

East Central Rules and Regulations



Table of Contents

I. Code of Conduct Statement	3
II. Forms	4
A. East Central Game Day Report	4
B. Game Incident Report on Game Officials	4
C. East Central Incident Report Form	4
D. Non-Participation Verification Card	4
III. Game Management Regulations	5
A. Game Guidelines	5
B. Rules Summary	6
C. Roster Requirements	6
D. Field Changes	6
E. Field Markings	6
F. Additional Responsibilities of the Home Team:	6
G. Goals	7
H. Game rescheduling and postponing procedures are for all East Central Leagues.	7
I. Referee	11
J. Equipment and Uniforms	11
K. Player Passes	11
L. Game Start Time	12
M. Team Area	12
N. Substitutions	12
P. U-16/U-17/U-19 Recreational Rules	12
Q. Scoring and Standings	13
IV. Other Regulations	13
A. East Central Weather Policy	13
B. Player Suspensions	14
C. Player Ejection Suspensions	15
D. Coach Send-off/Warning	17
E. Non-East Central Teams	17
F. Event Teams	18
G. Playing Up or Eligibility	18

I. Code of Conduct Statement

To have any team sport run smoothly, there needs to be a joint effort and guidelines to follow. The responsibilities of coaches, players, parents, and spectators are as follows:

1. Players are expected to show a sportsman-like behavior

a. TOWARD TEAMMATES

- Team work and cooperation are absolutely essential for success in any group effort. Group spirit, unselfishness, a concern for others, and self-sacrifice are all necessary for the best team performance.
- Criticism and sarcasm seldom accomplish anything beneficial. The end result, nearly always, is less relaxation, more tension, and a corresponding decrease in skill.

b. TOWARD OPPONENTS

- The other team members are guests and should be treated accordingly.
- Uncomplimentary remarks toward or concerning the opposing team should never be made.
- Competition would not be possible without the cooperation, the appearance, and participation of the opponent. Treat your opponents as you yourself would like to be treated.

c. TOWARD OFFICIALS

- The official's task at best is a difficult one, and respect, rather than antagonism, should be the attitude of all players.
- Their decisions must be respected in order that the players and the spectators will receive the greatest benefit from the game.
- Officials are attempting to handle a difficult job to the best of their ability, and players have a great responsibility in establishing patterns of conduct for the spectators by the way they accept decisions.

Conduct of Coaches, Parents, and Spectators

a. TOWARD PLAYERS

- Players should be encouraged to play according to the rules regardless of the tide of victory or defeat.
- Players should be encouraged to play their best! Win, lose, or draw, they should still be accepted as people.

b. TOWARD OPPONENTS

- The same type of courteous and considerate treatment should be given the guests, as you would like your team to receive on out-of-town trips.

c. TOWARD OFFICIALS

- An official deserves fair treatment and encouragement. He/she is trying to see that no one gets an unfair advantage over others.
- Let them know about their good calls. Like anybody, they perform better with encouragement and feedback.
- Officials are human and, thus, subject to error. But remember they must interpret what is happening on the field from their position.
- Continued booing and derogatory remarks are generally the poor sportsman's way of displaying feelings in a group which lacks courage to express directly as an individual.
- The players view the coaches, parents, and spectators as role models. Therefore, we need to control our own actions with this in mind.

II. Forms

A. East Central Game Day Report

Beginning at U-11, each coach/manager must complete their team's portion (game demographics and roster) of their report. Therefore, each team must submit their report to the referee prior to their team's check-in. The referee needs to utilize this report to properly 'check-in' the teams. An Official WYSA Roster may be attached to the East Central Games Day Report, instead of writing in each player's name and number. A section to record the score is located on the East Central Game Day Report. Team representatives and referee must sign this report to verify the score. Winning coaches should keep game day report with scores for the season in case there is a dispute over the score. Actual score will be posted within 48 hours. The winning team or in the case of a tie, the "Home Team" will record the score on the East Central website. **Failure to provide the referee with this report completed properly prior to the match WILL result in a forfeit.**

B. Game Incident Report on Game Officials

The head referee will report any game day issues by using Game Officials. This would include player, coach and fan misconduct.

