

PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE (PSL)

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Disclaimer.

*The information contained herein is for the sole purpose of ensuring the fair and purposeful delivery and direction of the Saskatchewan Premier Soccer League. Amendments to these rules, regulations, policies and procedures may be made from time to time at the discretion of the **TAB** of the Saskatchewan Soccer Association.*

Notice.

Where any omission under the PSL rules and regulations should arise, the relevant and applicable rules of the Saskatchewan Soccer Association shall prevail. If omissions should still exist, then the Canadian Soccer Association's rules shall apply.

DEFINITIONS

“Premier Soccer League under the jurisdiction of the Saskatchewan Soccer Assoc.” is herein referred to as the “**PSL.**”

“Laws of the game rules, regulations and by-laws of the game” are referred to as the “**Rules.**”

“Board of Directors of the Saskatchewan Soccer Association” is herein referred to as the “**Board.**”

“Saskatchewan Soccer Association” herein referred to as the “**SSA.**”

“Technical Advisory Board of the PSL” is referred to as the “**TAB.**”

“Technical Advisory Board Discipline Hearing Committee of the PSL” referred to as the “**TAB.**”

“SSA Discipline Hearing Committee” is herein referred to as the “**SSA Discipline Committee.**”

“Field of play” shall include the soccer park, dressing rooms, parking lot and any area deemed related to the event.

“Game” shall constitute any involvement that takes place before, during or after the game while at the “field of play.”

“Canadian Soccer Association” is herein referred to as the **“CSA.”**

“Club/zones/district” is interpreted as the smallest level of organization within a district.

17.1 TEAM RULES & REGISTRATION

- a) Teams must declare their teams and register through their district. Team bonds, league entry fees and player registration fees shall be paid to their district by the dates determined annually. **Dates will be posted on the PSL website www.spsl.ca It is the districts responsibility to turn all fees and information over to the SSA by the appropriate deadlines.**
- b) Individual team base registration fees due to the PSL are set annually and for the 2008 season are based on the number of teams in each age and gender division which in turn dictates the number of total regular season games played.
- c) Each team must provide names and addresses of a primary and a secondary contact person for receiving communications from the PSL.
- d) Each team contact must have **home and cell phone numbers** and at least one of: e-mail; voice mail; or fax.
- e) **Each team contact must ensure the PSL Head office is notified, in writing, of all changes in contact information.**
- f) Youth teams participating in Open Divisions shall be made up of only age-eligible youth players, including affiliate players and must meet the CSA requirements to be eligible for age respective Club Nationals.
- g) Team rosters at registration must name a minimum of 14 players.
- h) All teams can have a maximum of 20 players registered on their roster by the CSA transfer deadline (currently July 31st) or seven (7) days prior to the start of the PSL finals whichever is earliest. Only these players are eligible to compete in the PSL playoffs and championship game(s).
- i) All teams may dress a maximum of 20 players. (As per CSA Club National Standards)

17.2 TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- a) Completed **Team Declaration Form with \$500 performance bond per team**, submitted through your District and forwarded to the PSL/SSA office **by 3pm Thursday March 13th 2008**. **Team Declaration Form is available on www.spsl.ca under “Forms”**
- b) Submission of a roster and team fees by the registration deadline through your District and forwarded to the PSL/SSA office by deadline. **(Deadline in SSA office is 3pm Thursday April 24th 2008).**
- c) The PSL reserves the right to limit the number of teams. Returning teams receive priority over new teams.

17.3 PLAYER REGISTRATION / AFFILIATION

17.3.1 REGISTRATION

- a) SSA and CSA eligibility requirements to participate in competitions leading to CSA Club Nationals must be met.
- b) No player shall compete in any PSL game unless they are registered with the SSA and **have received proper permission (Permission Form is signed)** or transferred to the PSL teams roster.
- c) Once a player has registered with a PSL team, they cannot play for any other team in the PSL until the completion of the season, with the following exceptions:
 - (i) youth players **receiving permission to play up** as allowed by the rules in 17.3.2
 - (ii) youth players transferred by the PSL commissioner as allowed by the rules in 17.4

- d) If a player plays in a Division 1 or 2 Provincial Championship, they can play in the PSL Championship Game(s), provided PSL/SSA rules and deadlines are met.
- e) Where a team has been found to have played an ineligible player, that team will forfeit all games in which the ineligible player(s) was listed on the game sheet. The coach who allowed the ineligible player(s) to play will be subject to disciplinary action by the TAB. **All players playing must be listed on game sheets. Players added with pen or pencil will not be considered eligible for the game.**
- f) The PSL season is complete following the age-specific PSL final weekend except for those teams advancing to represent Saskatchewan at CSA Club Nationals, those team's PSL season finishes at the end of Club Nationals.
- g) **Teams in the U14/U16 PSL may have out of club/zone/district players however these players must be a part of their original permanent roster and may not be transferred to the team at a later date.**

