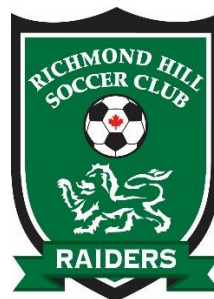


Richmond Hill Soccer Club

House League Rules & Regulations (Indoor)

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Richmond Hill Soccer Club
Mailing Address: 10660 Yonge St., Box 30533
Richmond Hill, ON., L4C 0C7
Clubhouse Address: 1370 Elgin Mills Road East

Phone (905) 883-4990
Fax: (905) 883-4141

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November 9, 2018	1.1	Housekeeping and update field diagrams	D. Salvadori B. Lennox
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November 18, 2025	1.5	Update 3.13	Rules Committee

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1 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide all members with an understanding of how the House League operations of the Richmond Hill Soccer Club (“**RHSC**” or “**the Club**”) are conducted. In particular, it describes registration procedures and the playing rules that are used for the various age groups organized by the Club during the indoor season which runs from October to March.

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

1. All Players and Team Officials must be registered with the RHSC on the Ontario Soccer's ("OS") computerized system. Players will be assigned 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, Cup or Playoff game.
3. Age groupings shall be taken from the OS's Registration Guide.
4. A Team found guilty of using an ineligible player shall be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Discipline Committee.
5. The League Committee shall rule on all disputes with regard to player registration, and the Committee's decision will be final.

2.1 Player Requests

When registering a player, a parent may request that their child be placed on a team with another child. Requests are subject to the following conditions:

1. Requests must be one-to-one player reciprocated requests i.e. each player must have requested that they be on the same team as the other.
2. Requests must be made when registering the player.
3. Requests will not be taken after the deadline specified on the RHSC registration form.
4. The reciprocal player request must also be made by the deadline on the registration form.
5. The Coach, one Assistant Coach and Sponsor may each have one matching request for their children.
6. Requests are accepted at the discretion of the RHSC. Submitting a request is not a guarantee that it will be provided.
7. Any appeals for exceptions to this policy must be made in writing to the League Committee.

2.2 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 emailed, mailed, or delivered to the Club. Withdrawal and refund requests will not be handled over the telephone.

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.

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

Refund policy for all RHSC programs	Outcome
'Act of God': Program is unable to run for all or a portion due to events outside of the control of the Club.	The Club will assess the full program and financial impact prior to issuing response.
Written notification received up to four weeks before the start of the season or first program session. Season start for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational Program: Start date as specified in program description • Competitive Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outdoor: April 1 ○ Indoor: November 1 • Annual Programs (OPDL): November 1 	Receive a refund less a \$50 administration fee from the fees paid to date.
Written notification received from four weeks before the start of the season or first program session.	Receive a refund less a \$75 administration fee from the fees paid to date.
Written notification is received up to 2 weeks after the start of the season or program session.	Receive a refund less a \$75 administration fee, PLUS a pro-rated deduction based on number of weeks into the program or season.
Written notification is received 2 weeks after the start of the season or program session.	No refund or credit will be issued.
A player cannot be accommodated due to divisions being full, insufficient enrolment in a program, or other reasons as determined by the Club.	A full refund will be made.
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.
Written notification is received. A doctor's note must accompany the request for withdrawal for a refund to be considered.	A pro-rated refund of the club registration fee for any games remaining as of the date the refund request is received, accompanied by a doctor's note.
RHSC Account credit is unused, with no account activity after 2 years.	Credit note will expire after 2 years of account inactivity and the credit will be added to the RHSC Hardship fund.

2.3 Failed Payments

All instances of failed payments when depositing cheques or processing deferred credit card transactions will be subject to an administrative fee of \$30.

3 General Playing Rules

3.1 Game Officials

1. All participants must respect the Referee or Game Leader ("**Game Officials**").
2. The Game Official's decision is final.
3. Games will be officiated primarily by youth referees and game leaders. Coaches must show respect at all times when dealing with these young officials. The Club will not tolerate the abuse of any Game Official, of any age, for any reason.
4. The Club will do its best to assign Officials to all U9 to adult games, pending referee availability.
5. Each Coach must sign the Game Sheet prior to the start of the game.
6. In the event that an Official does not show up to officiate a game:
 - a. Each team must provide a referee for ½ the game unless the Coaches agree on an official for the entire game.
 - b. The appointed Official(s) will have the same authority as any Club assigned Official.
 - c. The Game Sheet must indicate that the Official is a "no show" and the Coaches agree on the official(s) selected.
 - d. Once the game has begun, the game is considered an official league game. The game will not be rescheduled or replayed.

