

Oregon Premier Soccer League

RULES

A. TEAMS

A team is a single entity of OASA-registered players, enrolled to play in the OPSL. Each team has a specific name and may have sponsorship. Any punishment imposed on a team by the OPSL is enforceable against any successor team that is formed with five or more players from the fined team. Under no circumstances will players be allowed to avoid sanctions or fines imposed by the OPSL by resorting to partial disbanding and reorganizing by the said team or players.

1. Rostering of Players

a. Teams may roster up to 25 players at any time and may play up to 18 players in any game. Up until a season's "Frozen Roster Date," any team may sign any player during the season without a transfer request, if that player is not currently playing in the same division in the OPSL. The "Frozen Roster Date" shall be November 1, 2014.

b. During an active "fall" or "spring" session, (which qualifies as the time from the first game within the relevant division until the completion of the final game of that session within that same division) any player wishing to transfer from one OPSL team to another within the same division must satisfy the following requirements prior to playing with a new team:*

i. submit a transfer request to the OPSL by email;

ii. if such player has played in three (3) or more matches with his prior team, and at the election of the player's prior team manager, sit out the next four (4) games scheduled for the player's "new" team and

iii. Receive notice from the OPSL that the transfer is approved. Such notice shall not be issued until the following is satisfied: the player has returned all team equipment and paid any applicable team dues. It must be verified by the manager of the team he is transferring to the respective Division Commissioner and/or the league President that all equipment has been returned and any applicable team dues have been paid. The player and/or manager may file a grievance with the OPSL in writing to the Division Commissioner and/or the league President if there is a discrepancy or disagreement regarding the terms of the player's exit.**

* There is a free transfer period that begins after the last game of the playoffs and ends two weeks (14 days) prior to the next season. For any player intending to transfer, in order to avoid a one-game suspension penalty with his or her new team at the start of the next session, a letter of intent to transfer must be submitted to the league president no later than three weeks prior to the first game of the corresponding division.

c. No player may play for more than two teams in the same division in any one season.

****The OPSL Board shall review and resolve all disputes as to the permissibility of a transfer and satisfaction of the aforementioned rules and regulations.**

D. An illegal player is anyone:

- (1) that is not registered with OASA;
- (2) that has transferred to another team without going through the procedure described in rule section A.1.b and A.1.c. or
- (3) that attempts to use another player's card for any reason.
(see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties.)

2. Equipment and Documents

- a.** In addition to meeting the basic uniform requirements of the FIFA Laws of the Game, each team shall have the following: two sets of numbered jerseys in contrasting colors, uniform shorts, and matching stocking colors. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties.)
- b.** All home teams shall have the following set up and ready for the referee to inspect 15 minutes prior to scheduled start time: two (2) nets, four (4) corner flags, and three (3) match-quality balls. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)
- c.** All teams shall have a completed roster and players' cards ready for referee inspection 15 minutes prior to scheduled match start time. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)
- d.** Any team that has fewer than seven (7) players present at the field and ready to show their player cards to the referee by scheduled match start time will forfeit the match. Any team repeatedly violating this rule may be suspended from the OPSL for the rest of the season, per OPSL Board discretion. Any team without a roster that is ready by match start time may be subject to forfeit rules. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)

3. Protests and Appeals

- a.** A team may protest the outcome of a match within 48 hours of the day of the match in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game, USSF, OASA, or OPSL regulations and rules of competition. Such appeal must be in writing (or via email) and accompanied by a \$25 appeal fee.* (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)
- b.** A team manager/coach may appeal a decision of the OPSL to the OASA per OASA procedural requirements.
- c.** Protests regarding the field conditions or uniform color conflicts must be made to the referee and opposing manager/coach prior to match start and resolved before starting the match. In case of uniform color conflicts, the home is required to change.

*No protest of any judgment call by a referee resulting in a caution or send-off will be considered.

4. OPSL Standings and Playoffs

- d.** For purposes of determining OPSL standings, the following point values will be used: Win = 3 points; Draw = 1 point; Loss = 0 points.
- e.** If a team no-shows for a game or does not have the required seven (7) players at the scheduled kick-off time, the game will be recorded as a forfeit and their opponent will be awarded the 1-0 win.
- f.** At the end of the pre-determined regular season the four (4) top teams will play for the division title. If two teams finish with the same number of points, the following tie-breakers will apply (in order of priority):
 - i. Head-to-head competition results (W, L, D);
 - ii. Total wins in league games;
 - iii. Highest goal differential;
 - iv. Goals scored in league games;
 - v. Fewest number of disciplinary points and forfeits;
 - vi. Ranking based on points earned against top four finishers and
 - vii. Penalty Kicks from the Mark.

g. At the end of each season, the team that finishes last in the OPSL standings may be relegated. At the discretion of the OPSL Board, a team from another league may be invited to replace the relegated team.

