



**CALIFORNIA STATE SOCCER ASSOCIATION-SOUTH
GOLDEN VALLEY SOCCER LEAGUE – FALL 2015
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. TITLE

- 1.1 The Cal South Golden Valley Soccer League.

2. Administration

- 2.1 The Golden Valley Soccer League Competitions Committee shall be under the direction of the Cal South Operations Services Manager who will act as the Golden Valley Soccer League Committee Chairperson. Cal South reserves the right to any final decisions with regard to the Golden Valley Soccer League competition.
- 2.2 The Committee shall be appointed by the Committee Chairperson and confirmed by the Cal South Chief Executive Officer and District 6 Commissioner.
- 2.3 The Committee Chairperson shall appoint a maximum of seven (7), and but no less than three (3) representatives to the Golden Valley Soccer League Committee.
- 2.4 The Cal South Golden Valley Soccer League Committee shall have the authority to rule on any matter pertaining to this competition.

3. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 A team entering the Cal South Golden Valley Soccer League shall meet the following eligibility requirements:
1. The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered players, coaches and administrators (as defined by the rules of Cal South). No team may register a player not residing in Cal South to its roster without prior written permission from the Cal South president and the home State or National Association of the player.
 2. The team and its affiliate member must be in good standing with Cal South and must be in compliance with all rules of Cal South.
 3. A team's application may be denied by the Committee if a duplicate or similar team or club name is utilized by another accepted team or club.
 4. A team may not roster any player rostered during the Cal South Roster Freeze Period to another team, unless a written request stating the reason for this action has been made to and approved by the appropriate Cal South District Commissioner(s) on the required Cal South form (Waiver Form).
 5. "Rostering" means assignment of a registered player to a team.
 6. Every team shall have a maximum Team roster and Game roster (Cal South Rules & Regulations, 1.3.4.1 Section 3.)

	Team Roster Max	Game Roster Max	Game Roster Min.
U9-U10	14	14	5
U11-U15	18	18	7
U16-U19	22	18	7

7. The team must submit its game roster to the referee crew no later than fifteen (15) minutes prior to each scheduled Golden Valley Soccer League game. Every player listed on the game roster must be included on the team roster to be eligible to participate with the team.
8. Teams must register in the Golden Valley Soccer League in the age group in which the team was originally registered for the current seasonal year.
9. Teams must enter Golden Valley Soccer League no later than advertised deadlines. All entries must be recorded and paid in full. Acceptance to the Golden Valley Soccer League after this deadline is at the discretion of the Golden Valley Soccer League Committee.
10. Teams agree to play, without complaint, wherever they are assigned to play after the final approved schedule has been published.
11. Submission of the Golden Valley Soccer League Team Registration Application is the team and representative's acceptance and compliance with the above requirements. An electronic submission will be considered to have been signed, the same as a paper entry, once the electronic entry has been posted to the Golden Valley Soccer League.
12. All changes to team roster, adds, transfers, etc., including electronically posted changes to circuit entries made via Internet must be in prior to the official Circuit Roster Freeze date.
- 13. The Golden Valley Soccer League reserves the right to refuse entry to any team(s) with a history of disciplinary issues.**

4. Player Eligibility

- 4.1 Players must be properly registered to their team in order to participate in the Golden Valley Soccer League. No loan players are permitted. Loan players will be considered ineligible players.
- 4.2 A player may play for only one team entered in the Golden Valley Soccer League during a seasonal year, except for players promoted within a club utilizing a Development Player Pass.
- 4.3 A player who has been suspended may play only after the player's term of suspension has been served.
- 4.4 Handwritten player names on a game roster are NOT permitted.

5. Competition Format

- 5.1 League Play
 1. Golden Valley Soccer League competition may offer the following age groups for boys and girls: U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U16, and U19.
 2. The Committee may choose to consolidate or eliminate age groups if there is a lack of teams registered for a respective age group. The Committee may alter the bracket size and or league competition format for any age group.
 3. U-8 teams or younger will not be accepted into the Golden Valley Soccer League.
 4. Golden Valley Soccer League is a round robin format where the top four teams at the end of the regular season play will advance to a single-elimination playoff format of semi-finals and a Championship. The playoff teams will be seeded according to final season standings.

