

# WIDE WORLD OF INDOOR SPORTS

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North Smithfield, RI

North Kingstown, RI

Montville, CT

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



## Youth League Rules 2022-2023

Youth League rules are subject to change at the discretion of the League Director at any time during the course of the season. Any changes will be sent to the primary contacts / Coach on file with the team.

### PLAYER RULES

- No Jewelry is permitted
- No sliding or slide tackling
- Shin guards are mandatory
- NO gum is permitted in the facility
- NO spitting; failure to abide by this will result in an automatic red card
- SHOW GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AT ALL TIMES

### TEAM RULES

- All teams must have an appropriate uniform
- Roster freeze occurs prior to the 3rd game of the season
- No foul language or vulgar chanting from the team
- Minimum of 5 players required to start for 7v7 leagues
- Minimum of 8 players required to start for 10v10 leagues
- \$25 Penalty fee will be incurred if a team forfeits a game within 24 hours of kickoff time. Any forfeit or game change request must be in writing via email.

### SPECTATOR RULES

- No foul language or vulgar chanting from fans
- Continuous verbal abuse to referee or league official will result in a verbal warning. If behavior does not end, the spectator will be dismissed and removed from the facility.
- Spectators are responsible for children at all times

### SCHEDULING

Schedules are released at the beginning of the season. Any game / scheduling requests must be submitted to the league manager a minimum of three weeks prior to the start of the season. We will try to accommodate your requests, but cannot guarantee all will be possible. The schedule is subject to changes made by Wide World of Indoor Sports.

Once the schedule has been released, teams will be limited to game change requests at the discretion of WWIS. Game change requests are presented to the opposing coach along with alternate days and times

(if available). Once a day / time is mutually agreed on, the game is rescheduled. In the event a day / time cannot be agreed upon, the team requesting a change will incur the forfeit. Game change requests within 24 hours of kickoff time will not be rescheduled and will be automatic forfeits.

### **ELIGIBILITY / DOUBLE ROSTERING**

All players must be born in the assigned calendar year (as per the USSF Age Group Matrix). Younger players are permitted to play “up” on older teams, but no player may play “down” on younger teams. Players are permitted to be double rostered on maximum two teams. These teams may NOT be in the same division. If a player wishes to play on two teams in the same age group, written approval from WWIS management must be provided.

### **DIVISION CHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE FEE**

An administrative fee of \$250 will be assessed to any team that registers in a significantly lower ability level league. The administrative fee will be assessed due to the rescheduling and additional communications involved. Teams are encouraged to speak with a league manager about proper placement. Teams should be in a competitive environment and not playing below their ability level.

### **EQUIPMENT**

- All players must have matching jerseys with a number on the back
- All players must wear shorts with the exception of the goalkeeper who may wear pants while in goal.
- All players must wear shin guards fully covered by socks.
- No metal cleats / studs are permitted.
- Medical bracelets/chains may be worn but must be taped to the individual during game play.
- Earrings and other non-medical jewelry are not permitted
- Casts/splints may be approved at the referee’s discretion

### **FIELD PLAY**

- Two x 25 minute halves with a 5 minute halftime
- Ball size: U7 – U12: Size 4 / U13 & Up: Size 5
- No Offside
- Substitutions on the fly
- Direct and Indirect: FIFA rules apply unless otherwise specified here within
- Penalty Kicks: FIFA rules apply unless otherwise specified here within
- Corner Kicks: FIFA rules apply unless otherwise specified here within
- Goal Kicks: FIFA rules apply unless otherwise specified here within
- In the event a ball from a neighboring field enters the field of play and comes in contact with a player in the immediate area of the ball, the ball, or poses a safety risk, the referee will blow the whistle and ensure the ball is removed. To restart play, a drop ball will occur.

### **BUILD OUT LINE**

\*\*Applicable for U7 to U10 Age Groups

- The build out line is used to promote playing the ball out of the back in an unpressured setting.

- When the goalkeeper has the ball, in hand, during play from the opponent, the opposing team must move behind the build out line until the ball is put into play.
- Once the opposing team is behind the build out line, the goalkeeper can pass, throw or roll the ball to a teammate. The goalkeeper may elect to distribute the ball sooner, but he / she does so, accepting the positioning of the opponents and the consequences of play resuming.
- *\*\*At WWIS, Montville (CT): Punting and drop kicks are not allowed for U7 to U10 Age Groups. If a goalkeeper punts or drop kicks the ball, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.*
- Punting is permitted by GKs at the WWIS, North Kingstown (RI) and WWIS, North Smithfield (RI) locations.
- After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes as normal.
- The opposing team must also move behind the build out line during a goal kick until the ball is put into play.