5. Team Behavior

a. Both teams are expected to be on opposite sides of the field as all spectators. Any person on the team's bench side, must either be a player or a rostered team representative and is subject to disciplinary measures, including carding and send-off. Managers are required to enforce this. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary measures determined by the league board.

b. Any team which allows the use of alcohol at a match by any player or spectator will be fined and subject to disciplinary measures determined by the league board.

c. Any team which does not comply with reasonable requests for information during the course of any OPSL or OASA inquiry into a referee assault or abuse, including identifying players or spectators involved in any incidents may be suspended from the OPSL. They may also be fined, bonded, or have other sanctions imposed by the OPSL and/or OASA.

d. In the case of uncontrolled team fighting the referee shall terminate the match. The official shall also keep all of the player cards and send them with a report to the OASA for review. Outcome and match termination will be determined subject to review according to FIFA, OPSL, OASA rules and jurisdiction. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)

e. All fines or outstanding fees will be paid to the OPSL treasurer or another OPSL officer prior to the start of any new season. Failure to do so may result in the team being suspended from play and subject to forfeiture penalties as described herein until the fines/fees are paid.

f. Any team that knowingly plays an illegal player in a match will forfeit the game and the player will be suspended for four (4) games in addition to any applicable OASA disciplinary measures and a possible forfeit pending a league board review.

B. PLAYERS

1. Participation

- a. Any player who arrives after half time is over will not be allowed to play in the match.
- b. All players must wear their respective team uniforms in order to play.
- c. Unlimited re-entry of substitutes is allowed any time the ball is out of play with the referee's permission.
- d. All fines assessed to a player must be paid before they are released to play. Unpaid fines at the end of the season will carry over to the following season.

2. Misconduct

- a. Any player receiving in excess of the maximum number of cards according to the following table, will be suspended according to the following table:
 - i. Maximum three (3) yellow cards for the regular season (spring season or fall season) including playoffs. Exceeding this number will result in a one (1) game suspension to be served in that team's next scheduled OPSL match; thereafter, each two (2) yellow cards received will result in one (1) additional game suspension to be served in that team's next scheduled OPSL match.
 - ii. Maximum two (2) red cards per player for the regular season, including playoffs. Exceeding this number will result in suspension for the remainder of the current OPSL season.
- b. Any player sent off or dismissed before, during or after a match, shall be suspended for the next OPSL game. However send-offs for:
 - (i) serious foul play,
 - (ii) violent conduct and
 - (iii) spitting shall be suspended for at least the next two (2) OPSL matches.
- c. Additionally, if the referee's match report shows that the conduct deserves further suspension and the opposing team's coach/manager also corroborates the report, the player may be suspended for such length as the OPSL Board determines. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)
- d. PDL/College standard for language will be applied – if profanity can be heard on the sidelines, there will be a likelihood of a card from the referee. Referees have been given guidance that incidental profanity may be sanctioned as misconduct for bringing the game into disrepute and that any loud profanity directed at another participant, referee or spectator can be sanctioned as a red card for abusive, insulting & offensive language or gestures.
- e. A player who is sent off may be required by the officiating team to leave the bench and field area. The official may not restart the match until he or she is satisfied with the extent of the sent-off player's removal. If the player refuses to satisfy the official's request, the match may be suspended and the offending player's team risks a possible forfeit. Any such matter may be reviewed by the league board.
- f. Any player or team manager who chooses to appeal a red card suspension must submit the appeal to the OPSL, with an accompanying appeal fee of \$25, within 48 hours of being notified of the suspension.. The OPSL Judicial Committee will interview those involved and meet as quickly as possible, then make a recommendation to the league board on the appeal ruling. The league board will deliberate and contact the team manager notifying him or her of the appeal ruling.
- g. Any player carded for violent conduct more than once a season is subject to league review and disciplinary action.
- h. Any player who assaults or verbally abuses a referee, assistant referee, or reserve official will automatically be suspended by the OPSL and subject to any mandatory OASA disciplinary measures. Any player or team personnel instigating or fueling an altercation with a player, spectator, coach or other is immediately subject to disciplinary action based upon league review.

- i.** Any player who illegally uses or attempts to use another player's OASA registration will be suspended per OPSL Board determination in addition to any applicable OASA suspension. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)
- j.** Any suspensions still remaining unserved at the end of a season will carry over to the following season, regardless of whether or not a player switches teams
- k.** Any player receiving an excessive number of red and yellow cards may be required to post a bond for the following season, as determined by the OPSL Board. The league board will determine at the end of the following season if the player will be refunded the bond, based on his or her disciplinary record over the course of the season.
- l.** Any action taken by the OASA or OPSL will not preclude the right of any referee or player to pursue criminal or other legal action against the offending team or player.
- m.** OPSL reserves the right to suspend or pursue sanctions against players with a significant history of violent conduct and unsportsmanlike behavior, including but not limited to suspensions, levying of fines or bonds, banishment or legal action.
- n.** Extreme offenses may warrant expulsion from the league and legal action.

