

TWSL REFEREE GUIDELINES

September 2001

Thank you for being an official for the Tucson Women's Soccer League (TWSL). You play a very important role in our league and we depend on you to help us maintain safety and fairness to all players during the game. This guide outlines the rules and regulations of TWSL and its payment policies. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the guidelines and keep them you with for reference. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the league treasurer or any of the league executives listed below.

Felicia Froehlich, Treasurer	742-2359
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I. Game Administration

A. The designated **home team** is responsible for the following:

1. The submission of the official game card for the team roster a minimum of ten minutes prior to the match.
2. One game ball.
3. Changing jersey colors in the event of a conflict with the opposing team.
4. The welfare of the officials before, during and after the match.

B. The **visiting team** is responsible for the following:

1. The submission of a roster on the official game card provided by the home team.
2. The welfare of the officials before, during and after the match.

C. 1. Collect all **player passes** and check for names against the roster submitted on the game card. Each player must have a pass. If **NO PASS, NO PLAY!** Check for the registrar's signature, current season date, and team name on the back of the card.

2. The **temporary pass** is also a valid pass but only for the date and team printed on it. Keep any temporary passes after the game and deliver them to the Treasurer with the game report.

3. **Up to 25** players are allowed on the game roster and to play.

4. If a team captain desires to "**challenge**" the registration of a player, they shall notify the referee and the opposing coach/captain that the player is under "Challenge" (not to be confused with protest). The player being challenged shall give her name and birth date to the referee, who shall note this information on the game card.

5. **Return all passes** to the captain or team representative at the conclusion of each game, except

temporary and for players that have been ejected. If a **player is ejected**, the referee shall deliver the pass and a proper report to the Treasurer of the TWSL.

- D. Every team is required to have an official **uniform** and all players must wear numbers on the back of their uniforms. Also, check for any improper uniform equipment (i.e. jewelry dangerous to other players, prohibited shoes, etc.).
- E. A **legal team size** is 7 players; in the co-ed division, a legal team is 6 men and 1 woman. (Note: If the team only has 1 woman, the woman cannot be the goalkeeper until another woman shows up). *See also Section II, paragraph A, #8.*
- F. Each game should **start** at the scheduled time by the referees and the team captains entering the center circle and performing the coin toss. If the teams do not have the game card ready or have not submitted their player passes, notify the team captains that the game clock has started but that play will not begin until all the necessary items have been satisfied.
- G. Each game should **end** after regulation time (plus any added time for injuries, etc.) has expired and no sooner. If the game starts on time, it normally will not cause delays in the schedule. **Half-time** should last 5 minutes.

<u>Division</u>	<u>Regulation Time</u>	<u>Games Scheduled Every</u>
Women	90 mins	2 hrs
Coed, Women in summer	80 mins	1.75 hrs

- H. **Tournaments and Playdowns** may have special rules and regulation time. Information for these games will be provided to you as needed.

II. Rules of Play

- A. FIFA Laws of the game prevail with the following exceptions:
 1. **Field size** is ideally a minimum of 100 by 75 yards, but pragmatism may require variation.
 2. Goal **nets** will be used.
 3. **Substitutions** shall be unlimited and may be made, with the consent of the referee, at the following times:
 - a. Prior to the throw in your favor.
 - b. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
 - c. After a goal by either team.
 - d. After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play.
 - e. At half time.
 - f. A player receiving a yellow card may be substituted before play resumes; the other team may substitute an equal number of players.
 4. **Metal cleats** are prohibited.
 5. Shoes with **toe cleats** (i.e. a single cleat at the toe of the shoe) are prohibited.
 6. Upon the stoppage of play and acknowledgment from the referee, a team playing with fewer than 11 players is allowed to **add** eligible players to the game.
 7. During warm weather, teams are allowed at least one **water break** per half due to the heat.
 8. In the co-ed division, the **number of male players** on the field during play must not be greater than

five (5), excluding the goal keeper. **Women** are not restricted by numbers, other than FIFA rules that govern a team of 11.

