

RULES AND REGULATIONS 2009

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Game-Day Checklist for East Central Leagues

This is a reminder checklist for game day. Please review this and keep a copy with your other team paperwork.

A. Coaches/Managers

1. Before the game --- *at home*:

- Fill out or update Roster/Carding Report (see info in section #5 below)
- Verify that you have your player pass cards (see info in section #6 below)
- Fill out Score Card (see info in section #7 below)
- Verify that you have referee payment (see info in section #8)
- Verify that you have "Non-Participation Verification Cards" for any players sitting suspensions (see info in section #9)
- **Weather Cancelations** --- contact the home club for field status

2. Before kickoff --- *at the field*:

- Present the referee with:
 - East Central Roster/Carding Report (This report is also referred to as the Game Day Roster)
 - Player Pass Cards (The referee will hold them during the game)
 - Coach Pass Card (The referee will note license level on score card, but will not hold card)
 - Score Card for game (if you are the Home Team)
 - Referee Payment: Pay ½ of the referee fees in cash.
 - Home team brings game balls and sets up flags (see Game Management Regulations Section B).
- Examine goals for proper anchoring.
- Inspect the playing surface
- During games please be a positive role model for your players and spectators.
- **Causes for incomplete/forfeit games:**
 - No Player Pass Cards

- No East Central Roster/Carding Report
 - Coach is ejected from a game and there is no coach available to take over
 - No referee money
 - Improper use of Official Player Roster
3. Immediately after the game --- with the referee and opposing coach:
- Verify all information on score card
 - Sign score card
 - Mail in score card --- winning coach
 - Collect your player passes from the referee
 - Have referee sign "Non-Participation Verification Cards" for any players sitting suspensions (see info in section #9)
 - Clarify the identity of those players or coaches receiving warnings and ejections and verify that it is properly recorded on Roster/Carding Report (see info in section #9)
4. Very soon after the game:
- If a player receives a red card, the coach should contact his/her Club Games Commissioner to obtain a "Non-Participation Verification Card."
 - If there is a dispute about some portion of the game or the recorded score, please utilize the EC Game Dispute Resolution Form (see forms)
5. ***Roster/Carding Report:*** Update the Coaches/Manager portion of the "East Central Roster/Carding Report" for EVERY GAME. **Both** coaches must present **their** report to the referee prior to the team check-in.
- The Roster/Carding Report has team, game date, opponent, coaches and player number and name. Player address or phone number will not appear on this report.
 - **Note: The Team Registration Roster is different than the Roster/Carding Report used for game day**
 - The Team Registration Roster is the one with the players personal information
 - It is generated by the club registrar and stamped by East Central Registrar or Assistant Registrar
 - This Team Registration Roster is only presented at tournaments

- *It is extremely important that you do not use or distribute your Team Registration Roster with the player's private information. Use of the Team Registration Roster is potentially harmful to the players and will result in the game being forfeit and possibly other sanctions from the EC District.*
- The Roster/Carding Report can be found on the East Central website under Info>Forms>East Central Roster/Carding Report.

Note: This is in a writable PDF and can be printed with your information on it. This can not be saved, please plan accordingly.

- Referee will only keep the Roster/Carding Report if there is a red or yellow card; otherwise the report is returned to the coach

Coaches/Manager's Tip 1: If the Roster/Carding report is returned (i.e. no cards issued during game) it may be used for subsequent games

Coaches/Manager's Tip 2: You can pre-print this report and mark it up by hand on game day to reflect changes (such as player pass additions and other roster deletions).

6. **Player Pass Cards** - All Classic Teams and U16-U19 Recreational Teams must present their player pass cards at each game in order to play. Failure to produce player pass cards will result in forfeit. **(Recreational Teams below U16 are not required to have player pass cards)**

7. **Score Cards:**

- Score cards are obtained from your club or can be found on the East Central website under Info>Forms>Score Cards
- Please fill out the card completely prior to the game (except for the score and the final verification signatures at the bottom of the card). An incomplete or improperly completed score card will result in non published scores (as if the game were not played).
- The score card is given to the center referee before the game begins, by the home team.
- After the game, the referee fills in the score and each coach should verify the score, re-verify the other information on the card, and sign score card.
- The winning coach will mail in the score card (the mailing address is preprinted on back of card).
- An example of a properly filled out card is located at the end of this document.

8. **Referee Payment**

- See East Central website for payment information
<http://www.eastcentralsoccer.org/> Info>Rules> Modified Rules - Recreational and Classic

- All referee fees must be paid before the start of a game. Failure to present payment will result in a forfeit.

9. *Cardings/Suspensions/Discipline:*

- Immediately after the game, the coach/team manager will meet with the head referee to verify the game score and to clarify the identity of those players receiving warnings and ejections. Coaches or team manager should verify that the correct player pass is being surrendered to the Games Commissioner. **If the referee reports any harassment from a coach or his/her representative during this meeting, disciplinary action (suspension) WILL be assessed against the coach.**
- Players who are receiving red cards will have their player passes confiscated by the Referee who will send the card to the Games Commissioner.
- If a player receives a red card, the coach should contact the Club Games Commissioner to obtain a "Non-Participation Verification Card." This form can also be downloaded from the East Central website: Info>Forms>Non Participation form.
- If a player is sitting a suspension, he/she must have the referee sign the "Non-Participation Verification Card."