17.3.2 AFFILIATION/JUNIOR TEAM ROSTERS

- a) Teams may only affiliate players (list them on their junior team roster) from lower divisions (Non PSL) or younger ages (PSL) within their club/zone/district.
- b) All affiliated players must be listed on the SSA Junior Team forms and these players entered on the E2E website making them eligible roster additions for games.
- c) **Senior teams may affiliate with non PSL teams within their club or U16 PSL youth teams (U18 PSL Youth Teams only if they play in a separate PSL division) however all players must be over the age of 15 to play in senior games. For PSL Senior teams that are not associated with a club the same rules apply however the team can apply to be "Affiliated" with a club for the sole purpose of having access to youth players to play up. To gain permission please fill out the 2008 Club Affiliation Application Form. Senior teams may only apply to affiliate with one club and the one club may only have one senior team affiliated with it. Clarification: A club with a senior team already in the PSL cannot have a second senior team that is the same gender affiliate with it.**

17.4 PLAYER TRANSFERS

- a) The deadline for all transfers as set by CSA to determine eligibility for Club Nationals is July 31st *or seven (7) days prior to the PSL finals whichever is earliest.*
- b) CSA regulations limit teams to three (3) player transfers after June 1st and limit players to two (2) transfers per season. **No Parallel transfers in Youth PSL. This means that Youth PSL players cannot transfer to another Youth PSL team in the same age division. PSL Players may only transfer up to an older PSL team within the same club.** Clarification: this is consistent with 17.3.1 (h) each team is allowed out of club/zone/district players and they must be declared on the **original permanent roster**. Senior players may transfer and transfers must be completed 7 days prior to finals and transferred players are only eligible for Club Nationals play. Transferred players are not eligible to play in PSL finals and 2008 Player Transfer forms must be filled out.
- c) No players can transfer to a PSL team in another club/zone/district when there is an existing PSL team for their age and gender within their home club/zone/district unless the player has been identified as excess and released by their district. Each district will be responsible for setting their policy regarding the release of excess players from clubs or zones within their district as well as the release of players from their district.
- d) Players transferring from another district must be released by that district and be registered with the participating PSL team (through it's club/zone/district) by the transfer deadline. All transfers must be completed on an official SSA transfer form found on the PSL website.
- e) Youth players may be transferred between age divisions within their club/zone/district as long as all relevant deadlines and limitations are met. All transfers must be completed on an official SSA transfer form found on the PSL website.

- f) A youth player registered as a senior player with a PSL or non-PSL team, may seek reinstatement of youth status by written request to the SSA. Once youth status has been reinstated, the player may become affiliated with or be added to the roster of an age-eligible youth PSL team in their “**resident**” club/zone/district. All relevant rules and deadlines must be met and appropriate affiliation or transfer forms completed.
- g) **Players that are released from the original permanent roster are not eligible to play down.**

17.5 TEAM COLORS

- a) Each team participating in the PSL shall have two sets of jerseys in two distinct colors. Teams will declare their lightest-colored jersey as home and their darker jersey as away colors at registration and will wear these specified colors at all games. PSL referees will be instructed to enforce this rule and failure to wear the appropriate jersey will be penalized by a \$100 team fine which must be paid before the infringing team's next game.
- b) Before the start of every game, if the teams are wearing similar colors as determined by the referee in charge, the “home” team must change. **Pinnies are not acceptable in games and alternate jersey's must have numbers on the back and correspond with the game sheet numbers.**
- c) All players of a team, except the goalkeeper, shall wear the same combination of jersey, shorts, and sock colors. Each player's jersey shall have a unique number on the back; goalkeepers may have unnumbered jerseys but will be designated “K” and specifically identified by name on the game sheet.