C. Managers/Coaches

1. Conduct

- a. All managers/coaches will be responsible for managing their players and team personnel.
- b. Players, team personnel and team supporters/fans shall not use alcohol (except supporters/fans may, if permitted under applicable law and field requirements, consume alcohol in accordance with applicable law and field requirements), any illegal substance before, during or after any OPSL match. Those who do will be subject to suspension and/or other sanctions. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)
- c. Players, managers/coaches and supporters/fans shall not possess, use, brandish, display or threaten to display any object that may be utilized as a weapon at any OPSL match. Any instance of a manager/coach allowing players or supporters/fans to do so shall result in immediate suspension of that team until an OPSL Board hearing.

2. Administration

- a. All managers or their representatives will attend all OPSL meetings.
- b. In the event of a time or venue change or cancellation of a match, the manager/coach of the changing team must inform the referee scheduler identified on the OPSL website by phone immediately, and in no event no later than 48 hours prior to the match (email info@opsl.org immediately). He must then immediately inform the opposing team manager and then notify the OPSL.
- c. All managers will check with any new players attempting to sign on their team to determine if they have previously played in the OPSL in that season. See Section A.1.b.

D. REFEREES

1. All referees will arrive early enough to inspect the field, check the teams' rosters, cards, each player's equipment, and start the match on time (at least 30 minutes before scheduled match start time).
2. Referees are expected to have and be willing to alternate their uniform shirt colors in case of conflict with the team's shirt colors.
3. Any referee who appears late for a match without a reasonable excuse will be fined. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties).
4. Referees will submit accurate and timely match reports by FAX (OASA Office FAX# 297-4513) or US mail within 48 hours to the OASA. Failure to promptly file a match report may result in a fine. (see section E. Table of Fines and Penalties)
5. Match reports must include full accounts of any cautions or sending offs. Referees shall retain the player card of any player who is sent off or dismissed and turn it over to OASA.
6. Referees will report any observed use of alcohol or illegal substances at the match by players or fans.
7. Field condition protests by teams will be resolved before the match by the referee. The referee is the sole judge of whether a field is playable or not. The referee will note any field condition protests in his match report.
8. If a match is suspended or terminated before full time, the referee will note the reason, score, and time the match was suspended or terminated. The OPSL Board will determine whether the match result will stand or the match will be replayed.
9. In the event of an uncontrolled team fight or other riotous behavior, the referee will retain all player cards from both teams and submit them to OASA.

E. DEFINITIONS, NOTICES, DELEGATION

Any notices or requests for consents or approvals of the Oregon Premier Soccer League (OPSL) are to be directed to the following email address: info@opsl.org. The OPSL website is located at www.opsl.org. As used herein, "OPSL Board" shall refer to the Board of Directors of the OPSL. To the extent permitted under applicable law and USSF, USASA, and OASA requirements, responsibility for any matter requiring OPSL Board approval, consent, or hearing, may be delegated by the OPSL Board to a committee, officer, or agent.

F. Table of Fines and Penalties

***Forfeits & Reschedules**

- More than two weeks -- no fee, no point deduction, reschedule OK.
- 5 days to two weeks prior – charge administration fee, no points deducted
- 2 days to 5 days prior – results in probable forfeit*. If rescheduled, pay administration fee and any costs incurred plus \$25 fine.
- 1 to 2 days prior – Straight Forfeit, no reschedule. First offense \$50 fine and cover any game costs (which will be a credit to the opposing team); subsequent offense add \$50 each time
- Day of game (w/in 24 hours) – Straight Forfeit, no reschedule. First offense, \$100 fine and cover any game costs (which will be a credit to the opposing team); upon each subsequent offense, add \$100 each time.

* To be determined by the League President, Division Commissioner, and the Scheduler based upon mitigating circumstances.

Forfeit points deduction schedule:

- 1st game – 0
- 2nd game – 1
- 3rd game – 2
- 4th game (and each subsequent) – 3

The OPSL reserves the right to require any team that forfeits 2 or more games in any season to post a bond in the amount of no less than \$300 to participate in the following season.