B. Referees

1. Check field conditions including the proper anchoring of goals.
2. Collect an "East Central Roster/Carding Report" from each coach for your use of player identification. (never accept an Team Registration Roster with player contact information listed on it) Collect half of the referee pay from each coach. After the game you will complete the appropriate report for each team
3. From the home coach also collect an official "Score Card"
4. Conduct player check-in to include:
 - a. Jersey number verification with number listed on the "East Central Roster/Carding Report"
 - b. Coaching pass verification. Note license level and score card.
 - c. Player pass picture verification
 - d. Uniform inspection
5. In all leagues where player passes are issued, if a player does not have a player pass, he/she MAY NOT play.
6. If requested the head referee should complete any "Non-Participation Verification Card" and record this fact on the "East Central Roster/Carding Report"

7. If the coach forgets the team's set of player passes, report the fact on the official "Score Card". The game must be forfeited (classic leagues and Rec. U16 and above)
8. After the game meet with representatives of each team to verify the game score and clarify the identities of carded players and retain player pass of red carded players. Please report any harassment during this meeting in your "Carding Report."
9. Return the player passes to the coaches after the game.
10. IMMEDIATELY send in the "East Central Roster/Carding Report" to Games Commissioner, W2778 Breezewood Drive, Appleton, WI 54915 when there are unusual incidences to report or when cardings are issued. If there are no incidences or cardings you may keep the report or return it to the original coach.
11. If a red card is issued also complete the "Red Card Report." This report should be on the reversed side of the "East Central Roster/Carding Report". You may also find this report located on the East Central Web Site under INFO>FORMS. "Red Card Report". When a red card is issued the player pass card must be sent in even if the player is going to a tournament that weekend. No exceptions!
12. If you send-off a coach or manager please fill out a "Red Card Report", **but do not collect the coaches' or managers' passes.**

What Happens When a Red Card Is Issued?

1. The Referee completes the "East Central Roster/Carding Report" and a "Red Card Report" and sends them with the player's pass to East Central Games Commissioner, W2778 Breezewood Drive, Appleton, WI 54915, IMMEDIATELY. This is required by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association bylaws. This procedure must be completed even if the team is attending a tournament that weekend.
2. As soon as possible, the coach/manager should contact his/her Club Games Commissioner to obtain a Non-Participation Verification Card. Also located on the East Central website INFO>FORMS
3. The player must:
 - a. Not participate in a minimum of one game
 - b. Attend the game he/she is not participating in
 - c. Have the "Non-Participation Verification Card" completed, signed by the appropriate head referee, and returned to the Club Games Commissioner
 - d. Club Games Commissioner will forward the completed Non-Participation Verification Card to East Central Administrative Assistant for final processing.
4. Upon receiving the "East Central Roster/Carding Report", the "Red Card Report", and the player pass, the East Central Games Commissioner will:
 - a. send the player pass to the Club Games Commissioner

- b. Notify in writing the Player, Coach, Club Games Commissioner, and Club President the suspension status determined by the East Central Games Commissioner.
5. Red card occurrences will result in a minimum of a one game suspension.
6. By obtaining the "Non-Participation Verification Card" quickly, the player may serve the suspension before he/she obtains the "official" notification from the East Central Games Commissioner. Even though the player serves his/her minimum one game suspension, **the player may not play any league or tournament game without a player pass. See Suspensions for more detail.** Therefore, until a player is able to obtain his/her pass from the Club Games Commissioner; it may be beneficial for the player to record on the "Non-Participation Verification Card" every game that he/she does not participate in. These extra games may be applied to that suspension if it is deemed to be for multiple games. These extra games may not be saved for a future suspension.
7. Multiple game suspensions may occur due to repeated red card/ejection incidences and/or severity of the event. Prior to issuances of multiple game suspensions, the Games Commissioner will investigate the event and confer with the East Central Competition Committee. Red card incidences that are determined by investigation to be a result of "Violent Conduct or Spitting at someone" will result in a minimum of a four game suspension.
8. After the player serves his suspension, the "Non-Participation Verification Card(s)" are completed by the appropriate referee(s) and returned to the Club Games Commissioner. The player pass will be returned to the coach. Club Games Commissioner sends the "Non-Participation Verification Card(s) to East Central Administrative Assistant to record the completed suspension,

Player and Coach Behavior Regulations

A. Games Commissioner

Is responsible for the evaluation of the game behavior of players, fans, coaches, and referees. This individual is responsible to the East Central-Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Board and acts in their behalf in resolving game protests and assessing penalties for inappropriate game conduct. This individual will be responsible for reviewing and recommending changes of league rules and regulations subject to approval by the board for publication in the East Central Website.

