



Durham Region Soccer League (DRSL) Rules and Regulations U13 & Up

1.0 Membership

- 1.0 Membership is open to any properly constituted club in good standing as defined in the Durham Region Soccer Association (DRSA) Governing Documents and the Durham Region Soccer League (DRSL or League) Rules and Regulations. Club teams from other districts may apply but are subject to DRSA and Ontario Soccer Governing Documents

2.0 Applications

- 2.0 Team registration fees shall be set annually and posted on the DRSA website no later than December 1st of the year before the outdoor season.
- 2.1 Team applications are due to the DRSL by January 18th for the outdoor season.
- 2.2 Application by a Club to have a team play in the League must be received on the application form provided by the League. The application form must be fully complete and accompanied by the full registration fee by the Club.
- 2.3 All teams whose Clubs are not members of the DRSA will require a duly signed Playing Out permission form and a validated roster from their District before April 15th of the current year to be submitted to the DRSA. Failure to provide these forms will result in late fees and acceptance into the League may be revoked.
- 2.4 Any team application received without full payment, including the additional League fee for late applications, will be deemed incomplete and not processed by the League. Any team application submitted by a Club after the deadline will be accepted at the discretion of the League and will be subject to an additional administration fee as stated in the Schedule of Fees and Fines.

- 2.5 Team placement is determined by the Club Technical Director/Club Head Coach based on a voluntary tiering process.
- 2.6 At the discretion of the DRSL age divisions may be combined if there is an insufficient number of teams.
- 2.7 Teams withdrawing after the withdrawal deadline of March 15th will forfeit the entire League fee, and their Club will be charged an administration fee. Notice of withdrawal must be in writing from a Club official.
- 2.8 Teams withdrawing from the League to take a regional position will receive their full team fee minus an administration fee.

3.0 Responsibilities of Club and Team Officials

- 3.0 The host Club for a League game shall ensure that fields are assigned and are properly permitted, cleared and safe for setting up i.e. field size and markings (lines, markers).
- 3.1 Game ball - size 5 - The home team will be responsible for providing two game balls as per these requirements.
- 3.2 The Club is responsible for all its players, team officials and spectators always (prior to, during and after the game until all have left the grounds and parking lots). Their representatives shall behave responsibly in accordance with the laws of the game, playing rules dictated by the governing bodies and acceptable social behavior.
- 3.3 As per Ontario Soccer Governing Documents, any Club failing to prevent its spectators or players' parents from disrupting a game or for persisting in "using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures" directed at a Match Official or any other person, will be subject to a fine and/or Discipline, as outlined in the DRSL Fees and Fines and Ontario Soccer Published Rules
- 3.4 A Coach with age-appropriate certification and registered with Ontario Soccer for the current playing season must be present in the technical area during each game or the game will not be played.
- 3.5 Only certified and registered coaches up to maximum of Five are permitted within the technical area. Technical Directors are not permitted to be carded as the Coach of a team or squad but can attend in the technical area any time prior, during and after the game. Team officials and Players must be registered and validated as per Ontario Soccer and DRSA Governing Documents.
- 3.6 Any game abandoned by a Match Official will be dealt with by the League. A

Team found guilty of causing the abandonment of a game will be subject to a fine and discipline. If both teams are found guilty, then both Clubs will be subject to a fine.

3.7 A player, coach, team official or spectator who is found to have impeded, harassed, or otherwise intimidated a Match Official, opposing coach, members of the League, or opposing players, will be subject to disciplinary action per Ontario Soccer operational rules.

3.8 All teams must be represented by at least one Team Official at the DRSL preseason meeting. Failure to attend will subject the Club to a fine.

3.9 Teams must wear the uniform of the Club/academy to which they are registered. The uniform must display the Club/Academy crest or logo only.

3.10 If a team does not show up for a scheduled game, it shall be deemed that the team is in default of the game and will be subject to discipline. The game will not be rescheduled.

3.11 Roster changes must be provided to the league at least 1 business day before the game, or the Club may be fined.

3.12 Block Off dates

The Block off Dates Request Form is due to the DRSL by March 15th of the current season. Teams are to provide a maximum of two (2) weeks, ten (10) days. Dates will be accepted for Memorable Events, Out of Province Tournaments, Graduation. Any Block Off Dates Request Form submitted after the deadline will be accepted at the sole discretion of the League and may not be accommodated.

