

Richmond Hill Soccer Club

Men's Select Division Rules & Regulations

Document Version v1.3

June 9, 2017



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Revision Control Notice

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Revision History

Date	Version	Description	Author(s)
October 7, 2014	1.0	Initial draft	Barbara Malloch Ernie Henderson Rick Singh Jan Cass Tara Carothers
April 21, 2017	1.1	Update Team Fines, Player Fines, Player ID, Referee Fees	Barbara Malloch
April 26, 2017	1.2	Update Team & Player Fines	Barbara Malloch
June 9, 2017	1.3	Update Team & Player Fines	Barbara Malloch

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1 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide all members with an understanding of how the Men's Select Division operations of the Richmond Hill Soccer Club (the Club) are conducted. In particular, it describes registration procedures and the playing rules that are used for the Division organized by the Club.

Members can refer to the Club Library of documents for further information on Club operations:

1. RHSC Constitution
2. RHSC Policies and Procedures
3. House League Rules and Regulations
4. Competitive Team Policies and Procedures

A definition of terms used in any of our documents can be found in the Club Definitions document.



Club Definitions

Any member who has questions or concerns about the Club can submit an email to info@richmondhillsoccer.com.

2 Registration

2.1 Team Registration

1. Teams must have a designated Team Contact who is responsible for registration, fees, communication with the Club and game management.
2. The Team Contact must enter the team into the Men's Select Division on the Club's online system by the Entry Deadline.
3. Entry to the League must be accompanied by payment of a season bond. The bond will be refunded, less any outstanding fees or fines, at the end of the season.
4. Teams must submit application to the Club by April 1st of the current season.
5. Teams entering after the deadline will be charged a late fee of \$100.00.

2.2 Team Withdrawals & Bond Refunds

Situation	Details	Refund Information
Refund request received up to and including April 30th.	Written notification is received up to and including April 30th.	Receive a refund less a \$75 administration fee.
Refund request received after the 30 th of April.	Written notification is received after the 30 th of April.	No refund or credit will be issued.
Team is removed from the Division by the Club.	A Team is removed from the Division by the Club due to discipline, breach of Club Policies.	No refund or credit will be issued.

2.3 Player Registration

1. All Players and Team Officials must be registered with the Richmond Hill Soccer Club (RHSC) on the Ontario Soccer Association's (OSA) computerized system. Players will be rostered to their respective teams in the League database by Club officials.
2. A Player must be registered twenty-four (24) hours prior to playing in any League game.
3. All players must have current photo ID to bring to every game.
4. Teams must have a minimum of 9 players registered by April 30th of the current season.
5. July 30th of the current outdoor season is the last date to register players to teams playing in the Men's Select Division.
6. A team may register up to 25 players as per OSA rules.
7. A Team found guilty of using an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to their opponent, with a 3-0 score being recorded, and may be subject to further disciplinary action at the discretion of the Discipline Committee.
8. The Discipline Committee shall rule on all disputes with regard to player registration, and the Committee's decision will be final.

2.4 Player Withdrawals & Refunds

All requests to have a player withdraw from a program must be made in writing clearly stating the player's name, the age and team currently registered with (if known) and the reason for the withdrawal. All requests must be mailed or delivered to the Club. Withdrawal and refund requests will not be handled over the telephone.

Consideration for refund requests will be given according to the following guidelines:

Situation	Details	Refund Information
Refund request received up to and including the second week of the program.	Written notification is received up to and including the second week of the program.	Receive a refund less a \$75 administration fee.
Refund request received after the second week of program.	Written notification is received after the second week of the program.	No refund or credit will be issued.
Participant is removed from the program by the Club.	A player is removed from the program by the Club due to discipline, breach of Club Policies or other issues.	No refund or credit will be issued.
Participant can no longer attend due to medical reasons.	Written notification is received. A doctor's note must accompany the request for withdrawal for a refund to be considered.	A pro-rated refund for any games remaining as of the date the refund request is received, accompanied by a doctor's note.

Submission of a refund request does not guarantee a refund. Please allow four to six weeks for refund processing. Note that non-attendance does not constitute a notice of withdrawal.

3 Playing Rules

Unless stated otherwise in this document, standard FIFA rules are to be followed.

3.1 Referees

1. All participants must respect the Referee.
2. The Referee's decision is final.
3. The Club will not tolerate the abuse of any Game Official, for any reason.
4. The Club will do its best to assign referees to all games, pending referee availability.
5. Each Coach must sign the Game Sheet prior to the start of the game.
6. Each team is responsible for half the referee fees at every game. The game fee must be given, in cash, to the Lead Referee 15 minutes prior to commencement of the game.
7. In the event that a Referee does not show up to officiate a game the game will be rescheduled.

3.2 Uniform

1. Players must wear their full uniform provided by their Team Contact. This includes the proper numbered shirt, shorts and socks. Players not in the correct uniform will not be allowed to play.
2. Players must wear shin guards for the duration of all practices and games.
3. Shoes appropriate to the season and facility must be worn. E.g. outdoor cleats shoes. Under no circumstances are metal studs to be worn.
4. No jewellery of any kind can be worn except for medical id bracelets.
5. No hats may be worn. Goalkeepers may wear a hat during daylight hours.