B. Club Games Commissioner

To facilitate the logistical flow of player passes due to ejections, the Club Games Commissioner will issue "Non-Participation Verification Cards" to the affected coach or player. The Club Games Commissioner will return the player pass when the above card is adequately completed. The Club Games Commissioner may also be asked by the Games Commissioner to help determine appropriate multiple game suspensions or to sit in on hearings for any appeals/protests

C. Referee

Must report all player cautions, ejections, and official coach warnings or send-offs on the "East Central Roster/Carding Report." An additional written explanation must be provided for all ejections/red cards/send-offs by using the "Red Card Report." The report(s) and player pass must be forwarded to Games Commissioner, W2778 Breezewood Drive, Appleton, WI 54915 IMMEDIATELY. A player pass must be forwarded to East Central Games Commissioner even if the team is attending a tournament that weekend. Coach pass cards should not be collected when coaches are sent-off.

D. Suspensions

Red card suspensions must be served in the environment in which they were obtained, that is; red cards obtained in league play must be served in league play; and tournament red cards will be served in tournaments.

1. As you know, when a player receives a red card in league play, the referee must send the player pass to the East Central Games Commissioner. The East Central Games Commissioner will determine the appropriate length of suspension. The East Central Games Commissioner Administrator will send the player pass to the Club's Games Commissioner for appropriate redistribution to the team's coach.
2. Remember, players can not play in any game (league or tournament) without a player pass. While the pass is in transit, via the mail, players may not play in any game.
3. Depending upon the availability of the East Central Games Commissioner, only the coach, manager, player or parent may pick up player pass of the ejected player for non East Central League competition. For security reasons, one of these individuals must sign for the player pass. Then the coach must return player pass to their Club's Games Commissioner within 24 hours of the completion of the non East Central league competition. As always, the following hold true:
 - a. Players must serve suspensions in games by the team on which they are rostered.
 - b. Players must be present at games served for suspension.
 - c. Players must utilize Non-Participation Verification Cards obtained from The Club Games Commissioner or the East Central website. Multiple league game suspensions can not be served in tournament games. Also, players are eligible to play in tournaments, even though they are ineligible to play in league games.

4. The East Central Games Commissioner has the power to suspend players and coaches. Any player that is ejected and/or suspended may choose to have a hearing. This request for a hearing to review the suspension/ejection must be done in writing. This subsequent hearing will take place within 30 days. During this time the player may not be able to participate without the player pass. All league appeal options must be exhausted before legal, civil action can be taken.
5. Multiple game suspensions may occur due to repeated red card/ejection incidences and/or severity of the event. Red card incidences that are determined to be a result of "Violent Conduct or Spitting at someone" will result in a minimum of a four (4) game suspension.
6. Suspensions received near the end of the season which will not be fully served by the end of the season will be carried over to the next East Central playing season. Failure to complete prior year suspensions will result in additional suspensions and may result in team, club, or association fines.
7. A team, club, or association using a suspended player or players in any sanctioned game will be assessed a fine of \$100.00 and will forfeit the game involved. East Central teams playing against suspended teams, clubs, or associations will be fined \$100.00

E. Ejection Suspensions

1. The following variable suspensions will be assessed by the East Central Games Commissioner according to the offense:

a. Serious Foul Play	1-4 Games
b. Violent Conduct	4-12 Games
c. Spitting at someone	4-12 Games
d. Deliberate handling of the ball to prevent a goal	1-4 Games
e. Fouling a player with an obvious goal scoring opportunity	1-4 Games
f. Offensive, insulting, or abusive language	1-4 Games
g. Receiving two cautions in a match	1-4 Games

Serious Foul Play occurs when attempting to play the ball.

Violent Conduct is inappropriate contact when the ball is not in the immediate area.

2. Excessive Cautions - Players who have received a caution (yellow card) in two consecutive league games or who accumulate three cautions during the regular season will be suspended for an East Central/Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association league game, pending notification. Two cautions received in a game resulting in a player's ejection will not be counted towards a second suspension. A single caution during a game where the player subsequently receives a red card will be counted toward the second suspension for excessive cautions.

3. Coach Send-off/Warning - If a coach is cited for a warning in an official game report or if a referee is harassed during the post game "Verification Meeting" the coach of the offending team WILL be suspended at the discretion of the East Central Coaching Commissioner. If a coach is ejected at any time during the game, that game may be declared a forfeit.

Coach Misconduct:

Coaches in the East Central Leagues are expected to exhibit the highest level of sporting behavior and are responsible for the attitudes and behavior of their assistant coaches, players and spectators.

In the event the referee determines the conduct of the coach is detrimental to the game, the referee may ask the coach to leave the immediate vicinity. Immediate vicinity shall be defined as sufficient distance from the playing field where the offending party cannot cause additional disruptions to the game. This is considered the "out of sight and out of sound principle".

