



Brunswick Youth Soccer League

Division 4/5 Rules and Roles

Division 4/5 plays 9v9. If fewer players are available, then the coaches can agree to a smaller sided game. All fouls are enforced including offside and penalty kicks if appropriate. The game ball is a size four. Teamwork is stressed, utilizing all positions and implementing strategy.

In a goal kick situation the defending goalie will be given the ball to clear by throwing, kicking or punting from inside the penalty area. The attacking team must stay outside the penalty area.

Games consist of two halves, and a short break between halves. There is no overtime play. Substitution of players occurs on throw-ins, goal kicks, goals, injuries, and at the discretion of the referee. There will be no overtime periods in the event of a tie.

There will be only one practice session a week, not to exceed 90 minutes. Coaches will set the schedule for a weeknight. The objectives of Division 4/5 are teamwork, passing, defense, game strategy, and to refine rule comprehension.

All players MUST wear shin guards with socks covering the full shin guard. Players should not wear jewelry, hooded sweatshirts or hard hair clips to either practices or games.

Games are played unless there is a heavy rain. Postponement will be announced by a phone call from your coach, at least 1/2 hour before game time. If you do not receive a call, then assume the game is to be played. Cancellations will be placed on the Brunswick Parks and Recreation Department Cancellation Hotline at 725-6656.

Spectators should remain at one sideline and give the players room for throw-ins and corner kicks. There shall be no spectators or coaches behind the goal area or on the goal line. Only coaches and medical personnel are allowed on the field after the referee determines they are needed.

It should be the goal of coaches to have every player play an equal amount of time in the games.

BYSL strongly discourages you from bringing your dog to games and practices. Under no circumstances should a dog be on the players bench, or unleashed.

PARENTS' ROLE

BYSL parents have the greatest influence on each child's level of enjoyment. Your child, his/her teammates, and opponents should hear only encouragement from the sidelines. The coach should be the only one "coaching" during the game. Encouraging your child and his teammates after the game is very important for young children. Teaching good sportsmanship in victory and defeat is an important skill that can begin at home. Practice and preach commitment and the idea that soccer is a team sport in which one relies on the others.

The league goal is that participants have fun and that everyone participates. If your child is not having fun, please speak to the coach or one of the league officials.

All parents are asked to volunteer when possible, to become familiar with league rules and to join in the fun. Parents are also asked to transport their child to practices and games on time and notify coaches when an absence is anticipated. You should check with the coach about his/her policy for parents leaving children at practices and games. *It is your responsibility* to be on time to pick up your child.