

HALTON-PEEL SENIOR SOCCER LEAGUE INC.

REGULATIONS

The following regulations are enacted to govern the Association Football (soccer) operations of the Halton-Peel Senior Soccer League Inc. (hereinafter known as 'the HPPSL' or 'the league').

It is recognised that the power of the HPSSL to administer and govern soccer is subject to the regulations of superior governing bodies. The power of members to amend the regulations shall be restricted such that no amendment shall cause a regulation to violate the rules and regulations of F.I.F.A., the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA), the Ontario Soccer Association (OSA) and the Peel Halton Soccer Association (PHSA). The power of members to amend the regulations is also subject to the restrictions contained in By-law No. 1 of the Corporation under which amendments to regulations 1(a), 6, 8(a), 9(a) and 16(a) are prohibited.

(1) DISCIPLINE

(a) The HPSSL shall follow the disciplinary procedures contained in the Constitution and the Administrative Procedures Guide of the Ontario Soccer Association.

(b) In matters involving an alleged violation of the constitution or by-laws of the HPSSL which do not fall within the jurisdiction of the OSA the HPSSL shall follow the general principles of disciplinary procedure as outlined by the OSA. Where the disciplinary procedure of the OSA is silent the matter shall be subject to the principles of natural justice.

(c) Every registered player and official of the league shall be deemed to have read and assented to the by-laws and regulations of the HPSSL. Ignorance of the contents of the by-laws and regulations shall not be accepted as a defence in offences alleging a breach of the by-laws or regulations.

(d) All disciplinary matters shall be heard by the Discipline Committee (DC) which shall comprise all members of the board of directors (BOD) and any other persons that the BOD shall from time to time appoint as a member. Anyone appointed by the BOD shall be a member of the DC until the member resigns or is removed by the BOD. The Chairman and Secretary of the BOD shall fulfill similar roles with the DC. A quorum for the DC shall be three with the exception that any person appearing before the DC shall have the power to waive this requirement. If the person appearing waives the quorum requirement, the DC shall be deemed a duly constituted committee even if the number of members hearing the matter is less than three.

(e) No member of the DC who is a member of a club whose player, official, spectator or club is charged with an offence shall participate in a discipline hearing, save to give evidence or to make a submission. Members of the DC who are members of a club which is a third party to the offence shall also be excluded from participating at a hearing other than to give evidence or to make a submission. An exception to the third party rule shall be made in instances where the repetitive nature of the offence is such that it would be impossible to meet the quorum requirements (three members) of the constitution of the OSA. In this instance all members of the DC may participate with the exception of a member of the club whose player, official, spectator or club has been charged with an offence and/or, where applicable, a member of a club whose protest led to the charges being laid.

(f) The HPSSL shall hold regular discipline meetings. Member clubs shall be provided with the date, time and location of these meetings. Players or officials ejected from a game or receiving their third yellow card for the season shall, if they request a hearing, attend the next regularly scheduled discipline hearing (NRSDH) **WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE BEING GIVEN.**

(g) Where a person is accused of an offence, unless that person admits to the offence in writing, the accused and/or his representative shall appear at the NRSDH. Where a club is accused of an offence, unless the club admits to the offence in writing, it shall be represented at the NRSDH by a minimum of one and a maximum of two representatives.

(h) A hearing fee of \$25.00 (or \$50.00 in the case of a hearing for a player ejected from a game for which the NRSDC meeting is scheduled to be held after the completion of both the league and cup schedules) shall be paid to

the Secretary prior to the discipline hearing at which a player or club is required to attend. The fee shall be returned in the event that the charges are dismissed. The fee shall be the responsibility of the club.

(i) Where an individual has been found to have committed an offence and has been notified of the finding of the DC should the individual believe that he has new evidence to present he may make application in writing to the DC to re-open his case. In making such an application, the applicant shall make known the general nature of the new evidence. An application to re-open a case shall cost \$25.00 and shall be heard as soon as practicable. Where such an application requires the presence of the referee a fee of equal to the match fee shall be charged and shall be in addition to the cost of the hearing. Should the referee appear he shall be paid the match fee as a witness fee. Should the referee not appear the fee shall be returned to the applicant.