Any time a coach is sent off the referee must complete a send off report and this report is to be directed to the East Central Soccer Association President and the East Central Coaching Director.

When a coaching send off report is received by the East Central Coaching Director, the coaching director will investigate the incident and recommend an appropriate response, in consultation with the coach's club president, to the East Central Association President. Repeat offenses will factor into the severity of the response. This response can take the form of one or more of the following:

- Suspension from one game (automatic) to lifetime dependant upon the severity of the incident.
- Attending and completing an anger management course (Cost to be borne by the coach and/or club for which they coach)
- Attending and completing an introductory referee training course (Cost to be borne by the coach and/or club for whom they coach).
- Probation

If the response (decision) includes anger management training or introductory referee training, these courses must be completed at the next opportunity or the coach will be suspended until the course has been completed.

An investigation can be initiated by a signed letter or e-mail from a third party. The response to this investigation can take the same form as a send off report.

Decisions may be appealed per the East Central Appeals process with a \$75.00 appeal fee being posted within 48 hours of being advised of the decision. The appeal will be heard within 20 days of the appeal being accepted. If the decision is overturned or modified the appeal fee will be returned to the appellant.

4. Substitutions after Cautions (Yellow Cards) - The East Central District ENCOURAGES coaches to substitute players who receive cautions. AT THE NEXT AVAILABLE TIME for normal substitution. The referees will NOT stop play at the time of the caution to allow for the substitution.
5. Mandatory Attendance of Suspended Players - A player who is serving a suspension must be present at the game of which is to count towards a suspension. In order for the game to count towards a suspension, a player must have the lead referee date, indicate opponent, and sign a 'Non-Participation Verification Card. This card is to be mailed to the East Central Games Commissioner as verification. **All players that receive suspensions must serve their suspensions on the team they are rostered on.**
6. Probation Policy - Because of various behavioral problems stemming from actions by players, coaches, referees, and spectators per review of Referee Game Reports and East Central Incident reports, the Competition Committee (or its equivalent), after a hearing, may place a player, coach, team, club, or referee on a year's probation. After the year, and if the behavior on and/or off the field does not improve, the East Central District may ban from league play for a year a particular player, coach, team, club, or referee

Protest and Appeal Process

A player or coach suspension may be appealed and the outcome of a game may be protested to the Games Commissioner. However, no dispute, claim, protest or appeal will be considered unless it is presented in writing.

For appealing suspensions/or the outcome of a game , the "event" that initiates the five-day time limit will be the date in which the letter notifying of the suspension is received (usually one or two days after the postmark on the letter). The appeal must then be submitted to the Games Commissioner along with a \$75.00 appeal fee. The fee should be in the form of a check made out to the East Central Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association.

The East Central Games Commissioner will within 30 days after being notified that the player/coach wishes to have a hearing to appeal a suspension/ejection will inform all parties of his/her decision. The East Central Competition Committee will review the information. If the appeal or protest is upheld, the fee will be returned. If denied, the fee will be forfeited to the District treasury. The decision of the committee will be binding to all parties concerned, subject only to further appeal.

A denied protest or appeal may be further appealed to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Appeals Board. This appeal process is covered under the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.

Any written communication to the Games Commissioner that does not follow the protest/appeal protocol will be considered informational only and may not be acted on or responded to.

Forms

Some samples are found on the East Central Web Site.

A. East Central Roster/Carding Report *(also referred to as game day report)*

Beginning at U-11, EACH COACH/MANAGER must complete their team's portion (game demographics and roster) of their report. Therefore, each team must submit their report to the referee prior to their team's check-in. The referee needs to utilize this report to properly 'check-in' the teams. **Failure to provide the referee with this report completed properly prior to the match WILL result in a forfeit. NO STAMPED DISTRICT ROSTER SHOULD BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE.**

B. Red Card Report

This report should appear on the reverse side of the "East Central Roster/Carding Report". This report must be used by the head referee in reporting to the East Central Games Commissioner the details of any red card/ejection situation(s). Report can also be found on the East Central website.

C. Score Card

The home team, after filling in the game demographics, must provide this card to the head referee. During the post-game 'verification meeting' the referee must enter the verified score. The referee must also indicate the coaches' license level on this game card. Team representatives and referee must sign this report to verify the score. The referee will then give the "Referee Report" to the **WINNING** coach to mail to Games Commissioner, W2778 Breezewood Drive, Appleton, WI 54915. When the result is a tie one coach should volunteer to send this report.

D. East Central Incident Report Form

This form may be used by any coach, referee, or spectator who feels an incident should be reported to East Central officials.

E. Non-Participation Verification Card

The Club's Games Commissioner will distribute this card to the coach or player. After each game that a player or coach does not participate in because of a suspension, they must have the referee verify this non-participation by completing the card. Remember, all players must attend the game of non-participation as a spectator.

F. Player Transfer Form

If a player seeks to transfer to another team, they must contact their current club and district registrar. Intra-club transfers may be handled internally. Inter-club transfers may require approval from the state office.

