

Mason Dixon Soccer League

Spring IM Rules

1. MDSL Spring IM Rules 2009 Players, coaches, parents and spectators must act appropriately. Negative comments or abusive language will not be tolerated. Those who break this rule will be asked to leave.
2. Referees should be treated in a respectful manner. Anyone who verbally intimidates or abuses a referee will be warned once. If that individual needs to be reminded again, they will be told to leave and will not be permitted to return to the MDSL program.
3. An official score during the game will not be kept. Coaches may keep score, but only for their own purposes. No tournament, championship or all-star games will be played at the conclusion of the season. No trophies will be provided by MDSL for the Spring IM program.
4. Games will be 36 minutes in length, played in four 9-minute quarters with a brief halftime. Substitutions can occur throughout the game when play is stopped by the referee. When requesting to substitute, the coach should ask, "Sub please". The clock will be kept by the referee on the floor.
5. All players, boys and girls, no matter their skill level, must play an equal amount of time every game and must rotate to different positions throughout the game. If coaches are found to not be rotating players or not giving players equal playing time, they will be warned once. Non-compliance will not be tolerated.
6. Players must wear their team shirt, with black shorts and soccer socks covering their soccer shin guards. Laced athletic or soccer shoes may be worn in the games. No metal cleats or slip-on shoes!!! All shoes must lace up, no Velcro!!! Wearing sweatpants are discouraged. In addition, no jewelry can be worn during the games. It is encouraged that children wear mouth guards to protect their teeth.
7. Those who play in a rough manner will be warned by the referee. If rough play or bad sportsmanship in any way continues, that player will be asked to leave the program.
8. Games will start promptly per the schedule. Be sure your team arrives 15-20 minutes prior to your start time. Warm-up time will be provided at the

conclusion of the game prior to yours. This time should be used to teach sideline throw-ins, dribbling, passing and player positioning. Head Coaches are asked to wear the team shirt you were given to each game.

9. The goalie should wear a shirt that is a different color from their team shirts. All players are encouraged to play goalie, but it is not required. Your goalie must also rotate to other positions on the field. The goalie jersey is not supplied by MDSL.
10. Basic soccer rules will be applied during the game, except for the offside rule. Cherry picking will be discouraged and repeated violations will result in possession awarded to the other team via Goalie kick. No slide tackling is allowed. The goalies are allowed to punt the ball, throw the ball or roll the ball once they pick it up. Sideline throw-ins will be used and proper technique will be enforced. Referees will stop play and explain any throw-in violation to the player involved. The player will be given a second throw-in and should another violation occur, the other team will be awarded possession. Teams will play two simultaneous 4 vs 4 games without a goalie (small-sided soccer) in the K-1 Division, 8 vs. 8 including the goalie in the 2-3-4 and 7 v 7 including the goalie in the 5-6 Division.
11. Since there are no practices and player conditioning will be minimal, fields will be down-sized to reduce physical exertion.
12. At the onset of play, the possessing team must pass the ball to a teammate (two possessing team players must touch the ball) before a goal can be scored. This includes the start of the game and each quarter, after a goal has been scored.
13. If you are playing in the first game of the day, please arrive one half hour before game time to place the goals (if required) and provide instruction to your team. Consequently, if you are playing in the final game of the day, please be a good volunteer and stay around for 5-10 minutes and help clean up the field. Thanks very much !!! Any questions should be referred to the Coordinator for the MDSL Spring IM Program: Jeff Brady 235-3783. Your suggestions and feedback are appreciated. On bad weather days, your coach will call or email you at least one hour prior to your game time in the event of a cancelled game. Cancellations are also posted on the MDSL website at <http://masondixonsoccer.com>.