5. League play round robin games may end in a tie.
6. Teams shall be notified of final league schedule prior to their first seasonal game.
7. Teams will be awarded points for games in league competition:
 - Win = 3 Points
 - Tie = 1 Point
 - Loss = 0 Points
8. If two (2) or more teams are tied at the end of the regular league season competition, the league shall use the following tiebreaker rules in the following order:
 1. Head-to-Head Competition
 2. Goal Differential
 3. Least Goals Allowed
 4. Most Goals Scored
 5. Most Shut Outs
 6. Most Total Wins
 7. FIFA Penalty Kicks

5.2 Playoff and Championship Games

1. All Semi-final and Championship games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will go straight to kicks from the mark.
2. U9 to U12 Championship games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will play overtime, two 5-minute periods. If game is still tied after overtime periods, teams will go straight to kicks from the mark.
3. U13 to U14 Championship games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will play overtime two 10-minute periods (Cal South Rule 2.4). If game is still tied after overtime periods, teams will go straight to kicks from the mark.
4. U15 to U19 Championship games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will play overtime two 15-minute periods (Cal South Rule 2.4). If game is still tied after overtime periods, teams will go straight to kicks from the mark.
5. If a championship game could not be played due to unforeseeable circumstances (i.e. unsafe weather conditions, acts of god, etc.), the game will be rescheduled for a later date.
 - a. If the rescheduled championship game cannot be played due to CIF HS rules (U14 to U19 age groups) or other unforeseen extenuating circumstances, the Champion will be determined based on the final league standings.

6. Precedence of Games

- 6.1 Golden Valley Soccer League scheduled league and playoff games shall take precedence over all other Cal South sanctioned tournaments or competitions. League and playoff games will not be rescheduled to accommodate other non-league competitions.

7. Playing Rules

- 7.1 CAL SOUTH/USYS/USSF Rules apply except as modified below:

7.2 Game Length:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Game Length</u>
U9	Two (2) 25 min. halves
U10	Two (2) 25 min. halves
U11	Two (2) 30 min. halves
U12	Two (2) 30 min. halves

U13	Two (2) 35 min. halves
U14	Two (2) 35 min. halves
U15	Two (2) 40 min. halves
U16	Two (2) 40 min. halves
U17	Two (2) 45 min. Halves
U18	Two (2) 45 min. Halves
U19	Two (2) 45 min. Halves

1. During the regular season teams playing up in a combined age bracket will play the game length of the older age group.

7.3 Referee Fees: Three man referee system will be utilized for the fall season for U11 through U19. U9 to U10 games will utilize the one referee system.

1. Each team is responsible for paying their referee fees on the field. Referees are to be paid before the start of the match.
2. The referee rates will be published two (2) weeks prior to the start of the season.
3. If a 3-man referee crew does not show up for the game, the entire game is to be played with only 1 Center referee. The teams will pay the published rate for 1 Center referee.
4. If a team is playing up in age group or an older combined bracket, the referee rate of the older age group shall apply.
5. If a team does not show up for a game and the game is ruled a forfeit, payment for the entire referee fees (both teams) is the responsibility of the “no-show” or “forfeiting” team. The opposing team that appeared for the game shall not pay any referee fees.
6. If a referee does not show up within 15 minutes of scheduled start time, the game will be suspended. The teams will not be required to pay the referee fee if the referee shows up after the 15 minute mark. The committee will determine if the suspended game is rescheduled.

7.4 Substitutions

1. During regular league play and playoffs, there are free player substitutions.

7.5 Ball

1. Age groups U9 to U12 shall use a size 4 soccer ball. Age groups U13 and older shall use a size 5 soccer ball.
2. Each team must provide at least two (2) game balls for each match.

7.6 Uniform

1. All team and administrator uniforms may feature sponsor logos. Uniforms that feature any logos or trademarks that promote tobacco, liquor, and adult content or offensive trademarks are prohibited. Teams may submit their uniforms to the Committee Chairman prior to the season for review and approval. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a fine and or forfeiture of games.
2. Authentic and replica professional (domestic or international) soccer team uniforms featuring team sponsor’s logos are permitted per the requirement above.
3. All player uniforms are required to display the Cal South logo on their home and away game jerseys.

7.7 Equipment

1. No unsafe knee braces. No “hard casts” or metal cleats are allowed. Shin guards must be worn and covered by socks. The center referee is responsible for rule enforcement and the final authority for on-field decisions.