Game Management Regulations

A. Field Changes

If, for any reason, the home team is forced to change fields before a particular game, the home team must arrange to have the away team and referee meet at the originally scheduled field and be escorted to the new field location. Permanent field changes must be provided in writing to the League Scheduler and to the presidents of all clubs visiting that field. As a common courtesy a representative of the home team should notify the representative of the visiting team of this permanent field change.

B. Field Markings

Regardless of private arrangements between clubs, it is still the sole responsibility of the home team to see that the field is adequately marked to the satisfaction of the referee. Home team sets corner flags. Referees have already exercised the option to refuse to have the game played if the field is not adequately marked. This results in a forfeit by the home team.

C. Additional Responsibilities of the Home Team:

1. Put up four (4) corner flags
2. Supply game ball
 - No. 3 for U-6/U-8
 - No. 4 for U-10/U-12
 - No. 5 for U-13/U-19
3. Pay ½ of referee game fee prior to start of game
4. Insure proper field markings

D. Goals

Clubs must maintain safe goals. Proper anchoring is mandatory. If a coach refuses to play a game due to unsafe goals, the Games Commissioner could declare the game as a forfeit against the home team.

E. Non-Attendance of Opposing Team

When one team fails to show up, the attending team must line up and kick a goal to win the game by forfeit. **The referee is required to complete the game report and note appropriately: EX:TEAM XY failed to show or refused to play. The referee CANNOT declare a winner (or forfeit). The decision regarding the result of the game rests solely with the East Central Games Commissioner.** It is unlikely however that a forfeit will be upheld if confusion over a field change is involved. If a team notifies its opponent well in advance that they will forfeit a game, it is not necessary for either team to show up at the scheduled time. It is the responsibility of the home team to notify the scheduled referees **and both teams must send in a Game Change**

and Dispute Resolution Form, indicating the forfeiture to the East Central Games Commissioner.

F. Rescheduling Games

Clubs/teams may attempt to reschedule games ONLY for the following situations:

5. A game postponed due to inclement weather
6. A field deemed unplayable by the referee or owner
7. Games conflicting with a 'state league' commitment
8. Weekend games in May that may conflict with tournaments
9. Games during the school year when one team can not field seven players due to a school commitment
10. A team is scheduled to play in a weeklong tournament

Therefore, games should not be rescheduled due to a few players missing due to a school commitment or on vacation. In the event a game has to be rescheduled, the date of the rescheduled game should be **arranged with the visiting team within seven days of the originally scheduled game.** (This game may be rescheduled five weeks in the future.) **Fill out East Central Dispute Resolution form to create a paper trail for rescheduled games. Communication between clubs is vital.**

All re-scheduled games must be approved by the home club field scheduler and referee scheduler. If either scheduler is unable to reschedule then the game will be declared a 'no contest'.

G. Team/Parent Field Assignments

All U-11 and above games should be played with teams, coaches, and team volunteers with passes on one side line within their designated team areas and spectators on the other side line. We recognize that extenuating circumstances may prevent compliance at some field locations. The decision to allow exceptions will be made by the referee.

H. Uniforms

Where the colors of jerseys are similar, it is the responsibility of the home team to change jerseys. At U-11 and above the uniforms of a team should be consistent in appearance (identical jerseys, same colored shorts and socks). Goalkeepers must wear a color which distinguishes them from other players and the referee. Goalkeepers may wear baseball caps as long as the bill of the cap is forward. Wrist bands and headbands will be allowed if only if they are the same color as the socks.

I. Jewelry

No jewelry may be worn. This includes the following; bracelets (of any kind), earrings, necklaces, barrettes, or hair twists with metal or plastic. **MEDICAL ALERT BANDS OR ANY NON-REMOVABLE BRACKLET MUST BE TAPED TO THE BODY.**

J. Casts

No casts, splints or braces (except for the knee) will be allowed. Knee braces must be sufficiently padded and approved by the referee.

K. Player Passes

Coaches and managers of classic teams and U-16, 17 and U-19 Rec. are advised that each player must have a pass in his possession at game time and hand it to the referee before the game in order to participate. **Any classic team without player passes has 10 minutes in which to produce the player passes. After that time, the game will be declared a forfeit and may not be rescheduled.**

L. Club Passes

A classic league team may elect to have up to 4 players added to the league game day roster. The maximum number of player on the sidelines and allowed to participate in a league game shall not exceed 18. On game day referee must verify the actual identity of the players' names, DOB, player ID number, club designation against the player pass. Teams that make use of the player club pass must designate on the "East Central Roster/Carding Report" the name and team of the player(s) added to the roster report. A classic player is not to play in the recreational level

U-11 to U-14 East Central Classic level players can play up or laterally in the same age level (as defined by the league level they play in) or up to, two age levels at any competition level. U-15 and older players can play laterally in the same age level (as defined by the league level they play in) or play up to any level. This allowance does not apply to state league (Boys and Girls Premier and first divisions).