3.3 Ball Size

Each Home Team is responsible for providing a size 5 game ball.

3.4 Number of Players

1. A maximum of 11 players per team are allowed on the field during the game, one of whom must be the goalkeeper.
2. A maximum of eighteen players can dress for the game.

3.5 Location of Players, Team Officials & Spectators

Spectators are to remain on the opposite side of the field from the technical area of Coaches and Players. Nobody is allowed to stand behind either goal line.

3.6 Game Duration

The duration of games is as follows: 2 X 45 minute halves.

3.7 Player Identification

1. All Team Contacts must produce the current photo ID before they are eligible to play in each game, if requested. Valid forms of ID include Driver's License, Student Card, Passport, Ontario Identification Card. The ID cannot be expired and must be present – copies or images of ID are not acceptable. Social media profiles are not acceptable.
2. One representative of each team has the right to inspect the opposing team's identification against the opposing team's game sheet, with the supervision of the referee. It is not the responsibility of the referee to inspect the ID.
3. Teams may inspect opponents' player cards before commencement of the game or during half time up until the end of the half time break, except for late arriving players, whose must be presented prior to entering the field of play if requested by the opposing team.
4. No players arriving after half time may be allowed to play.
5. No additional names may be added to the game sheet that is generated by the Club's online system. Only players whose names appear on the game sheet may take part in the game.
6. It shall be the responsibility of the Team Official to notify the Referee of any discrepancy. The Referee shall record such comments in his report to the league and shall have the player against whom the complaint is lodged sign the back of the team sheet. The game may continue, if both teams are in agreement. The team with the accused player will be contacted for discipline following the Club's receipt of the referee report.
7. Save for provision of proof to the contrary, a player whose name appears on the game sheet shall be deemed to have played. Players who do not play in the specific game must have their name removed from the game sheet before the end of the half time period.
8. Failure to produce player identification, if requested, will result in forfeiture of the game.

3.8 Substitutions

1. Substitutions are allowed during the following stoppages in play upon notification of the referee:
 - a. Goal Kicks.
 - b. After a Goal has been scored.
 - c. Half Time
 - d. On the team's own throw in. Piggy back substitution will be allowed on the opposing team's throw in.
2. There is no limit to the number of substitutions a team may make.
3. No substitutions will be allowed at Free Kicks or Corner Kicks.
4. An injured player may be substituted. Other players cannot be substituted at the same time.
5. Referees must be made aware of substitutions otherwise a caution (yellow card) may be issued to the offending players.
6. All substitutions will be at the referee's discretion.

3.9 Grace Period

1. A grace period of fifteen minutes will be allowed in the event that a team has less than seven players at the appointed kick-off time.

2. The defaulting team shall forfeit the game and the points will be awarded to the opposing team. The score shall be recorded as a 3- 0 score in favour of the opposing team. Both teams are still responsible for paying the referees.
3. In the event that both teams have less than the minimum required players
 - a. No points will be awarded to either team.
 - b. The game will not be rescheduled.

3.10 Game Sheets

1. The Lead Referee will be responsible for providing the game sheet. No names may be added to the game sheet.
2. A complete game sheet is considered to include full name of each player, the shirt number, the game date, the game number, the kick off time and the location.
3. The Referee shall give each team a copy of the opposing team's game sheet prior to the beginning of the game if player card are being inspected.
4. The Referee shall sign the team's game sheet and ensure its completion and shall enter his remarks and observations as deemed necessary. He shall follow up with a prompt and detailed game/discipline Referee report as stipulated by the rules of OSA.
5. Up to eighteen players shall be listed on the game sheet and dressed for the game. Players not playing must be stricken off the game sheet. Team officials who are not players must be listed on the game sheet.
6. Only designated team officials and players listed on the game sheet shall be permitted to sit on the bench.

3.11 Standings

1. Standings will be kept for the Division.
2. Determination of Group Winners:
 - a. Each team will be awarded three points for a win, one point for a tie and no points for a loss.
 - b. At the end of the regular season the division winner shall be the team with the most points.
 - c. If the teams are tied on points, the following shall be used to determine the winner (in descending order only):
 - i. Team with most points from head to head play.
 - ii. Team with the best goal differential. The goal differential will be capped at 5 goals per game.
 - iii. In the event that teams are still tied, FIFA kicks from the penalty mark will be used to determine a winner at a time and location to be determined by the League Committee.
 - iv. In the event that a shootout cannot be arranged, positions will be decided by a coin toss or draw.

3.12 Playoff Tiebreaker

1. During all playoff rounds, in the event that teams are tied after regulation time, FIFA kicks from the penalty mark will be used to determine a winner.

2. If FIFA kicks cannot be completed due to weather or facility issues, they will be rescheduled by the Club.

3.13 Game Reporting

1. It is the responsibility of the Referee to submit game results, reports, cautions and dismissals within 48 hours in the Club's online system.
2. Team Officials should report if a referee was not present at their game.
3. Games where referees do not show will be rescheduled.