C. East Central Incident Report Form

This form may be used by any coach, referee, or spectator who feels an incident should be reported to East Central officials. East Central Website District>Forms
<http://www.ecdsoccer.org/page/show/167576-forms>

D. Non-Participation Verification Card

The Non-Participation Verification will be emailed to the coach of the team the player is serving the suspension on. The card can also be found on the East Central website. The coach of the suspended player will present the non-participation card to the head referee prior to

the start of the game. This informs the head referee that a player is serving a suspension. After each game the head referee will verify that the player did not participate in the game and note the date and time on the non-participation verification card. Remember, all players must attend the game of non-participation as a spectator.

III. Game Management Regulations

A. Game Guidelines

The home team is responsible for marking fields, placing corner flags, and putting up nets. They must also provide a ball which is acceptable for play.

It is imperative that the home team or hosting organization ensures that the goals used for any and all sanctioned league games are properly and securely anchored to the ground.

Home teams are responsible to make sure that similarities in uniform identifications do not result in difficulty in officials carrying out their assignments.

In the interest of better soccer, coaches will manager fans. No spectator, coach or player should place himself or herself behind a goal. Team personnel (coaches, assistant coaches, managers, trainers, doctors, etc.) and non-participating players are required to remain in the coaching area, which should extend no more than 10 yards on either side of the mid-field line. Where possible, bench areas should be marked at least five yards from the touchline. Players' benches should be placed opposite of the side of the field where the parents and spectators shall be. At no time may the number of team personnel exceed a total of four individuals.

The respective league directors are responsible for making sure proper procedures are followed. At their option, league directors may institute disciplinary and/or remedial action, which may include their assigning of qualified referees and moving games to adequate or neutral sites. The costs associated with such actions may be assessed on the offending teams. Complaints concerning improper procedures should be directed to the league directors by visiting coaches. League directors will make determinations of facts and may assess penalties including forfeiture and fines. Repeated incidents of using unregistered referees, unprepared fields, or encouragement of unruly fans or uncontrolled coaches can result in forfeiture of games and possible fines.

The end of the game ceremony is a soccer tradition and should be honored in the spirit of good sportsmanship. Both teams are encouraged to return to the middle of the field for a ceremonial handshake regardless of the outcome of the game.

B. Rules Summary

<http://www.ecdsoccer.org/page/show/167570-policies>

C. Roster Requirements

See Rules Summary for Minimum and Maximum number of players

http://www.wiyouthsoccer.com/Top_Navigation/About_Us/policies.htm

1. Coaching information should include all coach's name(s), address, telephone, e-mail address, license status, and coach pass number to include date of expiration, club name, and age group/division status and team name.
2. On game day coaches must present the game day roster, player passes and the official WYSA "club/district authorized official roster" to be used for verification by the referees. All players are required to have an official WYSA soccer player pass. No pass no play.

D. Field Changes

If field changes are done well before the game is played, the field scheduler can have it updated on the East Central website using League One. All parties involved in the game will be notified by email.

If teams are already in route to play the game, an attempt to contact the traveling team should be made to notify them of the switch. As a courtesy the home team should arrange to have the away team and referee met at the originally scheduled field and escort them to the new field location.

E. Field Markings

Regardless of private arrangements between clubs, it is still the sole responsibility of the home team to see that the field is adequately marked to the satisfaction of the referee. Home team sets corner flags. Referees have already exercised the option to refuse to have the game played if the field is not adequately marked. This results in a forfeit by the home team.

F. Additional Responsibilities of the Home Team:

1. Put up four (4) corner flags

Supply game ball

- a. No. 3 for U-6/U-8
- b. No. 4 for U-10/U-12
- c. No. 5 for U-13/U-19

Pay ½ of referee game fee prior to start of game

Insure proper field markings

G. Goals

Clubs must maintain safe goals. Proper anchoring is mandatory. If a coach refuses to play a game due to unsafe goals, the East Central Games Commissioner could declare the game as a forfeit against the home team.

H. Game rescheduling and postponing procedures are for all East Central Leagues.

1. Objectives

- a. All scheduled games shall be played in a season
- b. Scores for all played games shall be posted to the standings.
- c. All teams must be willing to find alternate dates in case of rescheduling.