For example player can move from a U-15 National that player can play on a U-16 American or U-16 National or U-17 American or National

For example player can move from a U-15 American that player can play on a U-15 national or a U-16 American or U-16 National or U-17 American or National

M. Referee

Clubs may use uncertified referee or parents to officiate any or all U-6 games. For all U-7 thru U-10, recreational games they should utilize a certified referee and two club linesman. When only one certified referee is assigned for the U-7 to U-10 games, only the certified referee is to be paid. All classic games must utilize a three man - one whistle system. For all U-11 games and above, any club or team that uses uncertified referees (center) will result in a forfeit by the home team.

One Whistle Referee System is MANDATORY (approved 11-15-08)

The Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association has informed all Districts that any game utilizing two whistles is NOT a sanctioned game. It is imperative that all East Central scheduled games be controlled by a one whistle referee system. **It is also required to have three referees for each sanctioned game, whether they are registered or a non-registered "Club Linesman". The center, or head, referee must be USSF registered.** Therefore, what should you do when a three-man system is scheduled and one **or more of the referees** do not show up for the game? The board requires the use of one of the

following options. All options are predicated on utilizing a center/head referee that is qualified for the level of play.

1. Recruit a qualified registered referee from the spectators and proceed with the usual methodology of a three-man system.

2. Recruit a "club linesman" from the spectators. Therefore modify the three-man system as follows

a. Instruct the "club linesman" to only signal when the ball goes over the touch line or goal line. The club linesman may not signal or call any fouls or infractions.

b. The "assistant referee" (AR) will continue to signal fouls, off-side, and balls that go out of play as usual.

c. The "center referee" will modify his diagonal movement to maximize his/her visualization of the "assistant referee", and work more to the side of the club linesman.

d. Reimbursement: Registered referees will receive the pay for the position (Center or AR) that they actually work. No referee, center or AR, may be paid more than the amount set by East Central/WYSA.

e. Club Linesmen may not be paid as part of the referee crew.

f. If the game is at the Classic level, and a registered level 9 referee is recruited to help as a linesman, the level 9 referee may not be paid as part of the referee crew, and should not wear a uniform or badge. A level 9 referee may only be used as a non-paid club linesman that can only assist with signaling that the ball has gone over the touch line or goal line. When recruiting a club's lineman preference should be given to a level 9 referee, over someone not registered as a referee at all.

g. At the conclusion of the game, the center/head referee is responsible to return any unused referee fees to the coaches/manager of each team, when less than three registered referees are used.

h. The coach is encouraged to donate the unused referee fees to the club linesman. Any fees not used to pay for the referees are to be returned to the club.

i. In the situation where none of the available registered referees are qualified to work the center referee position for the level of play, the game should be cancelled and rescheduled. The scheduled "assistant referees" should be paid the appropriate fee.

3. All of the above rules are to be applied for any State League, MYRL, or State Championship Series play-in games that are played within the East Central District.

N. Game Start Time

A team has 10 minutes grace period in which to be ready to play, after the scheduled game time. In the event of a field change, the visiting team should be given an additional grace period to be determined by the referee. The minimum legal number of players on a team is 7. The grace period is not intended to be used to fill your numbers from 7 or 8 to a full 11. If you have 7 players at the scheduled game time, then the referee is instructed to start the game on time.

O. Game Length/Referee Fees

All teams must pay half of the referee fee for all league games. The referee will not allow the game to proceed unless all money is collected within a reasonable amount of time or a forfeit will be declared. If either team does not have the money, a no contest will be declared and the game may not be rescheduled.

Team level	Duration of Games	Referee Fee	Assist. Referee Fee
U-6 Short sided (3v3)	4X10 minutes	\$11.00	NA
U-8 Short sided (4v4)	4X12 minutes	\$11.00	NA
U-10 Short sided (6V6)	2X25 minutes	\$13.00	NA
U-11 Short sided (8V8)	2x30 minutes	\$25.00	\$15.00
U-12 Classic & Rec.	2X30 minutes	\$25.00	\$15.00
U-13/14 Classic & Rec.	2X35 minutes	\$30.00	\$20.00
U-16 Co-ed Rec.	2X35 minutes	\$30.00	\$20.00
U-15/16 Classic	2X40 minutes	\$40.00	\$25.00
U-17/19 Rec.	2X35 minutes	\$40.00	\$25.00
U-17/19 Classic	2X45 minutes	\$50.00	\$30.00

All games should have a halftime of 10 minutes maximum.

Every attempt should be made to end the game on schedule. If the start of a game is delayed by the official, a shorter game of two equal length periods should be played. The referee will control reductions in game length. All evening games in May for U-16 and above will be 2 x 35 minutes halves.

P. Team Area

The team personnel should remain in their own team area, not less than 10 yards from the center line. The area near the center line will be reserved for substitutions.

