

LAWS OF THE GAME	MCAM SOCCER LEAGUE - REFEREE NOTICE - FIFA ALTERATIONS
	Unless otherwise stated below, FIFA rules and USSF interpretations govern the game.
2 - Ball	Either team may supply a ball suitable to the referee at any time.
3 - Number of Players	<p>Unlimited substitutions during any stoppage of play from anywhere along touchline. Players remain eligible as a substitute after being replaced.</p> <p>Players must have attained proper age for their division (18, 28, 38). Use age as of Dec 31 of current year with exceptions for goalkeepers (18, 19 and 30 respectively).</p> <p>A referee will validate a player's eligibility before, during, or after a game upon request of either team's captain. Players must be prepared to prove their identity and age with photo ID. If unable to provide sufficient proof of age, then players are not eligible to play unless the opposing team captain agrees to the player's participation. Any challenges and the resulting decision must be reported by referee. Team managers will provide a roster upon request.</p>
4 - Players' Equipment	<p>Jewelry is considered unsafe; however, referees may use discretion for wedding bands, religious items, and medical bracelets that can be made safe in their opinion. Prescription eyewear is allowed unless its design is clearly unsafe.</p> <p>Shin guards are required and must be under socks.</p> <p>Jerseys do not have to match exactly so long as differentiation between teams, keepers and referees is acceptable to referee.</p>
5 - Referee	<p>Referee must report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • date & time of match and final score • referee crew names • number of cautions for each team • identity of ejected players • any eligibility challenges, and any other incidents of interest <p>within 24 hours to info@mercermensoccer.net or 609-731-5924.</p>
6 - Assistant Referees	There are usually no assistant referees. We typically use a dual-system of control.
7 - Duration of Match	40 minute halves with up to a 5 minute halftime unless referee and captains agree otherwise. The games must be started within 15 minutes from the scheduled start time. If one of the teams causes further delay, it will be considered a forfeit. If both teams are at fault, both of them will be charged with a forfeit. A scrimmage may be played after a team has forfeited the match, and the referees are encouraged to officiate.
12 - Fouls and Misconduct	<p>Players receiving a yellow card, except goalkeeper, must leave the field for 5 minutes or until end of period, whichever is shorter. If the team at fault does not have an eligible substitute, it will play with a man down during that time. A player sanctioned with a yellow card cannot be replaced by another player who is still purging their own caution time. Referees must report the total number of cautions given to each team.</p> <p>Players ejected from the game may not be replaced and their identity must be reported by the referee. Ejected players may be suspended from the next game (see rules).</p> <p>Over-40 Division: Slide tackles <u>are not allowed</u>, except by goalkeepers inside their own penalty area. Properly executed slide tackles, other than by the goalkeeper, are to be treated as "playing in a dangerous manner" resulting in an indirect free kick to the opponent.</p> <p>Over-30 and OPEN Divisions: Slide tackles <u>are allowed</u>. Properly executed slide tackles are characterized by contact that is "laces on the ball" using minimal sweeping force from a side angle visible to the other player with the legs down and only one leg extended. Poorly executed slide tackles may be treated as playing in a dangerous manner or as a direct kick foul and possibly misconduct at the referee's discretion.</p>
Additional Notes	<p>All players have signed an agreement to not hold referees liable for any kind of injury, property damage, or other loss that may be due to any decision taken by the referees within the scope of FIFA's Laws of the Game and normal MCAMSL procedures.</p> <p>Referees must hold a current USSF, NFHS, or NISOA certification. While the League follows FIFA/USSF rules with a few alterations, we recognize that our referees officiate in leagues governed by other rules, such as NFHS and NCAA and may occasionally apply a rule from another association. Such mistakes are to be expected and accepted, but will be brought to the attention of the referees subsequent to the game as appropriate.</p>
Full set of league rules and latest information at www.mercermensoccer.net	