On making an application for the re-opening of a case, with the exception of cases involving an assault of any nature, any penalty imposed upon the applicant at the initial hearing shall be suspended. The decision of the DC at the re-hearing shall be final. All penalties imposed at the re-hearing shall be imposed from the date of the re-hearing and, if warranted, the DC may take into account and may make an allowance for any part of the penalty served prior to the receipt of the appeal. Should the original finding of the DC be overturned in its entirety at the re-hearing the fees for the referee (if any), the original hearing and the re-hearing shall be returned to the applicant. Should the re-hearing overturn any part of the original finding the DC shall have the power to return all or part of the re-hearing fee.

(ii) Where a case has been re-heard all rights of appeal to the PHSA or the OSA shall be based upon the date of the re-hearing.

(iii) In the event that a player, official or club is suspended for failure to appear at a hearing of the DC the suspended party may make application at any time to the DC for a hearing. The cost of the hearing shall be \$50.00 of which \$25.00 shall be returned to the applicant should the applicant be found not to have committed the offence.

(k) All suspensions imposed by the DC on players and officials shall result in the offender being **SUSPENDED FROM ALL SOCCER ACTIVITIES.**

(2) REGISTRATION

(a) Each member club may register a maximum of 24 (twenty-four) players. For each registration in excess of 20 players the club shall pay to the league a fee equal to the PHSA player registration fee.

(i) In the event of a player transferring to another club in the league, the transferor club may replace that player at any time prior to the final date for registration.

(ii) Any registered player wishing to transfer shall make application to the Registrar in writing. No fee shall be charged for a transfer and, with the exception of the twenty-four player limit, the rules of the OSA with respect to player transfers shall be observed.

(b) All applications for registration of a previously unregistered player shall be made to the Registrar on a form provided by the OSA. Accompanying the form shall be two passport sized photographs of the player together with proof of age in the form of a copy of a birth certificate, passport or driver's licence

(i) Players registered with the league in prior years shall use their existing HPSSL registration and OSA numbers when making application for registration.

(ii) All applicants for registration whether new applicants or registered in prior years shall sign the registration form provided by the OSA. Applicants who do not sign the registration form shall be deemed not registered and shall be ineligible to play in the league.

(c) All member clubs shall register its coach and managerial staff with the Registrar on the form provided by the OSA. An application for registration of a previously unregistered coach shall be accompanied by two photographs.

(d) No player shall be allowed to register after July 31st of the current season.

(i) Unless the member club is notified by the Registrar, either verbally or in writing, that a player cannot be registered a player shall be eligible to play forty-eight hours from receipt by the Registrar of a registration form accompanied by either the existing registration card or proof of age and two photographs. If an application for registration is rejected, the Registrar shall provide in writing the grounds for rejection of the registration to the registering club.

(ii) Forms may be mailed, hand delivered or sent by facsimile (faxed) to the Registrar. Where registration is by fax it shall contain, in addition to a copy of the registration form, identifiable copies of either the existing registration card or proof of age and two photographs. The original documents shall be forwarded to the Registrar within forty-eight hours of the date of the fax. If the original documents are not mailed within forty-eight hours and not received within seven days of the date the fax was received by the Registrar the player shall be deemed de-registered and shall be ineligible to play in all league competitions on the seventh day following the date the fax was received.

(iii) Where a player is registered by fax a copy of the documents faxed to the Registrar shall be used as a player registration card until the validated registration card is returned by the Registrar.

(e) No fee shall be charged for an appeal of the Registrar's decision.

(f) With the exception of designated players (see section 4) any player who signs a form of registration with any other league deemed to be competitive by the OSA is ineligible to play in the HPSSL effective on the date of that registration.

The penalty for any club found guilty of a breach of this rule shall be at the discretion of the discipline committee and may include forfeiture of the game and/or a fine.

(g) Players shall be registered to a team (not a club) and can play only for the team to which they are registered.

(3) NOTICE

(a) For purposes of the regulations the date of receipt shall be the earlier of either the date that a hand-delivered item, mail or a fax is received by the HPSSL or, if the date of mailing is known, the second day following the day of mailing.

(b) For purposes of the regulations the date of mailing is either the postmark or the courier receipt date or other proof of date of mailing provided by post office or courier records. If the date of mailing cannot be ascertained, either from the postmark or from post office or courier records, the mailing date is deemed to be two days prior to delivery.

(c) For purposes of the regulations, unless specifically mentioned to the contrary, the date on which notice is received by the notified party shall count as the first day or first twenty-four hours of any notice period.

(d) For purposes of the regulations, unless specifically mentioned to the contrary, notice shall mean notice in writing delivered to any officer of the HPSSL.