9. In the co-ed division, **sliding** is only allowed by the goal keeper within the penalty box or by players other than the goal keeper only for the purposes of keeping the ball in bounds when no other players are in proximity (approximately 10 yds). Leaving one's feet for **SLIDING IS NOT ALLOWED in coed** for taking or intending to take possession of the ball from a player or keeping or intending to keep a player from getting possession (i.e. sliding to keep a ball in-bounds when another player is in proximity would be considered as keeping a player from getting possession). For unallowable slides, an **indirect free kick** will be awarded to the opposing team at the site of the slide. It is up to the referee's discretion if a yellow (or red) card should be awarded for dangerous slides or repeated slides in a game by the same team. All other rules regarding sliding (i.e. dangerous play, from behind, etc) still apply.
10. In the co-ed division, a woman will be awarded **2 points** for a goal, excluding penalty kicks.
11. In the co-ed division, the **last offensive player** who touches the ball will be awarded credit for the goal.
12. In the co-ed division, if a **player is red carded**, their team must play short the remainder of the game with one less player of that player's gender. If the team was already playing short and additional players show up, they may be added but the team must still play with less than 5 of the gender that was ejected.

B. **Tie games** will remain ties during the regularly scheduled season.

C. All **forfeits** result in a score of 1-0 and must be clearly marked on the game card as to which team forfeited and why. A team forfeits under the following conditions:

1. Fifteen minutes after the scheduled start of the game, or at any time during the game, the team has fewer than seven acceptable players.
2. The team uses ineligible players.
3. The home team fails to have uniforms of contrasting colors. If the game is not played, the home team will forfeit (except if visitor team failed to tell its opponent that they changed their team color).
See also Section III, paragraph H.

D. Teams who can field a legal team, but have less than 11 players can **concede** the game to the opposing team at any time, but must play the game until half time. If the team does not play until half-time, then they will be charged with a forfeit. *See also Section III, paragraph H.*

III. Officials

A. All games under the jurisdiction of the TWSL shall be officiated by properly designated **USSF certified referees**. If a certified referee is unavailable, another qualified adult may be asked to referee the game, provided that both team representatives indicate their agreement before the game starts. Rather than use a non-certified referee, a team representative may ask for the game to be rescheduled.

B. Should a referee become **incapacitated** during the course of the game, a report shall be made to the Board of Directors by the home team. The game shall be suspended unless another referee is acceptable to both teams, is present, and is willing to officiate the game.

C. The referee shall be responsible for officiating and conducting the game in accordance with his powers as governed by USSF/FIFA laws of the game and in agreement with the TWSL rules. In addition, the

referee shall be responsible for the following:

1. Keeping a record of goals scored and other pertinent information relating to the game. This includes all **yellow and red carded players** -- their number, name, and infraction.
 2. Holding the player passes of players who were **ejected** during the game and submitting these passes to the Treasurer along with a report.
 3. Assuring the proper completion and **disposition of the game card** and his/her report.
- D. Each team will have the opportunity to provide an **evaluation** of the officials for their game each week. These evaluations will be submitted to the TWSL, and maybe followed up with a discussion with the referee assignor, formal evaluation(s), or dismissal.
- E. If a referee physically attacks a player, the team representative has the **right to stop** the game. In such a case, the game shall be replayed. A report shall be sent to TWSL.
- F. Referees may be asked to appear before **TWSL committees** at any time to explain their reports or testify on Appeal and Disciplinary hearings.
- G. Referees shall be obliged upon request by the team representative or captain to fill out an **Incident Report** if a team wants to protest the outcome of a game or referee's decision.
- H. Referees should still officiate a game that is **forfeited or conceded**. The referees shall conduct these games as they would any other game; however, any player(s) currently registered with TWSL may play and must submit a valid player's pass to the referee (no pass, no play).

IV. Payment Policies

- A. Only the **official game card** authorizes payment. Be sure to obtain a game card from a team in the event of a forfeit
- B. Payment shall be made by **TWSL check**. On special occasions (such as a tournament or playdown), the Board of Directors may decide to pay in cash.
- C. Each official must **sign his own name** and print his address (including zip code) on the game card. Names not listed on the game card will not be paid. Write '**CLUB**' on the game card next to the name of a person who fills a vacant referee position and is not certified.
- D. The game card must be delivered/mailed to the address on the card **within 3 days** of the game for payment.
- E. Game cards that are **not filled out correctly** may be rejected, or cause delays in payments. Make sure all requested information on the card is filled in (i.e. date, field, time, teams, score, carded players) and legible.
- F. Every effort will be made to disburse payments **bi-monthly** or **after 2 weekends** of games.
- G. Any **correspondence** with the Treasurer concerning payments, adjustments or corrections must be made in writing and may be subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- H. Out of courtesy to the **referee assignor**, please contact him/her at least 48 hours prior to a game that you have been scheduled for and cannot make. Otherwise, you are responsible for finding a replacement.
- I. Social Security numbers must be provided to TWSL before first payment.