4.0 Player Identification

4.1 Validated players and team official identification cards/player books must be available to present at all games.

- 4.2 The inspection of Ontario Soccer identification Digital roster by the opposing team is mandatory and must not delay the scheduled kick-off.

Authorized Identification Official (Digital) roster Inspection Procedure:

- a) All players form two (2) individual lines per team
 - b) Each player holds their own identification Membership card with the photo showing
 - i) Match the player card photograph to the player
 - ii) check the date of registration and SEOS Number.
 - c) A team official from the opposing team with a copy of the opposing team's game sheet inspects the official roster.
 - d) Players arriving late to the game must have their Digital identification checked by the opposing team official prior to playing the game (Match Official's discretion)
- 4.3 No protest regarding a player's eligibility will be accepted if the identification of players was not checked before the game started.
- 4.4 Failure to produce Ontario Soccer identification when requested will result in the game being played under protest and a fine issued to the Club and possible disciplinary action by the League.
- 4.5 Only players for whom identification is made available for inspection may have their names entered on the game sheet and be eligible to play.
- 4.6 Each team will present the Match Official with two (2) fully completed copies of the official DRSL game sheet printed from E2E (**No handwritten players or coaches**) before the game. Match officials will return one Game sheet at the end of the game. Incomplete game sheets will be assessed a fine as set in the Schedule of Fees and Fines per occurrence.

- 4.7 Players and team officials who are entered on the game sheet are considered to have participated in the game unless stroked out on the game sheet. A team official is to initial all changes.
- 4.8 Once a game has been started, team officials forfeit the right to investigate identification with the exception that team officials still have the right to investigate the identification of a player arriving late and it must be done prior to the player entering the field of play.
- 4.9 Players must wear their Club uniform with a number that corresponds to that listed on the game sheet. NO Duplicated Jersey numbers, Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action and a fine for the Club.

5.0 Player Eligibility

- 5.0 The maximum number of players that may be recorded on a game sheet, named, dressed, and played in any one game is 20. (Maximum 20 Players Registered to team).
- 5.1 All other rules and regulations as outlined in Ontario Soccer Governing Documents regarding the signing and transfer of players shall apply.
- 5.2 Teams found to have used an ineligible player(s) shall forfeit the game(s) to their opponents provided a protest is received, or at the discretion of the DRSL. If both teams are found guilty of using ineligible players(s) both Clubs will be subject to a fine and the Club(s) could face suspension from the associated division within the League.
- 5.4 Call up Procedure
U13 and up

Players may be called up in these divisions if:

- a) The player is a competitive player in a younger age group within the same League.
- b) The player is a competitive player in the same age group at a lower competitive level
- c) The player is a recreational player in the same age group or younger (district or local player)
- d) The player has not played in six (6) games as a call up for that team in the current season
- e) Not more than three (3) players can play as a call up for any one team, in any game
- f) They are not being used in a League cup or playoff game
- g) All players used as call ups must have proper validated Ontario Soccer identification
- h) Under no circumstances are players allowed to be called up from a higher level of competition

5.5 Rosters are frozen as of **July 31st** of the current year. A player registered to a team after this date, who participates in any DRSL game shall be deemed an ineligible player.

6.0 Schedule

- 6.0 Under no circumstances will teams be allowed to postpone games.
- 6.1 Under no circumstances should a team contact an opponent with the intent to adjust the Schedule.
- 6.2 All games will be played as scheduled unless:
 - a) At the discretion of the Match Official postponement is necessary due to inclement weather or field conditions
 - b) A game is postponed at the discretion of the DRSL
 - c) A game is postponed at the discretion of the parks official and/or Clubs
- 6.3 The home team must provide rescheduled dates to the DRSL within seven (7) days of the originally scheduled date. Failure to do so will result in the home teams' forfeiture of home advantage and the opposing team will provide a date and field for the rescheduled game within seven (7) days. The original home team will remain responsible for the Match Official fees.