(4) PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

(a) Every player shall be a minimum of thirty (30) years of age on or before July 31 of the current season. It is the responsibility of the club signing a player to examine the original documentary proof of a player's age. In the event that a player is subsequently found to be ineligible by reason of age, failure by the club to examine the original document shall neither be a defence to the charge nor grounds for leniency.

The minimum penalty for any club found guilty of a breach of this rule shall be forfeiture by a score of 1-0 of all the games in which the ineligible player has participated and which were won or tied by the offending club. For games in which the offending team was defeated the result shall stand.

(b) With the exception of sub-section (c) below any player who signs a form of registration with any other league deemed to be competitive by the OSA and/or CSA is ineligible to play in the HPSSL effective on the date of that registration. Players currently registered in a competitive league who wish to play in the HPSSL shall surrender their competitive player book to the registrar in order to qualify for registration with the league.

The penalty for any club found guilty of a breach of this rule shall be at the discretion of the discipline committee and may include forfeiture of the game and/or a fine.

(c) Each team may sign a total of three competitive players all of whom must be over the age of thirty-five years on or before July 31st of the current season. .

(d) Players shall be registered to a team (not a club) and shall play only for the team to which they are registered.

(5) AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

(a) Amendments to the Regulations shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary at any time prior to an AGM or SGM of the Corporation. Where an amendment is submitted within seven days of the date of a meeting it shall be accompanied by sufficient copies to provide one to each ordinary member and one to each member of the BOD.

(b) At an AGM or an SGM a favourable vote of a simple majority of those voting shall be sufficient to approve an amendment to the regulations.

(6) LAWS TO GOVERN

The laws of the game shall be those adopted by F.I.F.A.

(7) TEAMS

(a) Each team shall register the following with the Secretary:

(i) its playing colours,

(ii) the names and addresses of its executive committee. Each team shall list a minimum of two committee members one of whom shall be the President and the other the club Secretary,

(iii) the name and address of its coach,

(iv) the location and address of its home ground.

(b) In the case of a clash of playing colours the **HOME** team shall change.

(c) In all games a team is allowed a maximum of seven substitutes. Substitution shall only be allowed as follows:

(i) at goal kicks,

(ii) after a goal is scored,

(iii) at the start of the second half or overtime period,

(iv) at the referee's discretion for an injury.

(d) Numbers shall be worn on the back of all players' shirts.

(e) A team sheet, supplied by the HPSSL, shall be completed and handed to the referee **PRIOR** to the start of the game and shall contain the name, the shirt number of each player and shall be signed with an original signature by each player and the coach. Teams submitting incomplete or late game sheets shall be liable to a fine of \$25.00. Teams submitting game sheets which have been changed or altered to protect a person or persons accused of an offence shall be liable to a fine of up to \$250.00. (Note that players may be added to the team sheet by informing the referee at any time prior to the start of the second half). Players so added shall sign the sheet prior to the start of the second half.

(f) Home teams shall communicate the result of all games to the result's secretary before midnight on the day following the game. Clubs violating the rule shall be liable to a fine of \$10.00.

(8) SCHEDULING

(a) All games shall be scheduled by the league.

(b) All games shall be played on the scheduled date unless written notice from **BOTH CLUBS**, requesting that a game be re-scheduled, is received by the league Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled date of the game. The re-scheduled game shall be played prior to the final scheduled league game of the season.

(c) All games re-scheduled under by-law (8) shall be played from Tuesday to Friday (inclusive) and shall kick-off between 7.00 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. unless **BOTH CLUBS** agree to waive either the restriction on the day and/or the kick-off time.

(d) With the exception of by-law (8)(b) only the league, a referee, a municipality or other third party which controls a playing facility may postpone a scheduled game. Where a game is postponed by a municipality or other third party, the home team shall, if required, provide the league with written evidence of the postponement from the municipality or other third party.

(e) Where a game is postponed under by-law (8)(b), the **HOME** team shall notify the league in writing of the date on which the re-scheduled game is to be played at the time that the request for postponement is submitted.

(f) All games re-scheduled under by-law (8) shall be played from Tuesday to Friday inclusive and shall kick-off between 7.00 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. unless **BOTH CLUBS** agree by giving verbal or written notice to the league Secretary to waive either the restriction on the day and/or time.