3.2 Uniform

1. Players must wear the full uniform provided by the Club. This includes the proper shirt, shorts and socks.
2. Adult teams must provide their own Home and Away uniforms, or arrange for uniforms with the Club.
3. Teams are not allowed to put individual Player names on the uniform.
4. Players must wear shin guards for the duration of all practices and games.
5. Shoes appropriate to the season and facility must be worn. E.g. outdoor cleats for use in the Richmond Green Dome or indoor soccer shoes. Under no circumstances are metal studs to be worn.
6. No jewellery of any kind can be worn. Soft medical bracelets are permitted.
7. No headwear may be worn except for the following cases:
 - a. A headscarf can be worn on the field as long as it is not attached to the jersey and it does not pose any danger to the player wearing it or any other player on the field. It can only be worn by female players. The head scarf should match the colour of the uniform if possible.
 - b. Turbans / patkas / keski are permitted; however, the head covering must be safe and not pose a danger to the wearer or other participants. Please refer to the following images of appropriate head coverings. Please note that these images are examples only and are not a comprehensive listing of all acceptable head coverings:

Figure 1: Acceptable Head Coverings



7. Players are allowed to wear a soft cast made of soft lightweight padded materials as long as it does not present a danger to the individual or any other player. The referee will make the final decision as to the acceptability of any cast.
8. Ontario Soccer has stipulated that players can wear an insulin pump on the field as long as the player has a medical note stating the necessity for it and it does not present a danger to the individual or any other player.

3.3 Ball Size

1. U6 to U8: Shall play with a size 3 ball.
2. U9 to U12: Shall play with a size 4 ball.
3. U13 to adult: Shall play with a size 5 ball.

3.4 Number of Players

Age Group	Number of Players
U6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 4 players per team on the field (no goalkeeper). • No Minimum: coaches must work together to share players across the 2 teams so an enjoyable game can be had for all players
U7 – U10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 5 players per team on the field, one of whom must be the goalkeeper

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Minimum: coaches must work together to share players across the 2 teams so an enjoyable game can be had for all players
U11 – U13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum of 6 players per team on the field, one of whom must be the goalkeeper No Minimum: coaches must work together to share players across the 2 teams so an enjoyable game can be had for all players
U14-U18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum of 7 players per team on the field, one of whom must be the goalkeeper No Minimum: coaches must work together to share players across the 2 teams so an enjoyable game can be had for all players
Adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum of 6 players per team on the field, one of whom must be the goalkeeper For Coed, minimum of 2 female players on the field Not less than 4 players (including goalkeeper) on the field For Coed, if a team can only field 1 female player at any point in the game, then that team must play 1 player down

Number of players may be altered by the Club to ensure the best format is being offered to divisions.

3.5 Field

- All games will be played inside at the Richmond Green Sports Centre or the Richmond Green Sports Dome, unless otherwise notified.
- U6 – U10 will play on half the field in the Sports Centre and on an eighth of the field in the Sports Dome.
- U11 and older ages will play on the full field in the Sports Centre and on a quarter of the field in the Sports Dome.
- The Club may alter the field size if a division has a lower number of players than supports the full field format.

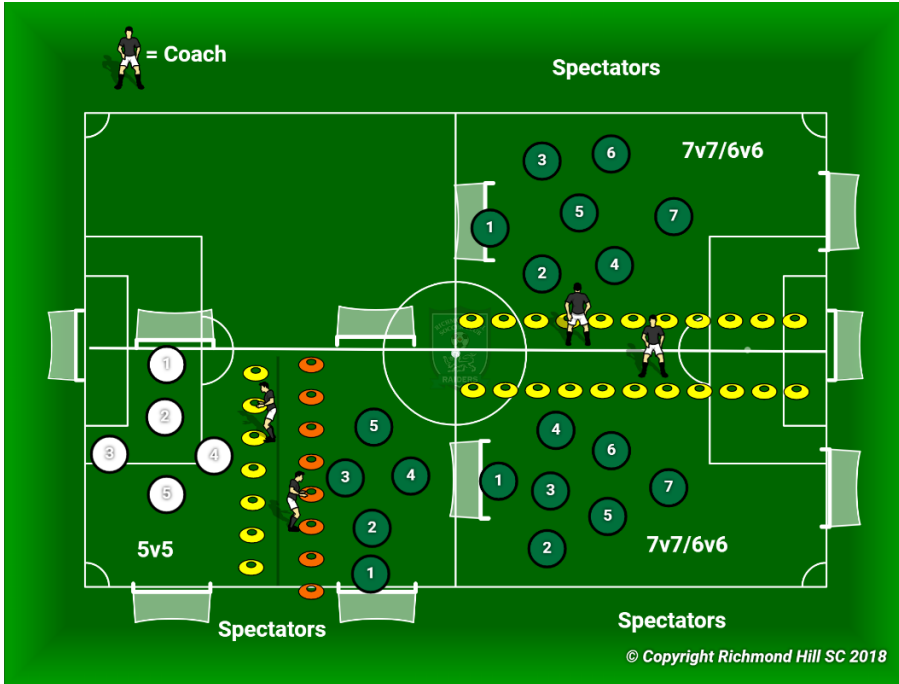
3.6 Location of Players, Team Officials & Spectators