17.6 PSL GAMES

- a) A balanced schedule of home and away games will be produced for each age and gender group.
- b) When games are postponed or canceled (facility closure, weather), it is the responsibility of the PSL office to reschedule the games. On a best effort basis, teams will be given at least 72 hours notice of the rescheduled game unless it is the last 2 weeks of the season, in which case, teams will receive 24 hours notice.
- c) Home teams shall provide a PSL game sheet that must be completed prior to the start of the game. Only players whose names appear on the game sheet may take part in the game.
- d) Coaches must sign the game sheets and present it to the Referee before the start of the game. **Only PSL E2E Soccer generated game sheets will be accepted and no additions to rosters will be accepted once the game sheet is printed off. Each team must supply 3 copies of the E2E Soccer generated game sheet. One copy will remain with Ref at the end of the game and one for the home team and one for the away team.**
- e) Once submitted, the game sheet becomes the official record of the game. Appearance of a player's name on a signed game sheet constitutes their participation in the game regardless of whether they actually enter the game.
- f) By 15 minutes before kick-off time, the home team shall provide the Referee with 3 suitable size #5 game balls.
- g) By 5 minutes before kick-off time, teams must have completed their warm ups and be available to the officials for equipment check.
- h) Substitutions in the PSL regular season and playoff games may be made pursuant to the following conditions:
 1. There will be five substitutions allowed during the game, including extra time.
 2. Unlimited substitutions are allowed at regulation half time.
 3. At the discretion of the Referee, substitutions may be made at any stoppage in play.
 4. Substitutes shall report to one of the game officials, present a substitution card, give their number and the number of the player for whom they are substituting, before they shall participate in the game.
- i) Game Length:
 1. U14 Division is 2 halves of 35 minutes.
 2. U16 Division is 2 halves of 40 minutes.
 3. U18 and Open Senior Divisions shall consist of 2 halves of 45 minutes.
- j) Half time shall not exceed 15 minutes.

- k) Regular season games can end in a draw.
- l) Teams tied at the end of a match in which a winner must be declared (**PSL Finals**) will have the match go into extra time with the winner determined as set out in the CSA rules for National Championships (currently Golden Goal). Extra time will be 2 halves of 10 minutes in U-14 and 15 minutes in U-16, 18 & Open. If the game remains tied at the end of extra time, the outcome will be determined by penalty kicks governed by SSA/CSA rules.
- m) Each team may dress a maximum of 20 players per game. Only the 7 substitutes, non-uniformed roster players, and a maximum of 4 registered team officials may sit on the team bench during the game. A team will be considered in default if they have less than seven eligible players by 10 minutes after the scheduled kick off time.
- n) **The Referee will enter a ref report via E2E Soccer Ref Center (final score, goal scorers, cautions and ejections) within 24 hours of the game.**
- o) **Home and Away teams are responsible for entering and accepting the game reports on E2E Soccer 24 hours after the game is completed. This is to ensure all games Stats are kept up to date and disputes dealt with in a timely fashion.**
- p) **If a team does not receive a copy of the game sheet from the Referee, the PSL office must be notified within 24 hours of the end of the game.**
- q) If the scheduled field is not available for play and the PSL Director of Operations has made alternate field arrangements, the game must be played.
- r) The Referee is the sole judge as to the fitness of the "field of play." Protests regarding this issue will not be heard.
- s) If the Referee determines poor weather may lead to unsafe game conditions, the game will be suspended for a maximum of 30 minutes. If play cannot resume within that time, the game will be abandoned and rescheduled.
- t) Referees will have the discretion to give water breaks during high temperatures.
- u) When the number of postponed or abandoned games is greater than the number of days available for rescheduling, schedules and draws may have to be changed.
- v) **Home team contacts shall notify visiting teams and the PSL Head office in a timely manner of game cancellation(s) due to weather. PSL head office will try their best to stay on top of field and weather conditions and get notices out ASAP in the event of game cancellations due to inclement weather. This is why a cell phone number must be left as a primary contact.**
- w) Coaches must have coaching certification as required by the SSA (Please check PSL website) and coaches with the required certification must be on the bench for all games. **There must be one member present at the game of the team staff that is the same gender as the players.**
- x) **Game protests based on player or coaching staff eligibility must be noted on the game sheet prior to presenting it to the referee during league games or raised with the SSA representative prior to the start of the game during playoff or championship games. All other game protests or appeals must follow the appropriate SSA/CSA rules.**
- y) **The winner of each PSL division will be the Saskatchewan representative at CSA Club National Championships. A winning team (players and staff) that fails to fulfill its obligations to represent Saskatchewan at Club Nationals will face disciplinary action which may include both financial penalty and suspension from future competitions.**
- z) **Team requests for off dates, and any other requests pertaining to the making of the schedule, must be submitted March 13th with the team declaration form. Every effort will be made to accommodate requests and no request will be accepted after March 13th 2008. Requests must be made in writing and accompany the Team Declaration Form.**

17.7 OFFICIALS

- a) The PSL assignor(s) appoint all officials. Teams, clubs, zones and districts do not have input on assignments.
- b) The PSL is responsible for the payment of officials. Payment will be based on submission of completed game sheets and any associated misconduct reports on **The E2E Soccer Ref Center website.**

- c) Every effort will be made to ensure that each scheduled official will have at least a Class 3 level.
- d) Provincial assessors will monitor officials during the season.