(g) Home teams re-scheduling games in league competition under by-law (8) shall provide the away team with a choice of a minimum of two dates for the fixture from which the away team shall select a game date. In cup competition the home team shall provide a minimum of one date for the re-scheduled fixture. In re-scheduling a fixture the home team shall give the away team and the league a minimum of 72 hours notice of the dates, venue, and time of a proposed re-scheduled league and league cup fixtures and a minimum of 48 hours for Courage and McLaughlan Cup fixtures. For purposes of this section the day before or after a regularly scheduled league game or cup tie is not a valid date for home teams when submitting dates for re-scheduled fixtures. The **AWAY** team may waive (by giving verbal or written notice to the league Secretary) any or all of its rights under this section.

(9) REFEREES

(a) All referees shall be appointed by a referee's convener appointed by the league.

(b) If a referee fails to appear every effort shall be made by both teams to play the game with a mutually agreeable referee(s). If agreement is not reached, the game shall be re-scheduled.

(10) EQUIPMENT

The home team is responsible for providing goal nets, corner flags and a game ball.

(11) PLAYING TIME

(a) The game shall comprise two forty-five minute halves. In the event that an agreement is made between the teams to reduce the playing time the game shall be of two equal halves of not less than thirty-five (35) minutes.

(b) Fifteen minutes shall be allowed following the scheduled kick-off time for each club to field a team. If a club cannot field a team after the grace period has expired the opposing team may claim the game by a score of 1-0.

(12) LEAGUE COMPOSITION

The league shall comprise as many divisions as may be necessary to provide competition for all member clubs.

(13) POINTS AND POSITION

In all league play three points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a tie. If two or more clubs finish the schedule with an equal number of points the team with the superior goal **DIFFERENCE** shall be deemed to have finished highest in the standings. Goal difference shall be computed by deducting goals allowed from goals scored. The team with the greatest differential shall be deemed to be the team with the superior goal difference. In the event of a tie on goal difference the league shall schedule a play-off game at a neutral ground. In the event of a tie at full time extra time and, if required, penalties shall be used to determine a winner.

(14) WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM

If a team withdraws or is suspended from league competition all records pertaining to that club shall be erased from the league standings.

(15) PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

(a) In the event that the league comprises a more than one division the two teams finishing in first and second places in each division shall be promoted and the two teams finishing in the last two places in the division shall be relegated. If a division comprises two separate "sub-divisions" the team finishing first in each of the "sub-divisions" shall be promoted.

(b) In the event that it is decided to increase the number of teams in a division, two teams shall be promoted from the division below the expanded division with the remaining positions being filled as follows:

The second-to-last placed team in the expanded division shall be offered the opportunity to remain in the newly expanded division. Should it decline the offer the position shall be offered to the team finishing third in the lower division(s). In the event that the third placed team in the lower division(s) declines the offer the place shall be offered to the last placed team in the higher division. Should a team decline the offer the position shall be offered to the team finishing fourth in the lower division(s) and if necessary to the other teams in the lower division(s) based on order of finish until such time as the expanded division reaches the required number of teams.

(c) In the event that a team or teams in a given division withdraws for any reason prior to the start of the season, the procedure for replacing the team(s) shall follow the procedure in 15(b) above. If it is the opinion of the BOD that replacing teams in a division will cause undue hardships to any team(s) in the league the BOD may choose not to fill the vacant positions.

(d) In the event of a general re-alignment of the league (a), (b) and (c) shall apply unless the size of a division is reduced during a general re-alignment. In such an event promoted teams from the lower division(s) shall not be compelled to accept promotion. In the event that one or more of the promoted team(s) declines promotion and

place(s) remain to be filled in the higher division the place(s) shall be offered to other clubs based on the procedure in 15(b) above.

(16) CUP COMPETITION

(a) All cup competitions shall be scheduled by the league.

(b) League cup fixtures scheduled during the week shall kick-off after 7.00 p.m. and prior to 9.30 p.m. and shall be played on any evening from Tuesday to Friday (inclusive) of the week for which the fixture is scheduled. The time and date of the fixture shall be determined by the home team or, in the case of the semi-finals and finals, by the league. The home team or, in the case of semi-finals and finals, the league shall give the away team and the league at least 72 hours notice of the date and time of the game.