7.0 League Games

7.0 Duration of League games:

Age Division	Game Duration
Under 13 and Under 14	2 x 40 minutes
Under 15 and up	2 x 45 minutes

- 7.1 The Match Official is the official timekeeper of the game.
- 7.2 There will be no extra time or penalty kicks to determine the winner in a tie.
- 7.3 Fifteen (15) minutes of grace time from the scheduled kick-off time shall be permitted for teams to field the minimum requirement of players. The game will start when both teams have the minimum number of players required within the grace period allowed.

Divisions	Minimum requirement of players
U13 & Older	Minimum seven (7) players

- 7.4 If one team does not field the minimum required number of players to start a game, it will be considered to have defaulted on the game and shall forfeit the points.
- 7.5 If both teams are unable to field the minimum number of players to play the game, both teams shall be in default of the game and no points awarded, the game will not be rescheduled.
- 7.6 If a team does not show up for a regularly scheduled game or Cup game, it shall be deemed that the team is in default of the game and will not be awarded any points.
- 7.7 If both teams do not show for their scheduled game or Cup game no points will be awarded and both teams shall be subject to discipline, the game will not be rescheduled.

- 7.8 If a team advises the League in writing, less than forty-eight (48) hours in advance, that it will be unable to field a team for a scheduled League or Cup game, the team will be fined per occurrence. The game shall be recorded as a default game and will not be rescheduled.
- 7.9 In the event a team has its number of players reduced to less than seven (7) players during a game, for whatever reason, the game will be suspended. If the minimum time for completion has elapsed (75% of game completed), the League will determine the outcome of the game and/or it will be replayed. If the minimum time required for completion has not elapsed, the team shall be deemed to have forfeited the game, the game will not be replayed, and the team will be subject to discipline.
- 7.10 Once the season has started there will be no changes to the schedules and no games rescheduled except for rain outs and field closures.
- 7.11 Where a game has been played under protest such fact shall be clearly indicated by the Match Official on all copies of the game sheet. Such indicated protests on game sheets must follow the protest instructions with required documentation otherwise they will be dismissed. Teams/Clubs that do not file an official protest in accordance with the rules when it has been noted on the game sheet will be subject to discipline.

9.0 Reporting Scores

- 9.0 Both teams shall report and confirm the game score via the DRSL website (E2E) within forty-eight (48) hours of completion.
- 9.1 The home team is responsible for reporting to the League office if the game was rained out or otherwise incomplete within twenty-four (24) hours.
- 9.2 Fines to the Club, per occurrence, will apply to all who fail to report the result (score) as described above.
- 9.3 The Match Official is required to submit scores online through Ref Centre.
- 9.4 A win by forfeit shall be recorded 1-0 in the E2E system.
- 9.5 League play will be used to determine a team's eligibility for promotion to the appropriate Regional Leagues. (If applicable)

10.0 Standings

- 10.1 Only properly completed game sheets received by the League will determine the official standing in all divisions.
- 10.2 In the event of a tie within a division standing, the winner shall be decided as follows:
 - a) The results of Head-to-Head League games played between the tied teams
 - b) If still tied, the team with the fewest goals against
 - c) If still tied, a one-game playoff on a neutral field, as determined by the League, with a League appointed referee, shall determine the winner. The game, if necessary, will be played in accordance with League rules
 - d) Only rostered players are permitted to participate in playoff games
 - e) Goals for and goal differential shall not be used to determine a League winner, nor to break ties for teams tied in League standing

11.0 Promotion and Regulation

Rules relating to promotion and relegation are subject to the Ontario Soccer Policy.

12.0 Match Officials

- 12.0 The Match Official is the sole authority in determining the safety and playability of a soccer field. The decision of the Match Official to cancel or abandon the game is final.
- 12.1 Match officials are paid by the DRSL.
- 12.2 It is the responsibility of the Match Official to report all discipline issues that occurred in the game, to the League office within forty-eight (48) hours from the completion of the game. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action as per Ontario Soccer policy.
- 12.3 When/if the Match Official must declare the game cancelled or abandoned prior to the start of the game, the Match Official shall still be paid fifty (50) percent of the game fee. The Match Official will be required by the League to collect the game sheets at the field and submit the game report within forty-eight (48) hours or will be subject to discipline.
- 12.4 In the case of a game forfeit/no show by a team, the team that forfeits will be charged the total Match Official fee by the DRSL League.
- 12.5 Match Officials must submit game sheets to the DRSL office within forty-eight (48) hours of completion of the competition and originals submitted within seven (7) days of the scheduled game. Match Officials who fail to submit game sheets on time will be subject to further discipline.