2. Definitions

- a. Reasons to postpone a game
 - These valid reasons are completely outside the control of either team and generally happen few hours before the scheduled game time:
 1. Inclement weather
 2. Field deemed unplayable by the field marshal, referee or owner
 - There are no other valid reasons than those listed above for cancelling a game
 - Teams shall make every attempt to reschedule a game
- b. Reason to reschedule a game
 - These reasons generally happen few hours before the scheduled game time
 1. Game postponed due to inclement weather
 2. Field deemed unplayable by the field marshal, referee or owner
 - These reasons apply when the majority, at least 70%, of players cannot make the date
 1. Game conflicts with a school or church event
 2. Game conflicts with a state league or Midwest Regional League (MRL) game
 3. Game conflicts with a state cup game
- c. Forfeit
 - A forfeit is declared when a team fails to show up or cancels a game in advance
 - A forfeit is recorded as 1-0 in favor of the team that is present or willing to play the game

- d. Fees- Applied to all levels of play with the exception of the No Show.
- *No-show \$100.00 (This fee is applied to both Classic and Academy teams.) A no-show is considered whenever a team does not have the minimum number of players to have a viable team for the age group they are playing. (Passed July 2019)*
 1. *Academy Team first offence: \$100.00 fee per team, per game. If there are two scheduled games at one event each game would be fined as a separate offence.*
 2. *Academy Team second offence: \$100.00 fee per team, per game. Academy Club will be put in bad standing for the next season and the Academy Committee would decide if the violating club would be allowed to schedule academy games for the next season. i.e.: Spring or Fall, depending on the season the club created the violation.*
 3. *Academy teams are expected to attend their scheduled games.*
 4. *Money collected for Academy no-show fines will be applied to the Referee mentoring program.*
 - Cancellation \$50.00
 - Team is pulled before the East Central schedule is posted. There will be no charge to remove games from East Central Schedule.
 - Team drops from East Central League once the East Central Schedule is posted.

A flat fee of \$250.00 per team will be charged to the club for any team withdrawing after the schedule has become public.

3. Rescheduling procedure

There are 3 cases depending on the reason and the timing for rescheduling:

Case #1: If the rescheduling is done way ahead of game day

- The team rescheduling (home or away) must initiate the rescheduling process
- Teams will work on a new date contacting each other by email.
- Once a new date is firmed, the schedule must be updated by the home team
- The field scheduler must notify the referee scheduler whom must make the change (new game date) in Game Officials
- The change in schedule will notify, coaches and managers

Case #2: If the rescheduling is done very close to game day

- The team rescheduling (home or away) must initiate the rescheduling process
- The home team must notify the home referee and field scheduler immediately
- The referee scheduler must cancel the game in Game Officials
- Teams will work on a new date

- Once a new date is firmed, then the schedule must be updated by the team that will host the game
- The referee scheduler must make the change (new game date) in Game Officials
- The schedule change will notify coaches and managers

Case #3: If the game is postponed due to inclement weather or field deemed unplayable

- The home team is responsible for initiating the rescheduling process
- The team rescheduling must notify the home referee and field scheduler immediately
- The referee scheduler must cancel the game in Game Officials
- The field scheduler must cancel the game
- Teams will work on a new date
- Once a new date is firmed, then the schedule must be updated by the team that will host the game
- The referee scheduler must make the change (new game date) in Game Officials
- The change in the schedule will notify coaches and managers

Rescheduling process

- a. The rescheduling team could provide up to three (3) alternate playing dates/times right away
- b. The team being rescheduled upon shall:
 - If the rescheduling team provided alternate playing dates/times, pick one new date
 - If the rescheduling team did not provide alternate playing dates/times, provide three (3) alternate playing date/times within one (1) week
- c. The new location must be agreed upon by both teams
 - The new game does not need to be played at the same location as the original game
- d. Both team shall agree on the new date one (1) week after the alternate dates are presented; so there is a maximum of two (2) weeks to reschedule from the time of the rescheduling notification.
- e. In the event the team being rescheduled upon does not provide alternate playing dates/times within one (1) week, then the rescheduling team will set a new date/time and location.
- f. If the teams have not made a decision by the end of the two (2) week period, then the EC Games Commissioner shall be notified in order to set a new playing date/time and location.
- g. Rescheduling a game to be played towards the end of the season (two (2) weeks prior)
 - Both teams shall complete the rescheduling attempts in one (1) week; all steps outlined above

- Games could be played after the East Central season is over but all games must be played before August.
- If a new date cannot be agreed upon and the game is not rescheduled, neither team will be charged with fees.