### **RUNNING TIME**

All games consist of (2) 25-minute halves with a 5 minute halftime. Halftime can be shortened at the discretion of the referee to keep games on schedule. At the conclusion of a game, teams must exit the field immediately. Teams coming on must be prepared to start the game immediately. Teams may use the main hallway for team meetings pre-game and/or post-game. However, NO SOCCER BALLS ARE PERMITTED IN THE HALLWAY! We must ensure the safety of all spectators and participants.

Within the last one minute of play, the referee has the discretion to stop the clock for deliberate time wasting. Penalty Kicks will be taken even if time has ended if the foul was called before the buzzer goes off.

### **POINT SYSTEM**

Teams are awarded: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss.

The league standings are determined by Total Team Points.

Tiebreakers are as follows (in order)

- Goal differential
- Wins
- Goals for
- Coin Flip

If a team forfeits a game, the opposing team will be awarded with a win, three goals scored and zero goals against. All youth games will be capped with a 5 goal differential to eliminate team's running up the score and encourage positive sportsmanship.

All scores, results and standings will be posted on [www.wideworldofindoorsports.com](http://www.wideworldofindoorsports.com)

### **PLAYOFFS**

Playoffs will be structured based upon standings and head to head results, at the discretion of the youth league manager, in order to create a competitive playoff environment. This may include play-in format with single elimination seeded brackets, full games against the next seeding, or a combination.

## **TEAM ROSTER**

- A completed team roster must be entered into the team's Dash account prior to the first scheduled game. It is the responsibility of the coach to ensure the accuracy of his/her team's roster.
- Rosters are not considered complete if players do not have a valid Player Membership (photograph on file, waiver complete and \$10 fee paid) and are listed on the online roster
- Coaches may add or substitute players up until the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> game.
- Prior to the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> game the team roster is frozen. No changes may be made after this time.
- In the event a player is rostered for two teams in the same division, the player will be removed from both team's rosters and not permitted to compete for the duration of the Session.
- In the event a rostered player is over age, the player will be immediately removed from the roster and the coach will incur a one game suspension. Any game played with the over age player on the roster will be considered a forfeit for the team.

## **GAME DAY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TEAM COACH**

- The home team is responsible for supplying a properly inflated game ball.
- Prior to the game, the coach should receive a copy of the game sheet from the referee. The coach must then initial next to the team name approving the roster below is accurate. Any player not on the roster should be sent to the Front Office immediately. Any player with an invalid membership must also be sent to the Front Office immediately.
- All team rosters freeze prior to the team's 3<sup>rd</sup> game! No exceptions.
- All coaches must have a copy of the approved team roster with them from the 4<sup>th</sup> game on, including all playoff matches.
- At the conclusion of the game, the coach will be presented with the game sheet by the referee. The coach should then review the score that is being reported and sign the bottom of the sheet and return the signed sheet to the referee.
- Team balances must be paid in full before the 2<sup>nd</sup> game.

## **TEAM BENCH & SUBSTITUTIONS**

### *Team Bench*

- Only three adults are permitted to coach from the team bench. These coaches MUST be on the team roster
- All other adults must watch the game from the spectator area
- Players who are not on the field of play, must be seated on their team bench.

- All team bags must be placed neatly under the team bench or against the wall. Bags may NOT be near the field line or midfield.
- Coaches and players must leave their team bench immediately after their game

### *Substitutions*

- Unlimited substitutions
- All players are substituted on the fly
- Substituted players must first come off the field of play before a new player may enter.
- All substituting players and coaches must remain on the team bench during the game.
- Coaches may not enter the field of play at any time unless the referee permits. Failure to abide by this will result in an immediate yellow card
- Goalkeepers who are substituted must be differentiated with a different colored team shirt than the teams on the field of play.

### **FOULS & PENALTIES**

The following card system applies for fouls and penalties:

- Yellow Card: Warning
- Two Yellow Cards: Player Ejection from Game.
- Red Card: Player Ejection from Game and Following League Game
- All suspensions are at the discretion of WWIS.

### **HEADING RULE**

- Players in U11 programs and younger shall not engage in heading. The referee will call a “foul” and reward the opposing team with an indirect kick.

### **FREE KICKS**

Outdoor rules apply for all free kicks unless otherwise stated below. Opposing players must provide 5 yards from the ball at all times.