Courage and McLaughlan Trophy competition fixtures scheduled during the week shall kick-off after 7.00 p.m. and prior to 9.30 p.m. and shall be played on any evening from Tuesday to Friday (inclusive) of the week for which the fixture is scheduled. The time and date of mid-week fixtures shall be determined by the home team. The time and date of weekend fixtures and semi-finals and finals shall be determined by the league which may at its discretion grant scheduling power to the home team. The home team shall give the away team(s) and the league at least 48 hours notice of the date and time of the game.

(c) Teams may mutually agree to waive the limitations on the kick-off time and/or game date. In such cases **BOTH CLUBS** shall notify the Secretary, either verbally or in writing, at least 72 hours prior to the game, of their agreement to the waiver. Clubs **MAY NOT** agree to play the game in any week other than the week in which the game was originally scheduled.

(d) If a game is tied after regulation time has expired two fifteen minute periods of extra time shall be played. If the game remains tied after extra time the game shall be decided by penalty kicks using generally accepted F.I.F.A. rules.

(e) A player who has appeared in any game in a cup competition shall not play in the same competition for any other team.

(f) In all games in cup competition, with the exception of games paid for by the league, the visiting team shall pay to the home team an amount equal to of the field rental up to a maximum payment of fifty dollars and an amount equal to fifty per cent of the cost of the official.

(g) The HPSSL shall provide linesmen for all final games in cup competition.

(h) With the exception of cup finals, for which all costs are the responsibility of the league, all referee and field costs in all cup games shall be shared between the competing teams. Each team shall pay on one half of the referees fees. The visiting team's share of the field costs shall be limited to the lesser of fifty per cent of the actual cost or forty dollars.

(17) PROTESTS

All protests arising out of games in any competition organized by the league shall be sent to the Secretary **within five days of the date of the game to which they relate**. Protests shall be sent by recorded mail, by courier, by e-mail or any other such method which provides incontrovertible proof of the date of sending. The protest shall be accompanied by a cheque for \$25.00. A copy of the protest shall be sent by recorded mail by courier, by e-mail or any other such method which provides incontrovertible proof of the date of sending within five days the date of the game to which they relate to the Secretary of the team against which the protest is lodged.

(18) FINES

All fines or hearing fees shall be paid within 21 days of the decision date and, unless indication is received to the contrary, all fines and hearing fees which are levied against a club will be deducted from the bond of that club. Fines levied against players which are not paid within 21 days will result in the player being suspended until the fine is paid.

(19) BONDS

Each team shall post a cash bond of \$150.00 with the league prior to the first fixture of the season. All fees and/or fines imposed on a team at a discipline hearing and not paid within seven days of the date of a hearing shall be deducted from the offending team's bond. After the final discipline hearing of the season at the request of a team the treasurer shall refund any balance remaining in the team's bond account.

(20) ANNUAL AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Clubs not attending the first Special General Meeting of a fiscal year may be fined \$50.00. The decision to invoke the fine shall be the sole responsibility of those clubs represented at the Annual General Meeting.

(21) OSA MANDATED REGULATIONS

(a) Harassment.

The HPSSL shall adhere to the Harassment Policy as published and approved by the OSA from time to time. The Harassment Policy shall apply to all employees, directors, officers, volunteers, coaches, game officials intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading or offensive. It includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment. The HPSSL shall make available to any member the Harassment Policy when requested.

(b) Dispute Resolution.

The HPSSL shall adhere to the Dispute Resolution process as published and approved by the OSA from time to time. Any member of the HPSSL may initiate the Dispute Resolution process by communicating in writing to the OSA, with a copy to the HPSSL and District Association, the nature and facts of the dispute. The OSA, at its discretion, may proceed with the Dispute Resolution process by assigning one or more neutral persons to the dispute. The Dispute Resolution process shall not be used for game discipline which follows the normal discipline and appeals process.

The HPSSL shall make available to any member the Dispute Resolution process when requested.

(c) Committees.

The members at any AGM or SGM, or the board of directors at any meeting of the board, may establish a standing committee or special committee to carry out specific business or programs of the HPSSL.

DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of the regulations the following definitions shall apply:

'CLUB'. Shall refer to the formal organizations comprising regular members formed to provide an administrative structure for the soccer activities of the regular members. A club may have one or more teams playing in the

league.

'TEAM'. Shall refer to the formal playing entity comprising regular members of the league and shall be affiliated to a club. Each team shall register with the league a President, Secretary and Coach.

'FACSIMILE (FAX)'. Shall include e-mail transmissions of information.

NOTICE IN WRITING. Shall include facsimile and e-mail.

Regulations as of March 31st, 2007