4. Actions and fees

- The cancel and no-show fees only apply to the all East Central leagues.
- Inclément weather or field deemed unplayable
 - Players should be checked-in only if weather conditions are favorable to play the game
 - If both teams are checked-in when the referees decide not to play the game, then referees are to be paid
 - Upon rescheduling the paid referees must make every attempt to attend the rescheduled game. No additional pay will be given to the already paid referees
 - New referees will be paid for their position
 - If the teams are not checked-in when the referees decide not to play the game, then referees are not to be paid
- The following table depicts the conditions and actions/fees related to game rescheduling and postponing

Conditions				Actions and Fees				Comments
ID	Team A	Team B	Ref(s)	Forfeit {1-0}	Referee {CR + 2x AR fees}	Cancel { \$50 }	No-Show { \$100 }	
1	✓	✓	✓	N/A	Team A/B	N/A	N/A	No issues
2	✓	✓	—	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ref(s) failed to show up; reschedule or play friendly
3	✓	✗	✓	Team B	Team B	N/A	Team B	Team B failed to communicate new schedule
4	✓	✗	—	Team B	N/A	N/A	Team B	Team B failed to communicate new schedule
5	✗	✓	✓	Team A	Team A	N/A	Team A	Team A failed to communicate new schedule
6	✗	✓	—	Team A	N/A	N/A	Team A	Team A failed to communicate new schedule
7	✗	✗	✓	N/A	Team A/B	N/A	N/A	Invalid schedule
8	✗	✗	—	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not a valid condition; cancellation was communicated
9	✓	> 48	✓	Team B	Team B	Team B	N/A	Team B failed to communicate new schedule
10	✓	> 48	—	Team B	N/A	Team B	N/A	Team B failed to communicate new schedule
11	> 48	✓	✓	Team A	Team A	Team A	N/A	Team A failed to communicate new schedule
12	> 48	✓	—	Team A	N/A	Team A	N/A	Team A failed to communicate new schedule
13	> 48	—	✓	Team A	Team A	Team A	N/A	Team A failed to cancel refs
14	> 48	—	—	Team A	N/A	Team A	N/A	Not a valid condition; cancellation was communicated
15	✓	< 48	✓	Team B	Team B	Team B	N/A	Team B failed to communicate new schedule
16	✓	< 48	—	Team B	Team B	Team B	N/A	Team B failed to communicate new schedule
17	< 48	✓	✓	Team A	Team A	Team A	N/A	Team A failed to communicate new schedule

East Central Rules and Regulations

Updated: July, 2019

18	< 48	✓	—	Team A	Team A	Team A	N/A	Team A failed to communicate new schedule
19	< 48	—	✓	Team A	Team A	Team A	N/A	Team A failed to cancel refs
20	< 48	—	—	Team A	Team A	Team A	N/A	Not a valid condition; cancellation was communicated

Legend	✗	No show
	—	No present
	✓	Present
	N/A	Not applicable

I. Referee

Clubs may use uncertified referee or parents to officiate any or all U-6 games. For all U-7 thru U-10 recreational games they should utilize a certified referee and two club linesmen. When only one certified referee is assigned for the U-7 to U-10 games, only the certified referee is to be paid.

All classic games must utilize a three man - one whistle system. For all U-11 games and above, any club or team that uses uncertified referees (center) will result in a forfeit by the home team.

J. Equipment and Uniforms

1. Casts are now allowed on players at the referee's discretion, but casts must be padded with a closed cell slow recovery foam. Padding no less than ½ thick.
Approved July 2015
2. No sleeveless uniform jerseys. Uniform jerseys must have a finished sleeve
3. Classic home teams wear light colored jerseys and away teams wear dark jerseys
4. All jerseys must be tucked in
5. All team jerseys must have unique numbers
6. Uniforms may have youth-appropriate sponsor logos displayed if permanently affixed.
7. Players must wear shin guards

K. Player Passes

Coaches and managers of classic teams and U-16, 17 and U-19 Rec. are advised that each player must have a pass in his possession at game time and hand it to the referee before the game in order to participate. **Any classic team without player passes has 10 minutes in which to produce the player passes. After that time, the game will be declared a forfeit and may not be rescheduled.**

L. Game Start Time

1. A team has 10 minutes' grace period in which to be ready to play, after the scheduled game time. In the event of a field change, the visiting team should be given an additional grace period to be determined by the referee. The minimum legal number of players to start a game is 7 players.

