



## KEY ELEMENTS

- Games will be 7 v 7 on an appropriately sized field with 7 x 21 goals. Rosters are limited to 12 players.
- Games one hour in duration.
- Age requirement is 25 years and older, with three exemptions per team, thus no team is fully made up of younger players.
- Single ref system of licensed and experienced officials.
- All teams will compete in playoffs for a league championship.
- Web site designed to track schedules, standings and information relative to this league.
- The league will play on the fields at the Warrenton Sports Complex.
- Managers are encouraged to form their own teams.
- The goal is to create a family friendly environment for competitive soccer where good sportsmanship must prevail.
- Future plans to develop two tier play.

The Fauquier County Soccer Club (FCSC) upgraded its adult soccer program in the 2006-2007 seasons and renamed this important program the Fauquier Soccer League (FSL). The FSL will commence this fall with the "Gold" Division – a division focused on providing opportunities for players in a broad spectrum of age groups. Each team will be able to register up to three players in the 20-24 years age group, and there is no upper limit on age. This will provide an opportunity for "seasoned" and younger players both to field competitive teams.

Players are encouraged to assemble their own teams. Individuals should register at the Fauquier County Soccer Club's web site as soon as possible. A complete set of rules is posted on the FCSC web site. Standings will be kept on FCSC's web site and playoff games will be held at the end of the season to crown the champion.

If you are interested in participating in this league, please go to the FCSC web site today. Team managers should email their team roster to Cathy Howard at [chowardfcsc@verizon.net](mailto:chowardfcsc@verizon.net). Each team will choose a designated color (first come, first served!) and will be responsible for furnishing their jerseys in the team color. The league administrator will ensure that no teams have the same color.



FAUQUIER COUNTY SOCCER CLUB

for more information visit

[www.fauquiersoccer.com](http://www.fauquiersoccer.com)



## **Mission and Background**

FCSC established an adult recreation program in the spring of 2005 in response to a growing need for soccer opportunities for adults. In recognition of the large number of competitive adult soccer players in the Piedmont Region, the Fauquier Soccer League (FSL) was established in the fall of 2006 as a competitive adult soccer league for the adults of Fauquier County and the surrounding counties. Our goal is to provide a friendly, competitive playing opportunity for adult soccer players, ages 19 and up. The FSL adult soccer league will generally follow the rules of FIFA/USSF except as modified and listed below.

## **League Organization**

The league will be registered and sanctioned by the Metropolitan D.C. - Virginia Soccer Association (MDCVSA) in conjunction with the U.S. Adult Soccer Association (USASA).

The FSL commissioner, appointed by the FCSC Adult Soccer Chairman, will be responsible for all aspects associated with running this league.

Every team will have a team manager. It is the responsibility of the team manager to make sure his team is properly registered and that the team's players fully understand the rules and regulations of the FSL.

## **Season Dates**

- 1) The season dates will coincide with the FCSC Youth season schedule.
- 2) Rain dates will be scheduled if needed and will coincide with the FCSC Youth schedule.

## **Players and Rosters**

- 1) Players must be at least 20 years of age to participate (FSL commissioner may grant exceptions to this rule based on ability). Teams may have no more than three players age 20 on their roster; each of these players is referred to as a “waiver” player. All conventional non-waiver players must be, at least, 25 years of age as of the first scheduled game of the season.
- 2) Roster size will be a maximum of 12. Rosters are “locked” after the 5<sup>th</sup> week of play. After the 5<sup>th</sup> week of play, Additions/Deletions are allowed only by permission of the FSL Commissioner.
- 3) A player may only play for one FSL team, unless granted an exception by the FSL Commissioner.
- 4) Only players listed on the official roster may participate in league play.
- 5) No guest players are permitted under any circumstances.
- 6) All FCSC adult league players will receive player cards upon proper registration.
- 7) Managers shall present a roster, signed and approved by the FCSC club administrator or the FSL Commissioner, to the referee prior to every game. The player card for each player is checked prior to each game.
- 8) No carded travel player or professional players will be allowed on the rosters.

## **Teams**

- 1) Individual players will be assigned to a team by the FCSC registrar based on recommendation by the FSL Commissioner.
- 2) Managers are strongly encouraged to form their own team. However, each player must register to play in the FSL.
- 3) Practices are optional and left up to the discretion of each team. Practice nights and locations should be coordinated through the FCSC field coordinator. If a conflict arises over limited field locations and times, FCSC youth team practices will take priority over adult team practice requests.

## **Games**

- 1) Game format is 7v7 (includes goal keeper).
- 2) Games will last 60 minutes (two 30 minute halves) with a five minute half-time. No overtime in regular season games.
- 3) Playoffs will consist of single elimination, semi-finals and finals. If tied at the end of regulation, winner will be by “Golden Goal” (first goal scored). Golden Goal will consist of two 15-minute periods followed by Penalty Kicks.
- 4) Games are played on Saturday afternoon/evenings at FCSC designated fields. The field size will be at a minimum 50 yards x 70 yards.
- 5) If a game in progress is called off due to inclement weather or field conditions, the game is considered official if it has reached or passed the half-way point.
- 6) Substitutions

- a) Unlimited substitutions are allowed on all goal kicks, after a goal is scored and on throw-ins when the substituting team is in possession and throw-ins when the opposing team is in possession or other stoppages of play when in the discretion of the referee it does not interfere with the flow of the game.
  - b) During times of extreme heat, substitution rules may be relaxed at the discretion of the referee.
  - c) A substitution may also be made after an injury when the referee stops play. The opposing team is also offered the chance to substitute one player.
- 7) No protests. All games are final.
- 8) Forfeits – Teams must be ready to play the game within 15 minutes of the scheduled time. A team must have 6 players available to start a game. Teams that do not show, or do not have 6 players after the 15 minute grace period, will be forced to forfeit, The score will be posted as 2-0 win in favour of the team that fielded a squad of at least six players. A team that forfeits two games in one season will not be eligible to qualify for the playoffs, and may not be eligible to participate in the next season. A \$50 fee will be charged against the team that forfeits for each forfeit.