Description	Rule Reference	1st offense	Each Subsequent Offense
Fines and Suspensions			
Mismatched shorts/socks	A.2.a.	\$5	\$5
No alternate shirts	A.2.a.	\$25	\$50
No numbers on shirts	A.2.a.	\$5/shirt	\$10/shirt
Fewer than 3 balls	A.2.b.	\$25	\$50
No nets	A.2.b.	\$25	\$50
No corner flags	A.2.b.	\$15	\$25
Late roster	A.2.c.	\$15	\$25
Fewer than 7 players & No roster by game time	A.2.d.	Forfeit	See forfeit schedule
Appeal fee	B.2.c.	\$25 refund if player wins appeal	\$25 refund if player wins appeal
Attempting to play an illegal player (e.g. using another player's card, suspended player, improper transfer, no card)	A.1.c. B.2.g.	\$25 fine and (depending upon offense, possible applicable OASA disciplinary measures)	\$100 fine (and depending upon offense, possible OASA disciplinary measures)
Playing an illegal player	A.1.c. A.5.f	\$50 fine and possible forfeit pending board review (possible OASA suspension)	\$150 fine and possible forfeit pending board review (+ possible OASA suspension)
Team no-show	A.2.d.	See forfeit rules – board will review each case	See forfeit rules – board will review each case
Alcohol at match	A.5.b.	\$50 fine and review by league board	\$100 fine and review by league board
Referee Abuse	B.2.f.	OASA Jurisdiction	OASA Jurisdiction
Illegal substances	C.1.c.	OPSL hearing	OPSL hearing
Weapons at match	C.1.d.	Suspension & hearing	Suspension & hearing
Team fighting/brawling	A.5.d.	OPSL Board hearing	OPSL Board hearing
Referee tardy	D.3.	50% of Match payment	75% of Match payment
Referee late match report	D.4.	\$10	25% of match payment

As an affiliate of the Oregon Adult Soccer Association, the Oregon Premier Soccer League requires all team coaches and managers to review the current OPSL rules and regulations. By entering a team in the OPSL, each manager warrants that they have read and shared with all players associated with their respective teams copies of the current rules.

PLAYOFF PROTOCOL

Pre-Game –

- As a general request, we ask that managers be there 45 minutes to an hour early, to help facilitate good management of the pre-game organization.
- Manager will provide a completed roster, including uniform numbers, along with players cards indicating which 18 of 25 rostered players are participating in the game. This should occur no later than 30 minutes prior to game time.
- Officials will check-in players and compare to official roster. Late players will check-in with the 4th official. (In accordance with regular season rules, players who do not check-in before the second half begins are not eligible to play).
- Coin Toss will occur no less than 20 minutes before kick-off.

International Start –

- Immediately prior to kickoff. Only starting 11 for each team. Officials to instruct on process.

Home Team –

- Higher seed will be home team.
- Home team is to provide no less than 4 quality games balls, as well as properly functioning corner flags and nets.

Uniforms –

- Matching tops, shorts, and socks for every player (excluding goalkeepers)
- Vests for players warming-up.

Bench Areas –

- Both team benches are to be on the same side of the field.
- Only rostered players, managers, and trainer may sit on the bench.
- Roster may list no more than two non-player managers and one medical trainer (the trainer must provide documentation regarding their status as a trained medical professional).
- For insurance and procedural reasons, any non-player personnel is strongly encouraged to have a valid OASA card.
- Players on the 25-man roster, may sit on the bench; however, only 18 players may be dressed in playing gear. Overall appearance should be respectful.
- Subs must wear clothing distinguishing them from field players.
- Subs warming-up on the sideline must do so without soccer balls.
- Bench area is to be kept clean and professional looking.
- No fans or un-rostered players may watch the match from the bench side of the field. (If spectators come to the bench side of the field or stand behind the goal lines, regardless of how close they are to the benches, the referee may stop the game and ask them to return to the spectator side of the field. The game will not be restarted until the spectators comply. Repeated violations by spectators in the same game may result in termination of the game. Managers are expected to assist officials in keeping the sideline clear of fans.

General Conduct –

- PDL/College standard for language will be applied – if profanity can be heard on the sidelines, there will be a likelihood of a card from the referee. Referees have been given guidance that incidental profanity may be sanctioned as misconduct for bringing the game into disrepute and that any loud profanity directed at another participant, referee or spectator can be sanctioned as a red card for abusive, insulting & offensive language or gestures.
- Protocol for send-off: the player will be allowed to return to his team's bench and must put on sweats and leave the team areas. Legal liaison will support the effort and gauge player's mindset. In the discretion of league official, player may watch game from a neutral area near the parking lot and after 10-15 minutes player may watch from spectator area, if player is sufficiently calm.

Tie – a winner will be identified for all matches, in the following order:

- Extra Time – 2 fifteen-minute period of extra time. No Golden Goal.
- Kicks From the Penalty Mark. – 5 vs. 5. If tied after that, go 1-by-1.

**Unless otherwise indicated above, all OPSL league rules apply.*

Note: Rosters will frozen no less than two weeks prior to the first play-off kick-off time. Teams have the right to appeal for exemption in extraordinary cases -- to be reviewed by the OPSL Board.