The grace period is not intended to be used to fill your numbers from 7 or 8 to a full 11. If you have 7 players at the scheduled game time, then the referee is instructed to start the game on time.

M. Team Area

The team personnel should remain in their own team area, not less than 10 yards from the center line. The area near the center line will be reserved for substitutions.

N. Substitutions

The number of substitutions is unlimited. However, all substitution must be made at the half-way line of the team bench areas.

SUBSTITUTIONS are at the direction and discretion of the referee.

Substitutions may be made

1. prior to a throw-in in favor of your team
2. prior to a goal kick by either team
3. following a goal by either team
4. following an injury to a player from either team or
5. at half time

Substitutions may also be made for your team on the opposing team's throw-in if the opposing team also has a player at the half-way line. A player that has been sent off (shown a red card) cannot be substituted, and the team plays short.

P. U-16/U-17/U-19 Recreational Rules

The following rules are enforced in an attempt to create fair level of competition and increase the enjoyment of the game.

1. At all recreational levels, slide tackles against another player are illegal and punished by a direct free kick.

All teams must have an official roster. All players shall have a player pass and the coach or manager will prepare East Central Roster/Carding Report to be presented to the referee prior to the start of the game

East Central Rules and Regulations

Updated: July, 2019

In the spirit of recreational play each team will have approximately the same ratios of boys to girls on the field. *At no time will there be more than 8 players of one gender on the playing field.*

Game day rosters:

- a. For U16 Coed Rec. - No more than 10 players of the same gender.
- b. For U19 Coed Rec. - No more than 12 players of the same gender.

Each player is to play 50% of the game time.

22 Person Roster for recreational U-16 and up.

The team roster shall be approved by the State Association where the team resides for a 22-player roster limitation for recreational youth teams U16 and up.

ROSTER LIMITATIONS - Each team shall have a team roster and will present an "East Central Game Day Report" for every recreational league game. U-16 and older teams, the roster may have up to 22 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Every official team roster must maintain the minimum roster size for their age group. [See modified rules for roster sizes](#)

"East Central Game Day Report" - This game roster shall be prepared by the team and submitted to the referee crew before the match begins. **The game day roster shall have a maximum of 18 players and a minimum of 7 players.** The club pass players must also be listed on this report. No more than the maximum number of players are allowed to be listed on the Game Day Report.

Q. Scoring and Standings

The following point value will be awarded for game standings:

1. Three points for a win
2. One point for a tie
3. Zero points for a loss

Team standings will be compiled from the posted scores on the East Central website. Team standings will be determined strictly on total points. Tied teams will be sequenced alphabetically by team name. The team with the most points will be listed first. It is the responsibility of the winning coach/team to post the score on the East Central website. All scores must be posted within 48 hours of the match. Only the coach or team manager may question a score once posted on the web site.

IV. Other Regulations

A. East Central Weather Policy

Bad Weather

Prior to the start of the game:

Before teams arrive at the field: In the event of pre-existing poor field conditions or weather, a designated club officer may determine that the game should be postponed. The designated club officer should notify the referees and the visiting team of this postponement. Either team may start the rescheduling process by submitting 3 options for new game dates and by following the East Central rescheduling guidelines.

At the field: The referee will determine if a team will take the field or continue play if weather conditions deem it necessary to suspend the game. In instances when the referee suspends a game due to weather conditions, darkness, etc., a game will be considered complete if the first half has been completed prior to the game suspension. Once a game has been suspended and the first half or more of the game has been completed, the teams will not take the field again and the game will be recognized as a complete game. Scores will be recorded at the point the game was suspended. If the first half has not been completed, the game must be rescheduled and played in its entirety. If there is a game following the first suspended game the teams and referees should wait to see if they could get at least half of the game in. They should wait the 30 minutes for the last sound of thunder before taking the field. This policy is meant to save on rescheduling games.

Once a game has been suspended due to thunder, teams must vacate field and take shelter. Referees and coaches should communicate the dangers of lightning and instruct players and spectators to take shelter.

Order of authority: Referee, club official, coach and parents. If at any time, a parent thinks that it is unsafe to play a game when they hear thunder or see lightning they have a right to pull their child from the competition.

See East Central cancelation policy procedures.