The following indoor rules will result in an indirect free kick:

- If the ball makes contact with a ceiling support beam of the facility and changes trajectory, the indirect free kick will take place at the point of contact.
- If a player, U11 or younger heads the ball, an indirect free kick will take place at the site of the incident.

### **PENALTY KICKS**

A penalty kick is awarded against a team that commits a direct kick foul inside the goal box. Penalty kicks are taken from the top of the circle at the top of the goal box.

### **FORFEITED GAMES**

The coach of the forfeited team agrees to pay a \$25.00 penalty fee when his/her team forfeits a game.

Failure to submit the \$25 penalty fee prior to the next scheduled game will result in the team's dismissal from the league at the discretion of WWIS.

- Teams who have less than the minimum number of players required at the start of the match will forfeit their game.
- Teams who are 5 minutes late to their scheduled game will automatically forfeit their match.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Players, coaches and spectators are expected to act in the nature of good sportsmanship at all times. There will be no abuse (verbal or otherwise) of referees or league officials tolerated. Any indication of such behavior by a coach or parent will result in immediate removal from the facility. We are all here to play soccer and have fun!

### **REFEREES**

The referees will have sole jurisdiction over the conduct of the game, based on these rules and unless otherwise directed by the WWIS manager on duty. It is the responsibility of both coaches to sign off on the game sheet at the conclusion of the game AFTER confirming the accuracy of the reported score. If a referee terminates a game for any reason, the score at the time of the termination will stand.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Wide World of Indoor Sports will remain open unless a state of emergency is declared or there is a loss of power at the facility. Any changes to the facility schedule will be posted to our website, [www.wideworldofindoorsports.com](http://www.wideworldofindoorsports.com). This will be our primary method of communication of any changes along with our Facebook page. We ask that you and your team members please continually check this site in the event of any inclement weather. Unfortunately, we are unable to reschedule games due to inclement weather conditions (unless the game is cancelled due to a facility closure). If a team feels it is unsafe to attend a scheduled game due to inclement weather the coach must call Wide World of Indoor Sports a minimum of two hours prior to game time. If a team forfeits a scheduled game we will notify the opposing team as early as possible. The opposing team has the option of using the facility for training during their scheduled game time. No fine will be levied to a team who does not attend a game due to inclement weather.

### **ANTI-RECRUITING POLICY**

- Recruiting will NOT be tolerated at Wide World of Indoor Sports.
- The anti-recruiting policy is in effect to protect coaches, clubs and organizations.
- In the event an individual is in violation of the anti-recruiting policy, a complaint can be filed with the main office.
- In order to prove an individual is in violation of the policy, the following must be proved:
  - o The recruiting must have been initiated on Wide World of Indoor Sports property.
  - o If someone is calling, emailing or contacting your players in any other form, this is not considered recruiting at WWIS

- If a player was recruited at a different venue and decides to talk to the organization they are being recruited by on WWIS property, this is NOT considered a violation of the recruiting policy.
- If an organization approaches a player, proof of exactly what was said must be provided with the complaint.
- If a player initiate the contact with another club or organization, this is NOT recruiting. Players have the ability to approach organizations at their own desire.
- The following information is needed to file a complaint:
  - Players Name and Contact Information
  - The name of the coach and / or organization you believe is in violation of the policy
  - The time and date of the incident
  - The location on WWIS property that the violation occurred
  - A detailed description of the event
- Required Forms and Statements for the complaint are as follows:
  - The information above
  - Recruit Complaint Form
  - Written statement from the player(s) / parent(s) being recruited
  - Written statement from any witnesses
- The Review Process will be as follows:
  - (1) All forms will be properly submitted
  - (2) Management will review the case
  - (3) All parties may be asked to appear before Management for questioning
  - (4) After the conclusion of Steps (1) through (3), Management will have three business days to render a decision. All parties will be notified of the decision in writing.
- Penalties if Found Guilty of Recruiting Shall be as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense – Offender(s) will be suspended from WWIS property for 1 month
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Offender(s) will be suspended from WWIS property for 12 months
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – Offender(s) will be suspended from WWIS property for life

Wide World of Indoor Sports reserves the right to dismiss any individual or team from the league for any violation of these rules, including but not limited to in the event of a physical and / or verbal confrontation, excessive red cards or excessive unsportsmanlike behavior.

If not stated within this handbook, USSF outdoor rules will apply to the indoor league. Any questions regarding the rules of the league should be directed to a Wide World of Indoor Sports Official.