teams will forfeit, not tie.

**Final decisions about forfeited games will be made by the Executive Board.**

### **TEAM STANDINGS, PLAYOFFS, AWARDS**

#### UNDER 8 AND YOUNGER:

Team Standings:

Final scores are to be used by the League Director for the sole purpose of determining future conferences within each division. Team standings will not be published.

Awards:

Participation awards will be given to all players in the U8 and younger age group.

## UNDER 9 AND UP:

### Team standings:

The official results of each scheduled game will determine the number of points allowed to each participating team. The total points accrued by each team will determine its standing within its conference, except where teams are playing Inter-Association.

Points for each game are determined by the league in which each age group is playing.

### AWARDS:

Awards are based on final standings.

Awards will be given to the first, second and third place teams based on points or as determined by the playing league or Executive Board.

### TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS:

Shall be played under NTSSA Tournament Rules. Rules can be found at [www.ntxsoccer.org](http://www.ntxsoccer.org).

### INTERCITY PLAY:

Guidelines for Inter-City play will be determined by CFBSA Executive Board.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER OR OTHER UNPLAYABLE CONDITIONS**

All teams are required to report to the playing field for scheduled games if fields are reported playable by appropriate phone numbers and web sites.

The Coach or team manager should call the rain out numbers provided by the cities of Farmers Branch and Carrollton regarding field conditions. For games at Cox and Pepper, call the Farmers Branch number. For games at McInnish and Good fields, call the Carrollton number.

If weather conditions change after the field report has been issued (4:30 p.m. weekdays only), the cancellation of the game will be at the discretion of the referee. Field conditions for Saturday games will be determined by CFBSA by 8:00 a.m. that day.

For Inter Association Play please contact the appropriate City's weather lines or Association's web sites.

If a game is terminated because of inclement weather or other unplayable conditions before the second half has begun, the game will be rescheduled (subject to availability).

If a game is terminated because of inclement weather or other unplayable conditions after the second half has begun, the game will be considered a full game and the existing score will be the final and official score.

Make-up games will be scheduled on any open dates in the schedule by the Scheduler. The coaches will be notified by the League Director within three days of the postponed game, and at least 48 hours before their rescheduled game.

If a game is abandoned by a Referee the Executive Board has discretion to reschedule, or determine the outcome of the game.

## **SOCCER INSURANCE**

Any player, coach or referee of record is covered for soccer- related injuries when participating in NTSSA/CFBSA-sanctioned soccer activities.

Soccer insurance is provided by NTSSA.

For those individuals who carry group or private health coverage, soccer insurance becomes the secondary coverage when filing a claim.

- Procedures for filing a claim for soccer insurance include the following: The injured party must obtain an insurance form from NTSSA.
- The claim form must be filled out by the injured party and signed by a witness to the injury.

## **MISCONDUCT REPORTS, PROTESTS, APPEALS**

The Appeals and Disciplinary Committees will hold hearings **WITH THE PARTIES HAVING THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT as required for serious misconduct as noted in the NTSSA Playing Rules** under 3.11 DISCIPLINE.

The Appeals and Disciplinary Committee will meet throughout the soccer year to review matters of misconduct and discipline involving players, coaches, spectators, and/or teams.

The offending players, coaches, spectators, and/or teams will be notified when the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee conducts the hearing. All parties will be invited to attend and speak on their own behalf, if they so choose.

### **GAME PROTESTS**

All protests made by members of the CFBSA are reviewed by the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee after proper procedures have been followed.

All protests must be filed, in writing, to the League Director within 48 hours from the time of the incident (excluding Sundays). A postmark date on a letter or email will determine the time of receipt in the case of a controversy.

A filing fee of \$25.00 will be charged.

The League Director will review the protest to determine its validity. The following reasons are considered to be the only grounds for a game protest:

- Misapplication of a law of the game by a referee. Any judgment call by the referee does not constitute legitimate grounds for protest.
- A team with an ineligible player.
- A suspended coach being present and coaching his team.

If the protest is appropriate, the League Director will accept the written protest and fee, forwarding both to the A & D Committee within 48 hours of their acceptance.

If the protest or appeal is upheld by the A & D Committee, the fee will be returned. If either is denied, the fee will be forfeited to CFBSA.

The A & D Committee will meet to hear the protest within ten days of its receipt. The Committee will notify all involved parties concerning the protest and hearing, and will invite them to be present.

## APPEALS

Decisions of the A & D Committee may be appealed to the Executive Board by filing, in writing, to the Board President within 48 hours.

The Executive Board has the authority to confirm or to submit for reevaluation, the decisions of the A & D Committee.

Decisions of the Executive Board may be appealed to NTSSA. Please see Appeals at:  
<http://www.ntxsoccer.org/pages/rules.aspx>