3.14 Game Cancellations

1. All games will be played as scheduled unless:
 - a. The fields have been closed by the Town of Richmond Hill.
 - b. The Referee calls the game due to weather, discipline or unforeseen circumstances.
2. If games are cancelled and when possible, the Club will send an email to affected coaches or post a message on the Club's website by 4:30 pm. In the event that no posting is on the website, all players are asked to attend the game.
3. Games cancelled when more than 61 minutes have been played are considered final and will not be rescheduled.
4. Games cancelled due to field closures or inclement weather will be rescheduled at the discretion of the Club.
5. Games cancelled at the field by the Referee must be reported to the Club by the Referee within 48 hours in order to be considered for rescheduling.

3.15 Game Rescheduling

1. Teams may request to reschedule a game with 48 hours written notice.
2. The Club reserves the right to deny the request for rescheduling if the request is deemed frivolous, the opposing team declines the request to change or if the game in question is too close to the end of the season.
3. In all cases of a reschedule, the Club will provide a suggested replay date and time that is subject to the approval of both teams. Failure to respond by the deadline in the notification email will be taken as acceptance of the offered date.

3.16 Lightning

In the event of inclement weather and thunderstorms, the following policy applies.

If the length of time between seeing lightning and hearing thunder is less than 30 seconds, all games must be stopped immediately. All participants and spectators must vacate the field and seek shelter. The game cannot be restarted until at least 30 minutes have passed since the last sighting of lightning.

Game scores and possible rescheduling will be determined based on sections 3.13 Game Reporting and 3.14 Game Cancellations.

4 Code of Conduct

1. All participants agree to abide by the Code of Conduct contained in the RHSC Policies and Procedures v1.0, January 18, 2013.

5 Discipline

The RHSC follows the OSA's Standard Penalties for Misconduct by a Player (SPMP). Most discipline can be handled by Discipline by Review (DBR). In a DBR case, the RHSC's discipline panel will review the infraction and mete out discipline as per the SPMP. In more complicated or serious cases the panel will call involved parties in for Discipline by Hearing (DBH). The case will be heard and ruled on using the SPMP. Please read the OSA's and the RHSC's Discipline Policies for your rights as a player and team official.

1. A Discipline Committee is in place to adjudicate league misconduct and infractions. The committee consists of a chairperson and 2 committee members.
2. In all cases of alleged physical assault on a Game Official, by a Player or Team Official, he/she shall be suspended immediately until the case has been dealt with by the Discipline Committee.
3. A Player who receives a red card must leave the field immediately. All Players receiving a red card will automatically receive a one game suspension and may receive further disciplinary action in line with their offence.
4. Any Team Official ejected from a game must attend a hearing by the Discipline Committee. Notification of hearings is made by email or telephone.
5. Every Team is responsible to the League for the actions of its Players, Team Officials and Spectators and is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent spectators from abusing, threatening, or assaulting Game Officials, Club Officials and Players.
6. Anyone found guilty and subsequently penalized by the Discipline Committee, has the right to appeal the decision to the appropriate committee of the York Region Soccer Association in accordance with their Policies and Procedures on Appeals.
7. Any Player, Coach or individual under suspension as a result of disciplinary action, shall not be allowed to participate in any soccer games until the suspension has been served.

6 Fines and other fees

6.1 Fines for Cautions

1. Dissent:
 - a. Team accumulates 1 to 5 Yellow Cards: \$10 per card
 - b. Team accumulates 6 or more Yellow Cards: \$25 per card
2. All other Cautions, season total accumulation, less Dismissals:
 - a. 10 cautions per season: \$50 team fine
 - b. 20 cautions per season: \$150 team fine
 - c. 25+ cautions per season: \$250 team fine
3. Players subject to game suspensions for accumulated cautions as per OSA Section 12 Procedure 9.18
4. Dissent fines will be charged to the player, but the team will ultimately be responsible for any unpaid fines at the end of the season.

6.2 Fines for Dismissal

1. Per Red Card: \$50 fine to the player
2. Per Red Card for Referee Abuse: \$100 fine to the player

Players still subject to regular discipline procedure in addition to the Player Fines. Fines not paid by the end of the season will be deducted from the Team's Bond. Teams can opt to have players pay Club directly, or deduct the fine from the Team Bond.

6.3 Request for Appeal of Discipline by Review

A \$75 fee must be paid before a hearing will be booked.

6.4 Referee Fees

1. Referees are to be paid in cash at the field prior to the commencement of the game.
2. Team Contacts will be reimbursed for referees fees according to the following schedule:
 - a. All regular season game fees will be reimbursed by the third week of the season.
 - b. All playoff game fees will be reimbursed once all playoff games are complete.
3. Each Team Contact is responsible for half of the total fees payable at each game.
4. The Total Referee fees payable at each game are as follows:
 - a. Referee: \$70
 - b. Linesman: \$35
 - c. Linesman: \$35