Q. Substitutions

Substitutions shall be unlimited except where specified otherwise in the Rules and Regulations for a special competition. Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, at the following times:

- a. Any stoppage of play
- b. Prior to a goal kick both teams
- c. After a goal, by either team
- d. After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play
- e. At half-time

R. Slide Tackling (expanded rule)

At all recreational levels, the 'field players' MAY NOT leave their feet to play, or attempt to play, the ball with the exception of heading the ball. Therefore, slide tackles, slide blocks, slide shots and 'bicycles' will be whistled as a direct free kick foul.

S. Seven Goal Rule

After the first half of play or anytime during the second half, when one team is leading by seven (7) goals, the game shall be ended at that point. With the agreement of both coaches, the referee, at his discretion, may allow play to continue for the full duration of the game.

T. Roster size of U-11 through U12 Classic and Rec. Teams (Approved 9-15-08)

Clubs have the option to increase the team roster size from 14 to 16 on U-11 and U-12 classic and recreational teams to avoid turning away players.

U. U-16/U-17/U-19 Recreational Rules

The following rules are enforced in an attempt to reduce the level of competitiveness and increase the enjoyment of the game. Changes are listed in *bold italics*.

1. Slide Tackling (expanded rule) - At all recreational levels, the "field player" MAY NOT leave their feet to play, or attempt to play the ball, with the exception of heading the ball. Therefore, slide tackles, slide blocks, slide shots and "bicycles" will be whistled as a direct free kick foul.
2. All teams must have an official roster. All players shall have *a player pass and the coach or manager will prepare East Central Roster/Carding Report to be presented to the referee prior to the start of the game*
3. In the spirit of recreational play each team will have approximately the same ratios of boys to girls on the field. *At no time will there be more than 8 players of one gender on the playing field.*
4. A player from the offensive team MAY NOT play the ball within the goal box. A violation will award the defensive with a goal kick.
5. *Game day rosters:*
 - For U16 Coed Rec. - No more than 10 players of the same gender.*
 - For U19 Coed Rec. - No more than 12 players of the same gender.*
6. *Each player is to play 50% of the game time.*

V.22 Person Roster for U-17/19

The team roster shall be approved by the State Association where the team resides. For U-16 and younger team, the team roster shall not have more than 18 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. For 22- player roster limitation for U-17, U18 and U-19 youth teams (this policy does not apply to U-16 and younger teams).

The Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association as its June 12 State Board of Director's meeting has approved the following policy, effective August 1, 2005 for league and tournament play in Wisconsin. This policy is slightly modified from US Youth Soccer's policy which becomes effective September 1, 2005.

ROSTER LIMITATIONS - Each team shall have a team roster and will present an "East Central Roster/Carding Report" for every league game. U-17 and older teams, the roster may have up to 22 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Every team roster (U13 and older) shall have a minimum of 7 players on the roster at all times.

"East Central Roster/Carding Report" - This game roster shall be prepared by the team and submitted to the referee crew before the match begins. The game roster shall have a maximum of 18 players and a minimum of 7 players. The club pass players must also be listed on this report. No more than 4 club pass players are to be used.

Team Eligibility for Wisconsin State Cup (National Championship Series) - please refer to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Web site for this information.

How the East Central Roster/Carding Report shall be administered on game day

1. Each team shall be required to provide the East Central Roster/Carding Report form to the referee crew listing 18 players eligible for the game; including CLUB PASS PLAYERS.
2. Players must have a current and valid player pass card which includes the player's photo, player's signature, the registrar's stamp and must be laminated.
3. The referee crew shall verify the players' identities against the East Central Roster/Carding Report prior to kick off.
4. Player must be age appropriate (or younger) for the age group in which the team is competing.
5. The East Central Board voted to not allow Club Pass utilization for players to play down a level of play (from National to American).
6. A team may only use a maximum of 4 club pass players.

W. Complete Game

In instances when the referee suspends or terminates a game due to weather conditions, darkness, etc., a game will be considered complete if the first half has been completed prior to the suspension or termination. If the first half has not been completed, the game must be rescheduled and played in its entirety.

X. Post-Game Conference

In order to communicate accurate game information, the Board is requesting that the "center referee" and a representative from each team meet in a post-game conference. The purpose of this conference is to:

1. Verify the score and the number of cardings.
2. Verify the identity of all players receiving the cards.
3. Return the player passes, minus those of ejected players to the teams.
4. Obtain the appropriate signatures on the official "Referee Report" card.

Y. East Central Roster/Carding Report

When unusual incidences occur or when cardings are issued the lead referee is responsible for the accurate completion and submission of the "East Central Roster / Carding Report" as soon as possible after the game has been played. It should reflect every significant event and players involved as the events occur, such as yellow cards, red cards and coach/manager send-offs. Please report any harassment during the post-game conference in this report. The "East Central Roster / Carding Report" should be provided to the head referee by both coaches. Repeated failure to mail in the game report will be reported to Club and District Referee Commissioners.