The following applies to 4v4 and 5v5 play:

- For ages U6 to U7, one coach from each team is allowed on the field, out of the way of the ball and out of the penalty area. For the U8 age groups, one coach from each team is allowed on the field, out of the way of the ball and out of the penalty area for the first 3 games of the season.
- Parents or spectators must sit off the field.

The following applies to 6v6 play:

- The only Players and Team Officials allowed on the team bench are those who are registered with that Team and listed on the game sheet. In addition, they must be on the official roster on record at the Club.
- Coaches and Players must be at the designated technical area (bench) on one side of the field
 - In the event that a field does not have a bench, Coaches and Players should be on the opposite side of the field from spectators.
 - Team Officials are not to cross the centre line and interfere with the opposing team.
- Parents and spectators are to remain on the opposite side of the field from the technical area of Coaches and Players. Nobody can be behind either goal area.



In all age groups, Parents should not leave children unattended at games. Coaches must notify all parents of this.

3.7 Fair Playing Time

Coaches must make every effort to ensure each player receives a fair amount of play in every game. Exceptions to this rule include situations where a player becomes injured or ill during a game or is removed for discipline.

3.8 Grace Period

1. A grace period of fifteen minutes will be allowed in the event that a team has less than three players for 4 or 5 a-side play or four players for 6 a-side play.
2. In the event that either team has less than the minimum required players, teams should play an exhibition game with a mix of those players who are present at game time.

3.9 Game Reporting

1. It is the responsibility of the referee or game leader to report on game results.
2. U6 to U8 Team Officials need only report if their game has been cancelled.
3. U9 to Adult Team Officials should report if their game has been cancelled, or if a referee was not present at their game.
4. Games where referees or game leaders do not show should still be played and will be counted. The Home Coach must advise the Club within one week of a referee no-show and of the game results.

3.10 Game Cancellations

1. All games will be played as scheduled unless:
 - a. The indoor facilities have been closed by the Town of Richmond Hill.
 - b. The Game Official 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 during the Indoor Season will not be rescheduled.

3.11 Weather

1. Winter storms: The Club does not generally cancel indoor games due to weather unless the facilities are closed. Indoor games cannot be rescheduled due to lack of facility space.

3.12 Game Duration

1. From the scheduled start time, teams have 55 minutes to warm up, play the game and leave the field. Sessions must not run longer than the allotted 55 minutes to keep sessions on schedule.
2. Each game shall consist of maximum two 25-minute halves, with a halftime.
3. The referee has the authority to adjust the game length to fit the time remaining.

3.13 Indoor Playing Rules

1. Substitutions may be done at any stoppage. This must be done at the half way line.
2. There are no off-sides in any indoor game.
3. If the ball hits the ceiling, or a suspension cable a drop ball shall be awarded immediately below where the ball struck the ceiling or the cable
4. U6-U13 players can dribble or pass-in to re-start the game instead of throw-ins. U14-Adult divisions must do a pass-in instead of a throw-in. There are no dribble-ins on corner kicks.
5. Players must be at least 5-meters away from the ball on all free kicks.
6. All free kicks are indirect; excepting penalty kicks, which are taken 6 yards from the goal line.
7. No slide tackling at all for indoor.
8. If a player receives a red card, that team will play down one player.

3.14 Standings

1. No scores or standings will be kept for the U6 to U18 Indoor League.
2. Standings will be kept for Adult Divisions.
3. Determination of Adult Soccer 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.

4 Code of Conduct

1. All participants agree to abide by the Code of Conduct contained in the RHSC Policies and Procedures v1.1, April 24, 2014.

5 Discipline

1. A Discipline Committee shall be in place to adjudicate league misconduct and infractions. The committee shall consist of at least a chairperson and two more committee members.
2. In all cases of alleged physical assault on a Game Official, by a Player, Club 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. The player can appeal the red card within 48 hours of the game.
4. Any Coach, Manager, Team or Club Official ejected from a game must attend a hearing by the Discipline Committee. Notification of hearings is made by email or telephone.
5. Any Player, Club or Team Official reported for violent conduct during a match who is found guilty of such conduct, may be suspended for the remainder of the season.
6. 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, Players, and Facility Staff.
7. 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.
8. Any Player, Coach or individual under suspension as a result of disciplinary action, shall not be allowed to participate in any soccer games or practices until the suspension has been served.