17.8 LEAGUE STANDINGS

- a) For all divisions, a team's standing within their division shall be determined by a point system; three (3) points for a win; one (1) point for a draw; zero (0) points for a loss.
- b) For any tie in standings, CSA Bylaws will be used (currently):
 - 1. **Previous Match Results** The winner of the total matches between two (2) teams tied in points shall be awarded the higher position. (Not used if 3 or more teams are tied in points.)
 - 2. **Goal Difference** Goal difference shall be calculated by subtracting goals conceded from goals scored. A maximum difference of 5 goals shall be awarded in each game.
 - 3. **Goal Average** Goals for divided by goals against (goal difference of 5 goals also applies)
 - 4. **Most Goals Scored** The team scoring the highest number of goals finishes in the higher position.
 - 5. **Fewest Goals allowed** The team allowing the least number of goals finishes in the higher position.
- c) **The final PSL Weekend will be played as a two game championship. The first game will be a 2nd vs 3rd place semi final with the 1st place team going straight to the final. The second game will be the winner of the semi final vs the 1st place team. Every effort will be made to ensure a rest period of 24 hours is given between the 2 games.**
- d) The Championship finals will be hosted by a PSL district. Due to scheduling considerations, the Championship finals for the U18 and Open divisions may be held together on an earlier weekend and not necessarily at the same location as the U14 & 16 Championship. Both Championship weekends are intended to serve as showcases for the PSL season.

17.9 DEFAULTS AND FORFEITS

- a) A **defaulted game** is one in which one or both teams do not have the minimum number of players necessary to play the game, as per rule 17.6, sub-rule 1.
- b) A **forfeited game** is one that is played and subsequently forfeited for a rule violation.
- c) Where a team defaults or forfeits one (1) PSL game, they will lose their \$500.00 performance bond. They must pay another \$500.00 performance bond at the first available opportunity and before their next scheduled game. Forfeit of multiple games as a result of one complaint (eg. ineligible player on multiple game sheets) shall count as one forfeit for the purpose of this rule.
- d) Where a team defaults or forfeits a second PSL game, they will lose their second \$500.00 performance bond, and be expelled from the league for that year. The PSL Committee may expel the offending team for the next year of play. Teams may also receive additional fines and suspensions of players and coaches from all soccer activities.
- e) If performance bond requirements are not met or there are outstanding team fees or fines, the team will be considered to be not in good standing.
- f) If a team defaults or forfeits a game, 3 points will be awarded to the opposing team and the game will be recorded as a 3-0 win or the actual score of the game, whichever is most advantageous for their opponent.
- g) If both teams default or forfeit a game, no points will be awarded and the game is recorded as a 0-0 score.
- h) Teams who play while not in good standing will be deemed to have forfeited the game and the above rules (sections 17.9 subsections 'b-g' inclusive) would apply.

17.10 DISCIPLINE

17.10.1 GENERAL

- a) The “TAB” shall have the power to deal with violations of the “Rules” or misconduct by any PSL team or by its players or coaching staff.
- b) All disciplinary issues involving players will be processed by the TAB.
- c) Disciplinary issues involving team or district officials and spectators will be dealt with directly by the “TAB”.

17.10.2 AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS

a) Cautions (Yellow Cards)

A player receiving more than four (4) cautions during the current season shall be suspended as outlined in the following table:

Number of Cautions (current season)	Suspension
5 th caution	1 game
8 th caution	2 games
10 th caution	3 games

- b) **Ejections (Red Cards) - for actions against other players or team officials**
An automatic 1 game suspension plus a review by TAB and further suspension handed out if it is deemed necessary.

c) Verbal Misconduct In A Public Forum

If a player, coach, manager, referee or any member of the PSL makes verbal or written statements of a negative, derogatory or inflammatory nature or puts the game into disrepute, the following suspensions shall apply:

- 1) 1st Offense - 5 games
- 2) 2nd Offense – Hearing

d) Yellow cards will not carry over into PSL finals however yellow card suspensions and red card suspensions will carry over to finals and must be served.

e) Players that are serving a suspension (accumulative yellows or red) will be manually suspended by head office staff and their name will not be eligible to appear on the E2E Soccer Game Sheet until the suspension is served.