Thunder Rule

If you hear thunder you must wait for 30 minutes before you start a game or restart a game that was in progress. When hearing thunder, assume there is lightning. Thunder is a better indication of when to stop a game because you can see lightning from a greater distance than what is necessary for game stoppage. Hearing thunder means there is lightning very close and it is unsafe to continue a game.

B. Player Suspensions

Red card suspensions must be served in the environment in which they were obtained, that is; red cards obtained in league play must be served in league play; and tournament red cards will be served in tournaments.

When a player receives a red card in league play, the referee will fill out the report in Game Officials & the team will keep the player pass. The East Central Games Commissioner will determine the appropriate length of suspension.

Remember, players cannot play in any game (league or tournament) without a player pass.

- a. Players must serve suspensions in games by the team on which they are rostered.
 - b. Players must be present at games served for suspension.
 - c. Multiple league game suspensions cannot be served in tournament games. Also, players are eligible to play in tournaments, even though they are ineligible to play in league games.
4. The East Central Games Commissioner has the power to suspend players and coaches. Any player that is ejected and/or suspended may choose to have a hearing. This request for a hearing to review the suspension/ejection must be done in writing within 10 days of receiving the suspension notice. This subsequent hearing will take place within 30 days. During this time the player may not be able to participate without the player pass. All league appeal options must be exhausted before legal, civil action can be taken.
 5. Multiple game suspensions may occur due to repeated red card/ejection incidents and/or severity of the event. Red card incidents that are determined to be a result of "Violent Conduct or Spitting at someone" will result in a minimum of a four (4) game suspension.
 6. Suspensions received near the end of the season which will not be fully served by the end of the season will be carried over to the next East Central playing season. Failure to complete prior year suspensions will result in additional suspensions and may result in team, club, or association fines.
 7. A team, club, or association using a suspended player or players in any sanctioned game will be assessed a fine of \$100.00 and will forfeit the game involved. East Central teams playing against suspended teams, clubs, or associations will be fined \$100.00

C. Player Ejection Suspensions

1. A suspension of 1-12 games will be imposed on any player who is ejected from a game for any of the following offenses. The severity and circumstances of the offense will be taken into account when handing down the suspension.
 - a. Serious Foul Play
 - b. Violent Conduct- Minimum of 4 games
 - c. Spitting at someone -Minimum of 4 games
 - d. Deliberate handling of the ball to prevent a goal
 - e. Fouling a player with an obvious goal scoring opportunity
 - f. Offensive, insulting, or abusive language
 - g. Receiving two cautions in a match

Serious Foul Play occurs when attempting to play the ball.

Violent Conduct is inappropriate contact when the ball is not in the immediate area.
Excessive Cautions - Players who have received a caution (yellow card) in two consecutive league games or who accumulate three cautions during the regular season will be suspended

East Central Rules and Regulations

Updated: July, 2019

for an East Central/Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association league game, pending notification. Two cautions received in a game resulting in a player's ejection will not be counted towards a second suspension. A single caution during a game where the player subsequently receives a red card will be counted toward the second suspension for excessive cautions.

A substitution after cautions (Yellow Cards) - The East Central District encourages coaches to substitute players who receive cautions, at the next available time for normal substitution. The referees will NOT stop play at the time of the caution to allow for the substitution.

Mandatory Attendance of Suspended Players - A player who is serving a suspension must be present at the game of which is to count towards a suspension. In order for the game to count towards a suspension, a player must have the lead referee date, indicate opponent, and sign a Non-Participation Verification Card. This card is to be mailed to the East Central Games Commissioner as verification. **All players that receive suspensions must serve their suspensions on the team they are rostered on.**

Probation Policy - Because of various behavioral problems stemming from actions by players, coaches, referees, and spectators per review of Referee Game Reports and East Central Incident reports, the Competition Committee (or its equivalent), after a hearing, may place a player, coach, team, club, or referee on a year's probation. After the year, and if the behavior on and/or off the field does not improve, the East Central District may ban from league play for a year a particular player, coach, team, club, or referee