7.8 Home Team Responsibilities

1. Complete field set up and take down (nets, flags, field markings) must be completed within 30 minutes of game time. Failure to properly set up the home field may result in home team sanctions and or fines. Teams leaving trash on their half of the field after a game may be fined.
2. Home Team shall change to an alternate color jersey if colors conflict with the Visiting Team jersey.
3. Home Team has choice of sidelines. When both teams must share the same sideline, the Home Team has first choice which half side of the field (up to center line).
4. Each team is responsible for providing a home field for a minimum of two consecutive games to be scheduled by the Committee. If a team cannot provide a home field for two consecutive games, teams may not be provided with home games or accepted to participate in the competition.

7.9 Visiting Team Responsibilities

1. Visiting teams must clean up their side of the field before leaving. Teams leaving trash or vandalizing the field or facilities may be disciplined and fined for cleaning and or damage costs.

7.10 Coaching from the sidelines.

1. All divisions shall coach from their side only. Teams, administrators and spectators, where possible, shall be on opposite sides of the field. Team administrators, players and spectators shall position themselves no less than five (5) feet from the field sidelines in order to avoid interference with the center and assistant referees. Teams shall position unlicensed or non-credentialed Cal South team administrators and spectators a minimum of eight (8) feet away from the team bench.

7.11 Cal South Player/Coach/Administrator Cards

1. All Player and Administrator Cards must be official Cal South Member Cards with a printed or permanently applied photo. Cards must be stamped, embossed or signed by a certified league registrar and laminated.
2. Players must have a current medical release form with a parent/guardian's signature at each game. Forms shall be provided to the referee or competition representative upon request. Medical releases are required for all age groups and divisions.
3. Head Coaches must have a minimum "E" license and possess a current Cal South ID card. Any team may utilize an "E" licensed substitute or replacement coach registered with any other Cal South club or team. A team without an "E" licensed coach may utilize a risk management approved and "F" licensed Team Manager to stand-in the technical box in case of an emergency. A coach serving a game suspension is not considered an emergency.
4. Any team without a properly licensed and risk management approved Coach or Team manager will forfeit their game (0-1).

7.12 Game Roster/Match Reports and Results.

1. Each team will supply two (2) copies of the official match report to the referee prior to the game. The match reports shall be downloaded and printed by each team prior to their scheduled match to ensure the most current game rosters.
2. Teams that do not present a referee with two (2) printed game rosters will be fined \$50.00 per game occurrence.
3. Teams that do not provide player jersey numbers online and on the official game rosters will be fined \$50.00 per game.

4. The head coach or team manager is responsible for final verification of team goal scorers, cards and signing the official match report prior to leaving the field. Teams must post their final game results via the Golden Valley Soccer League online competition manager within 24 hours of the completion of their match. Any final game results discrepancies will be resolved by the designated flight administrator based on the official referee match report. Goal scored or cards awarded on the match report will not be changed after the coach or manager has signed the official match report.
5. The referee or competition official shall fax or mail the official match reports to League Coordinator within 24 hours after the game. The match report shall contain the official record of all goal scorers, cautions, ejections, injuries, team administrator signature and other pertinent match information. The referee may attach an additional referee report to the match report. The match reports are the final official record of the Golden Valley Soccer League and Cal South.
- 7.13 Club Pass. Teams are allowed to roster a maximum of three (3) players per week using the Club Pass option during the season and playoffs. Players must be properly registered and rostered onto the team roster using the competition's online system.
 1. Players will only be able to play up two (2) age groups (i.e. BU11 player will only be able to play as high as BU13).
 2. Both teams and players using the Club Pass must be properly registered in the GVSL competition in order to be eligible for a GVSL Club Pass.
 3. Players are permitted to play with another club team from within their same organization in the same age group.
- 7.14 Season. League play shall commence in September and conclude by mid-November. Youngers may conclude by mid-December. The primary day for play is Saturday. Weekday or Sunday games will be scheduled as approved by the Committee.
- 7.15 The Team Roster Freeze date will take place during sixth (6th) week of the league schedule. The Committee will communicate and publish dates on the league standings page. Players added to the team roster after this date is ineligible for the remainder of the Golden Valley Soccer League season and post-season games.
- 7.16 ID Cards. Referees must return all ID cards to the respective coaches following the match except when there is a Referee Assault, Violent Conduct or a team coach or administrator is sent off.
- 7.17 CONDUCT/SUSPENSIONS/DISCIPLINARY ACTION
 1. COACHES AND TEAM ADMINISTRATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL CONDUCT ON THEIR SIDELINE.
 2. The safety of all participants and maintaining an atmosphere of good sportsmanship is the responsibility of all Cal South members (players, team officials and administrators), referees and spectators. All bench players, team officials and spectators are prohibited from stepping onto field during a game or as permitted by referee.
 3. Any member player, administrator or team official promoting violence, enticing team dissent or in general violation may be brought before Golden Valley Soccer League Committee for disciplinary action subject to Cal South and USYS Disciplinary Guidelines and Procedures.
 4. Any member who instigates violence that leads to harming an opponent, spectator, official, referee or teammate, in addition to any action defined above, may be subject to criminal prosecution. This type of conduct will not be tolerated and will be pursued by Cal South and the Golden Valley Soccer League Committee