17.10.3 Appeals

- a) To appeal a decision of a Discipline Hearing, a written appeal to the SSA office must be made within 48 hours of receiving notification of the Discipline Hearing decision. The appeal must be accompanied by a \$100 appeal fee in cash or money order payable to the Saskatchewan Soccer Association. The appeal process will be that outlined in the SSA discipline policies.

17.11 HOME FIELD PREPARATION

- a) Home teams will be responsible for ensuring the following are completed at least one (1) hour before game time.
 - 1) Bring to the field and set up of the goal nets
 - 2) Three (3) suitable size #5 game balls
 - 3) Corner flags
 - 4) Secured and separate Official’s area
 - 5) Opening of gates, washrooms and dressing rooms (when available)
- b) Each team is responsible for their own physiotherapy and first aid.

- c) The home team for the final game at a field is responsible for cleaning up the above equipment (if necessary).
- d) Clubs/zones /districts will be responsible for the following:
 - 1) Lining of the field and the technical area (player and referee benches).
 - 2) Field upkeep
 - 3) Benches and if possible canopies
 - 4) Any other necessary field preparation
 - 5) Each club, zone, or district shall endeavor to provide the best fields possible for PSL games.
- e) No spectators are permitted in the technical area (located opposite field side from spectators) or behind the goal.
- f) The PSL/SSA in consultation with the club/zone/district is responsible for booking fields and for the payment of field rentals.

17.12 TRAVEL POLICY

- a) All PSL teams are entitled to SSA hotel room rates through the SSA's Hotel Sponsorship Program. Please visit the PSL website for more contact information.
- b) Team coaching staff will be responsible for the behavior of their players. Any team that does not meet the highest of standards for behavior will not receive the hotel or rental van rates.

17.13 SPONSORSHIP

- a) The "TAB" must approve any and all Sponsorship of PSL teams by clubs/zones/districts. Team sponsorship displays are limited to the technical area and the player's apparel only. A district cannot unreasonably withhold sponsorship from any team. Please be advised that individual team sponsors on jerseys must be covered during CSA National Competitions if requested.

17.14 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

- a) Minutes of Meetings
 - 1) Minutes shall be kept of all meetings of the PSL Committees, and they shall be submitted for ratification at the next relevant meeting.
 - 2) PSL meetings minutes shall be submitted to the SSA Board of Directors and posted on the PSL website.
- b) PSL Communications
 - 1) All correspondence and communications regarding PSL matters will be made through the PSL office and the PSL Director of Operations or designate.
 - 2) Communication between the SSA and the members of the PSL concerning PSL matters will be made through the PSL Director of Operations, PSL Commissioner or SSA Executive Director.

17.15 LEAGUE MANAGEMENT

- a) Responsibilities of PSL Commissioner/PSL Director of Operations
 - Lead PSL meetings
 - Tie breaker on voting determinations
 - Presence at PSL Finals
 - Present league awards
 - Voice of the PSL (media relations, public situations)
 - liaise with and update SSA Board of Directors about PSL prior to, during and after the season
 - **liaise and coordinate between the TAB, media, membership and teams in the league**
 - General league management
 - Schedule
 - Referee assessment organization , overview and management

- Coordinate referee assignors
- Organize fields of play for the season
- Manage Discipline situations
- All aspects of the schedule
- Maintain PSL website and its information
- Work with media outlets for the betterment of the league

c) Responsibilities of Financial Office Administrator

- To ensure timely referee payments
- Ensure participating teams have made entry fee payments
- Ensure all PSL players are registered with SSA through their District
- Ensure participating teams have posted bonds
- Ensure all refunds are processed and sent out to eligible teams.
- Pay approved per diem and lodgings and ensure payment of field rentals

d) Responsibilities of Technical Advisory Board

- Discipline
- Competition rules interpretations
-➤ Rule changes, updates and interpretations are approved by the team registration deadline
- ... ➤ Schedule is set and approved 2 weeks after the team registration deadline
- ... ➤ Act as consultants to the PSL Commissioner and Director of Operations on league issues

f) SSA Board of Director Authority

The PSL Commissioner has authority on any and all issues relating to the PSL. The commissioner may from time to time, in consultation with the TAB and SSA Board of Directors, make decisions governing specific cases or occasions not provided for in these regulations, but which may be necessary for carrying out the objectives of the PSL

g) Conflict of interest

Any TAB or Board Members in any conflict of interest, either real or perceived, shall remove themselves, wholly from any situation that may arise.