Z. Scoring and Standings

The following point value will be awarded for game standings:

1. Three points for a win
2. One point for a tie
3. Zero points for a loss

Team standings will be compiled from the information provided on the official "Score Card". Team standings will be determined strictly on total points. Tied teams will be sequenced alphabetically by team name. The team with the most points will be listed first. It is the responsibility of the winning coach/team to mail the score cards in. In the event of a tie, the home coach mails the score card in to Games Commissioner, W2778 Breezewood Drive, Appleton, WI 54915. All score cards must be sent in within 72 hours of the match. No scores will be taken via e-mail. Only the coach or team manager may question a score once posted on the web site. In event of an incorrect score **posting or an un-posted score the coach or manager must fill out the Game Change and Dispute Resolution Request form. The instructions and form can be found on the East Central website under INFO>Forms.**

Other Regulations

A. Bad Weather

Only the referee, field owner, or club field scheduler has the authority to postpone a game. In the event of pre-existing poor field conditions, the club field scheduler may determine that the game should be postponed. The field scheduler should designate someone to contact the visiting team and referees of this postponement.

In the event of inclement weather and a game must be suspended and consequently, cannot be resumed, the referee is required to complete the game report and note appropriately GAME SUSPENDED/TERMINATED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER. The referee CANNOT declare a winner (or forfeit). The decision regarding the result of the game rests solely with the Games Commissioner.

B. HIV Policy

Although existing data would indicate that HIV is not easily transmitted on a soccer field, the Board has instituted the following policy:

1. Any player with an open wound may not play until the wound is completely covered.
2. Any player who starts to bleed must be removed from the game immediately. They cannot re-enter the game until the bleeding has stopped and any wound is covered completely.
3. Any player who has dried blood on his or her skin must leave the game and wash it off before attempting to re-enter the game.
4. Any player with blood on his or her uniform (without regard for it being his or her own or someone else's and regardless of whether it is dry or wet) must leave the game immediately and change into a "clean" uniform.
5. Substitutes can take the place of these players immediately as they would for any injury.
6. Players who leave the game for any of these or similar reasons may resume playing when they have rectified the problem. However, the referee, with justification, can refuse to readmit any player who has to leave the field for one of these reasons.

C. Player Transfer Policy

Any player requesting a transfer should contact their club and district registrars. Intra-club transfers may be handled internally. Inter-club transfers require the approval of the state office. A team cannot accept more than three transferred players in a soccer season. A transfer means the movement of a currently or previously rostered player onto another roster or of a player who returns to the same roster within the current registration (seasonal) year."

D. Recruitment Policy (Passed Strategic Planning Meeting 11/15/08)

East Central will follow the tryout, recruitment and rostering policy as written by Wis. Youth soccer Association. Notification of players will be done per existing East Central Rules listed below.

In order to facilitate timely formation of teams, the offer of a spot on a specific team must be made within three weeks of the last tryout for that age group. The player must respond within one week of the offer.

Code of Conduct Statement

To have any team sport run smoothly, we need joint effort and guidelines to follow. The responsibilities of coaches, players, parents, and spectators are as follows:

- A. Players are Expected to Show a Sportsman-Like Behavior
 1. TOWARD TEAMMATES
 - a. Team work and cooperation are absolutely essential for success in any group effort. Group spirit, unselfishness, a concern for others, and self-sacrifice are all necessary for the best team performance.
 - b. Criticism and sarcasm seldom accomplish anything beneficial. The end result, nearly always, is less relaxation, more tension, and a corresponding decrease in skill.
 2. TOWARD OPPONENTS
 - a. The other team members are guest and should be treated accordingly.
 - b. Uncomplimentary remarks toward or concerning the opposing team should never be made.
 - c. Competition would not be possible without the cooperation, the appearance, and participation of the opponent. Treat your opponents as you yourself would like to be treated.
 3. TOWARD OFFICIALS
 - a. The official's task at best is a difficult one, and respect, rather than antagonism, should be the attitude of all players.
 - b. Their decisions must be respected in order that the players and the spectators will receive the greatest benefit from the game.
 - c. Officials are attempting to handle a difficult job to the best of their ability, and players have a great responsibility in establishing patterns of conduct for the spectators by the way they accept decisions.
- B. Conduct of Coaches, Parents, and Spectators
 1. TOWARD PLAYERS
 - a. Players should be encouraged to play according to the rules regardless of the tide of victory or defeat.
 - b. Players should be encouraged to play their best! Win, lose, or draw, they should still be accepted as people.

2. TOWARD OPPONENTS
 - a. The same type of courteous and considerate treatment should be given the guests, as you would like your team to receive on out -of-town trips.
3. TOWARD OFFICIALS
 - a. An official deserves fair treatment and encouragement. He is trying to see that no one gets an unfair advantage over others.
 - b. Let them know about their good calls. Like anybody, they perform better with encouragement and feedback.
 - c. Officials are human and, thus, subject to error. But remember they must interpret what is happening on the field from their position.
 - d. Continued booing and derogatory remarks are generally the poor sportsman's way of displaying feelings in a group which lacks courage to express directly as an individual.
 - e. The players view us as role models. Therefore, we need to control our own actions with this in mind.