5. Yellow Cards.

- a. Any player, coach or administrator of the team receiving a yellow card (caution) during a game shall be noted by the referee in the official match report.
- b. Any player, coach or administrator of the team receiving a second yellow card in the same game, shall be suspended for the remainder of that game and the team's next scheduled game.
- c. Yellow cards and suspensions will be posted for public viewing on the Golden Valley Soccer League website.
- d. Any player, coach or administrator of the team receiving four (4) yellow cards will be suspended for one week and/or next scheduled game, as determined by the Committee. Once the one game suspension is served, the count of yellow cards is reset to zero (0). A second offense of the "four yellow card" rule, during the same season, will result in a minimum two (2) game/week suspension.
- e. Any outstanding game suspensions received during the regular season shall be served in the post-season and or subsequent seasons.
- f. Yellow cards accumulated during the regular season will cleared for post-season play. This does not apply to unserved game suspensions.

6. Red Cards.

- a. Any player, coach, administrator or spectator receiving a red card or sent off by the referee, must leave the field of play and shall be suspended for the remainder of that game, any next game or one week as determined by the Committee. Red cards and suspensions will be posted for public viewing on the Golden Valley Soccer League standings page.
- b. Any player, coach, administrator or spectator of a team receiving a red card or sent off for Violent Conduct (**See Appendix: Definitions**) violation shall serve a minimum of a two-game suspension or greater as determined by the Golden Valley Soccer League Committee. Additional disciplinary action may be taken by the Cal South PAD Committee.
- c. **Any player receiving a red card may not play as a Club Player until their suspension has been served; this includes games scheduled the same day or weekend. Furthermore, a player may not use the Club Pass in order to serve out any game suspension(s).**
- d. Any player, coach, administrator or spectator receiving a second red card or sent off during the season will be required to attend a Golden Valley Soccer League Competitions Committee hearing.
- e. Any outstanding game suspensions received during the regular season shall be served in the post-season or subsequent season.
- f. Any unserved or uncleared player or administrator game suspensions shall be served in the following active Golden Valley Soccer League season.
- g. **Players, team administrators or spectators ejected or receiving a red card shall be suspended for a minimum of one (1) game/week up to six (6) games/weeks.** The Golden Valley Soccer League committee will review each case individually and make the final game suspension determination
- h. The team head coach and team manager shall be responsible for enforcing player, administrator and spectator disciplinary actions or game suspensions. **A team head**

coach will be suspended a minimum of two games and up to a full league expulsion for playing an ineligible player.

7.18 Forfeits.

1. A team that does not field a minimum of seven (7) rostered players (on the official game roster) **and a properly Cal South licensed credentialed coach or Team Manager** after the fifteen (15) minute grace period will officially forfeit their game. The game will appear as a loss (0-1, 0 points). The forfeiting team must pay both team referee fees. The referee fees will be deducted from the team's bond.
2. Once a forfeit game is official, the referee may not referee a friendly game. If both teams fail to field a team, the final result will be a forfeit for both teams. The game will not be rescheduled.
3. Any team that does not appear for their scheduled game will be scored as 0-1 forfeit loss. The forfeiting team shall also forfeit their full team bond immediately. The team must replenish their team full bond 48 hours prior to the next scheduled game or the next scheduled game will be recorded as another forfeit loss.
4. Any team with two (2) forfeits will result in immediate disqualification and withdrawal from the competition. In addition, the team shall forfeit its team bond and registration fees. Additional disciplinary action against the team administrator(s) and the club shall be pursued by the Committee and presented to the Cal South PAD Committee.
5. Any player/team found responsible for promoting violence, instigation, or enticing a team disturbance, causing the referee to suspend play prior to the completion of regulation time, will forfeit the (0-1) game, even if the team is winning the game at the time of the incident. If both teams are found to be equally at fault in the suspension of a game, then both teams will receive a forfeit (0-1) loss. All such incidents will be reviewed by the Golden Valley Soccer League Committee for additional disciplinary action.
6. Any suspended or disqualified team will forfeit all scheduled games with a score of (0-1) until the team suspension is fully served. The team may jeopardize their team's ineligibility for Cal South State Cup or National Cup.