13.0 Player Equipment

"A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player, including any type of jewelry" - Law 4 Canada Soccer

13.0 Jewelry

All items of jewelry (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands etc.) are strictly forbidden and must be removed. Exceptions - Medic Alert Bracelets.

13.1 Protective equipment

Hats and bandanas are not allowed on the field of play. Headscarves and turbans are approved as per Ontario Soccer rules.

Exceptions – Goalkeeper caps are permitted. Eyeglasses are permitted providing they are sport spectacles and are safe for the players themselves, and for other players.

13.2 Casts

Hard plaster casts are considered to pose a danger to both the wearer and other players and are not permitted on the field of play.

Exceptions - soft, lightweight cast will be permitted, providing the cast does not present a danger to the individual or any other player. The match official has the final authority on this decision.

14.0 Weather

Lightning safety and severe weather policy

The continuance of the game is at the Match Official's discretion. Ontario Soccer has a weather policy in place that should be followed in such conditions.

"The policy mirrors the 30-30 rule as directed by Environment Canada. The 30-30 rule should be known and understood by all involved in the game. When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If this time is thirty (30) seconds or less, seek proper shelter. Wait thirty (30) minutes or more after hearing the last thunder before leaving the shelter. If you cannot see the lightning, just hearing the thunder is a good back up rule".

The safety of players, coaches, management and spectators is the primary concern in any weather event that occurs during all matches sanctioned by the CSA. By understanding and following the information below, the safety of everyone shall be greatly increased. Ultimately the Match Official has the final say over delaying or

restarting a match due to weather. Waiting to stop play or not waiting to start play may result in a serious injury or loss of life. Match Officials are expected to act responsibly when dealing with such events during matches that they are controlling.

15.0 Protests

- 15.0 A team official should inform the Match Official that the game is 'being played under protest'. The Match Official will record this on the game sheet before the game starts. The game shall be played. A team refusing to play will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 15.1 Notice of 'Intention to Protest' must be sent into the DRSL office via email (mloveless@durhamregionsoccer.ca) within twenty-four (24) hours of the completion of the game.
- 15.2 Protests must be accompanied by a protest fee in the form of a certified cheque or money order within five (5) business days. If the protest is upheld the protest fee will be refunded. An administration fee will be charged for each case regardless of the outcome.
- 15.3 Only properly submitted protests will be heard by the Discipline Committee.
- 15.4 No protest pertaining to the decision of a Match Official will be heard.
- 15.5 No protest pertaining to fields conditions, equipment, jersey colours or other accessories of the game will be heard.

16.0 Discipline

- 16.0 The DRSA will conduct all disciplines on behalf of the DRSL and shall be chaired by a Level 1 discipline certified member and two other panel members. These panels will be responsible for all disciplinary matters arising from games and competitions organized by the League, and matters pertaining to the administration of the League and its 'Rules and Regulations'.
- 16.1 The League will follow the Discipline by Review (DBR) process for all cases outlined in Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures.
- 16.2 In cases where Discipline by Hearing (DBH) is mandatory, the appropriate parties will be notified, and an administration fee may be charged.
- 16.3 All parties have the right to request a hearing (DBH) and such requests will be made together with an administration fee no later than 3 days after the incident.

- 16.4 The League will follow Ontario Soccer Standard Penalties for Misconduct. Each team in the League will be provided with a copy of these standards.
- 16.5 Failure to appear for a hearing will result in an immediate suspension from all soccer activity along with a fine to the club. The accused must then request in writing for another hearing date to be established.
- 16.6 All suspensions will commence as communicated in the notification of decision.
- 16.7 Players, team coaches and officials whose names appear on game sheets after a suspension has been imposed are deemed to have participated in the game while under suspension and will be recorded as an ineligible player. They will be subject to further disciplinary action.

17.0 Other Matters

- 17.0 All Matters not included in these Operational Procedures shall be dealt with in accordance with the Operational Procedures of the League and the Operational Procedures of Ontario Soccer.