Protest and Appeal Process

- a. A player or coach suspension may be appealed and the outcome of a game may be protested to the East Central Games Commissioner. However, no dispute, claim, protest or appeal will be considered unless it is presented in writing.
- b. For appealing suspensions/or the outcome of a game, the "event" that initiates the five-day time limit will be the date in which the letter notifying of the suspension is received. The appeal must then be submitted to the Games Commissioner along with a \$75.00 appeal fee. The fee should be in the form of a check made out to the East Central Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association.
- c. The East Central Games Commissioner will within 30 days after being notified that the player wishes to have a hearing to appeal a suspension/ejection will inform all parties of his/her decision. The East Central Competition Committee will review the information. If the appeal or protest is upheld, the fee will be returned. If denied, the fee will be forfeited to the East Central District treasury. The decision of the committee will be binding to all parties concerned, subject only to further appeal.
- d. A denied protest or appeal may be further appealed to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Appeals Board. This appeal process is covered under the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.
- e. Any written communication to the East Central Games Commissioner that does not follow the protest/appeal protocol will be considered informational only and may not be acted on or responded to.

D. Coach Send-off/Warning

1. Any coach cited for a warning in an official game report or harassing a referee during the post-game "Verification Meeting" will be suspended at the discretion of the East Central Coaching Commissioner. If a coach is ejected at any time during the game and there are no available coaches with a coaching pass card and appropriate license level where required, to oversee the team, that game may be declared a forfeit.

Coach Misconduct:

- a. Coaches in the East Central Leagues are expected to exhibit the highest level of sporting behavior and are responsible for the attitudes and behavior of their assistant coaches, players and spectators.
- b. In the event the referee determines the conduct of the coach is detrimental to the game, the referee may ask the coach to leave the immediate vicinity. Immediate vicinity shall be defined as sufficient distance from the playing field where the offending party cannot cause additional disruptions to the game. This is considered the "out of sight and out of sound principle".
- c. Any time a coach is sent off the field, the referee must report it in Game Officials.
- d. When a coaching send-off report is received by the East Central Coaching Commissioner, the coaching commissioner will investigate the incident and recommend an appropriate response, in consultation with the coach's club president, and to the East Central District President. Repeat offenses will factor into the severity of the response. This response can take the form of one or more of the following:
 - Suspension from one game (automatic) to lifetime dependent upon the severity of the incident.
 - Attending and completing an anger management course (Cost to be borne by the coach and/or club for which they coach)
 - Attending and completing an introductory referee training course (Cost to be borne by the coach and/or club for whom they coach).
 - Probation
- e. If the response (decision) includes anger management training or introductory referee training, these courses must be completed at the next opportunity or the coach will be suspended until the course has been completed.
- f. An investigation can be initiated by a signed letter or e-mail from a third party. The response to this investigation can take the same form as a send-off report.
- g. Decisions may be appealed per the East Central Appeals process with a \$75.00 appeal fee being posted within 48 hours of being advised of the decision. The appeal will be heard within 20 days of the appeal being accepted. If the decision is overturned or modified the appeal fee will be returned to the appellant.

E. Non-East Central Teams

All games must be played with the following guidelines:

- Field name and address must be submitted on the Guest Member application
- Fields must be within an hour's drive (maximum 60 miles) of opposing EC member club

- When the distance for a scheduled game is greater than an hour's drive (maximum 60 mile) and the Guest Member Club is the home team, the away team may request a neutral field to be assigned for that game. Individual clubs will be required to monitor this distance and request a neutral field.

Non East Central Team Fee for playing in East Central Soccer District is per scheduling event:

Recreational U12 and below: \$115.00 per team + applicable referee fees

Academy and U11-U12 Classic: \$140.00 per team + applicable referee fees

Recreational U14 and above: \$140.00 per team + applicable referee fees

Classic U13 and above: \$165.00 per team + applicable referee fees

Application: <http://www.ecdsoccer.org/page/show/167576-forms>

F. Event Teams

Policy approved February 2015

East Central Clubs are allowed to form Event Teams, as defined by WYSA, in the U15 and older age divisions. These Event Teams will be allowed to compete in East Central Leagues in the Fall and/or Spring seasons. This would include both boy's and girl's teams. Event Teams are managed by WYSA.

G. Playing Up or Eligibility

Beginning August 1, 2009, any player U-14 and below may register up a maximum of two age levels on any East Central U-11 to U-16 League. For example, players defined as a U-11 player can be eligible for a team that registers with East Central to Play in a U-13 league. Age levels are defined each year by US Youth Soccer.

If a State level team elects to play in the East Central League, they are to play in a competitive appropriate league as determined by East Central.