## League Standings

- 1) 3 points for win, 1 for tie, 0 for loss.
- 2) Goals will be tracked. Goal differential will determine standings. Tie breakers, in order: Most goals for – 1<sup>st</sup>, then Goals Against – 2<sup>nd</sup>, then Most Slaughter Rule Wins – 3<sup>rd</sup>, and then coin flip.

## Referees

- 1) Games are officiated by one certified referee. The decisions made by the referee are final.
- 2) All coaches, players, and spectators must recognize the referee as the sole authority over the game. As specified under FIFA laws of the game, maintaining respect for the referees is of vital importance to successful soccer. Behavior that falls below this standard will not be tolerated. Any incidents are subject to the FCSC disciplinary committee's review.
- 3) If the assigned referee fails to appear within ten (10) minutes after the scheduled start time, teams may designate a substitute referee by mutual agreement. Such appointment of a substitute referee shall be binding for the game. Should the originally assigned referee appear after the game has started and the substitute referee has begun the game, the teams, by mutual consent, may allow the original referee to officiate the game.
- 4) Misconducts – Red Card offences are counted and accumulated during the course of a season. A player receiving a Red Card is punished with a minimum 1 game suspension and may face league expulsion. Suspension can carry over to the next season. A forfeited or cancelled game will not count toward a suspension.
  - a) Sending Off Offence (Red Card) – A player receiving a Red Card, or two Yellow Cards in the same match will be required to immediately leave the field of play. The offending player will have one (1) minute to leave the field of play or his team will forfeit the game. The offending player will have five (5) minutes to also leave the premises and to be out of sight and sound or his team will forfeit the game.

- b) Player Suspensions
  - i) First Red Card Offence – A minimum of a one (1) game suspension
  - ii) Second Red Card Offence – Expulsion from the League.
  - iii) Second Yellow Card Offence in same game – One (1) game suspension.
- c) Reporting Cards – All Red Cards are reported by the referee to the FSL Commissioner who will forward them to the FCSC Disciplinary Committee for review. The Commissioner will inform the teams involved of players who will not be eligible to play in the following week's games.
- d) Team Red Card Points – When a player receives a Red Card, his team is also assigned a Team Red Card Point. Teams that receive a total of four (4) Team Red Card Points during the season will be suspended and ineligible to play within the FSL. The team may be reinstated only at the discretion of the FCSC Disciplinary Committee. If a fight breaks out, each team will be assigned at least two (2) Team Red Card Points, even if no individual Red Cards were awarded.
- e) Trash talking, taunting, showboating, the use foul language, fighting, and the uttering of sexist or racist comments is strictly prohibited and will result in an automatic review of the player's conduct and status by the FCSC Disciplinary Committee. This review will occur if the incident is reported by anyone irrespective of whether the behaviour was witnessed by the referee or punished on the field.

## **Uniforms and Equipment**

- 1) Each team must identify their team color, which must be approved by the FSL Commissioner. Teams are responsible for providing their own uniforms based on their authorized team color.
- 2) Each player shall wear a uniform with a unique number as listed on the official roster. The referee shall be notified of any number changes prior to the match.
- 3) The home team provides the game ball. A size 5 ball is used.
- 4) Only soccer/athletic shoes are acceptable. No "street shoes", sandals, or metal-cleated shoes will be allowed.
- 5) Shin guards are **MANDATORY**. The shin guards must provide a reasonable degree of protection.
- 6) The league will not provide uniforms or equipment to the teams.
- 7) The Home team of the first game will be responsible for setting up the corner flags. The Home team of the last game will be responsible for returning the corner flags to storage.

## **Registration**

- 1) Each individual player must be registered with FCSC to include a signed waiver, prior to participating in any FSL game or function. The fee will be posted on the web site prior to each season.

- 2) Teams are required to pay a refundable \$100 team fee. This fee will be held in reserve and used to pay any team fines. It cannot be used to pay any individual fees or fines. Any remaining balance after the conclusion of the season will either be refunded to the team or applied to the next season's team fee if the team will be returning.
- 3) Teams

### **Special League Rules:**

- 1) There is no restriction as to where a player lives. Non-country residents are allowed to play as long as they register as part of the club, follow club rules, and are covered by club policies.
- 2) Slaughter Rule - In any competition where one team achieves a 8 goal lead over its opponent, the coach of the leading team is required to remove one player from the field of play. For each additional goal scored by the leading team, the team is required to remove an additional player. If after an eight goal lead and withdrawing a player or players, the leading team shall be permitted to replace a player for each goal subsequently scored by the opposing team.
- 3) Tailgating – NO tailgating will be allowed. No alcohol or tobacco products are allowed on school property or on fields managed by Fauquier Parks and Recreation. **Violation of this policy will result in immediate suspension from league play.** Teams are responsible for cleaning up any and all garbage in and around their general location, regardless of who created it.