7.19 Teams Dropped or Withdrawn from Competition

1. If a team withdraws once the season has begun, the team will be suspended from future Golden Valley Soccer League competitions. All official games played up to this point will be either scored as 1-0 forfeits or removed (no game), depending on the revised game schedule. The final decision will be made by the Committee.

7.20 8v8 Play Format: Is limited to the U9 and U10 divisions

1. The U9 and U10 divisions will play the 8v8 format of play.
2. The 8v8 format will be refereed by one referee during the regular season, and with a three-man referee system during playoffs.

8. Protests

- 8.1 If a coach deems it necessary to protest a game because of misapplication of FIFA LAW, not a judgment call, the coach must notify the center referee of the intent to protest, write a brief statement on the match report card and a separate written protest to the Committee. A \$100.00 protest fee (money order or cashier's check) will be required in order to submit an official protest. A one page explanation of the protest, including citation of the FIFA, Cal South or Golden Valley Soccer League rule, the protesting team feels was misapplied. The

Committee representatives will review the written protest and make a final determination or hold a hearing. No judgment call protests will be accepted.

9. Appeals

- 9.1 The decisions of the Golden Valley Soccer League Competitions Committee (“Level 1”) may be appealed to the Cal South Protest, Appeals, and Disciplinary Committee (“Level 2”).
- 9.2 Filing an appeal shall not stay the Golden Valley Soccer League Committee’s decision.
- 9.3 The Golden Valley Soccer League will refer all assaults, either referee assaults or non-referee assaults, overage player violations, and falsification of document cases directly to the Cal South PAD Committee.

10. Plea of Ignorance

- 10.1 Any claim of ignorance to these rules and regulations shall not be grounds for protest or appeal.

11. Cancellation Policy

- 11.1 Teams that withdraw their team application on or before **August 10, 2015**, in writing, receive a refund, minus a \$100.00 application processing fee.
- 11.2 Teams that withdraw their team application on or after **August 11, 2015**, in writing, will receive a 25% refund of their bond and shall forfeit all team registration fees.
- 11.3 Teams that withdraw or are dropped by the Competitions Committee after the published schedule shall forfeit their full team bond and all team registration fees.

12. Pre-Season Mandatory Meeting

- 12.1 All participating teams are required to have a coach or team administrator attend a mandatory pre-season team manager meeting. Failure to attend this meeting will result in a \$75.00 team fine.**

13. Concussion Policy

- 13.1 The Golden Valley Soccer League will abide and implement the Cal South Concussion policy during league play and playoff games. All participating team administrators must review and acknowledge the Cal South Concussion Policy provided in your Golden Valley Soccer League Coach Handbook. The policy is also posted on the Golden Valley Soccer League and Cal South websites.

14. Rule Changes

- 14.1 The Golden Valley Soccer League Competitions Committee may revise the rules and regulations at anytime during the regular and or postseason and shall notify teams in writing via electronic email and or by publishing rule changes on its website prior to implementation.

15. Appendix: Definitions

Except as otherwise noted, the following definitions apply to the Golden Valley Soccer League.

Administrator or Coach – A properly registered and risk managed Cal South Coach or Administrator listed on the official Team Roster.

Club – Two (2) or more teams that form an organization under a singular name and registered under the same Cal South Affiliate Member.

Club Player Pass – The opportunity for a Club team to roster an age appropriate player to participate in regular season or playoff game in another Club team within the same Club organization registered in the Golden Valley Soccer League.

Disqualification – A team ruled ineligible and or withdrawn from the competition.

Ineligible Player – A player not properly registered to a team, on the game roster or serving disciplinary action.

Match Report – means the list of registered and active players and administrators who appear on the game roster and eligible to participate in a scheduled game.

No Show – A team that does not appear for their scheduled game and fails to notify the Competition Committee and their opponent in advance.

Roster Freeze Date - The starting date which teams may no longer roster new players to the Game Roster for participation in the Golden Valley Soccer League.

Team Roster – means the list of registered players and administrators on a team, either active or inactive players.

Violent Conduct - Is when a player or substitute is guilty of aggression towards an opponent, when they are not contesting for the ball or towards any other person (a teammate, team administrator, referee, assistant referee or a spectator), the ball can be in or out of play. The aggression can occur either on or off the field of play, before, during and after the game.