

Penalty/Card Rules

**** Any rule changes from the original rules will be marked with ****

HANDBALL/BALL HITS REFEREE

- a) Players are not permitted to touch the ball with any part of their arm below the shoulder whether deliberate or accidental. This will cause a free kick to be awarded to the opposition unless the referee rules the handball was to the opposition's advantage.
- b) If the ball hits the referee, the decision will be play-on as long as no team gains an unfair advantage. If the referee decides there is an unfair advantage, they will stop play and set up a "drop ball" between the two players closest to the referee at the time.

TACKLING

- a) To tackle or play the ball, players must be on their feet. Tackling can only be made from the front of an opponent whilst they have control of the ball.
- b) Slide tackles are **not permitted**.
- c) Free kicks will be awarded for any player tackling from the side or back or slide tackling.

FREE KICKS

- a) Free kicks will be given for the following reasons:

- Handball • Holding
- Pushing • Tripping
- Holding Nets whilst controlling Ball
- Swearing and Abusive Language
- Time Wasting • Net Abuse
- Rough Play • Sledging
- Obstruction • Raised Feet
- Kicking above waist height

- Entering goalkeeper area
 - Late tackles
 - Side, back or slide tackles
 - Backing into players whilst in control of the ball.
 - Dissent
 - Any other behaviour the referee thinks is not in the spirit of the game.
- b) Players have 5 seconds to take a free kick. Players must wait for the whistle. The ball must be stationary when the kick is taken.
- c) Opposition players may form a wall but must stand 3 metres from the free kick spot.
- d) If a foul is committed within 3 metres of the goalkeeper area, the ball may be moved back away from the defending wall to allow more room to take the free kick. This will also apply if a free kick is given close to the nets.

PENALTY SHOTS AT GOAL

- a) A penalty shot at goal will be awarded for the following incidents:
- When a defender enters the goalkeeper area and comes into contact with the ball
 - When the goalkeeper handles the ball while outside the goalkeeper area.
 - If a foul is committed where, in the referee's mind, there is a direct chance on goal with only the goalkeeper to beat.
- ****b) All players when taking a penalty cannot step before the kick. Only plant beside the ball and kick. ****
- c) Only the goalkeeper can defend a penalty kick. The goalkeeper must stand on the goal line and can only move after the player has made contact with the ball.
- d) All players must stand behind the ball and not within 3 metres of the player taking the kick.
- e) Free kicks on goal will be taken on the volleyball post-insert just outside the crease.

MISCONDUCT: CARD SYSTEM

Misconduct will be monitored by applying the yellow and red card system as follows:

Yellow Card

a) A yellow card will be given to any player playing outside the spirit of the game and the code of behaviour guidelines. The yellow card is a warning that if they continue in this manner they will be sent from the court. Reasons for being given a yellow card will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Committing numerous fouls.
- Dangerous and / or rough play.
- Deliberate fouls, time wasting and deliberate handballs.
- Pushing.

Red Card

- Disputing, arguing with referee.
- Swearing, obscene gestures.
- Intimidating, harassing opponents. • Anything the referee feels is unsportsmanlike behaviour.

b) A red card, like a yellow card, will be given to any player not playing in the spirit of the game. When a red card is issued, the player is to be ordered off the court and they cannot be replaced or substituted. A player is not entitled to a warning (yellow card) for offences such as:

- Fighting. • Threatening players and / or referee.

- Spitting. • When the offence follows a previous yellow card.
- b) A red card offence is a minimum of a one (1) match suspension or two (2) matches if the player has previously been suspended.

SUBSTITUTIONS / INJURED PLAYER

- a) Substitutions can only be made when the goalkeeper has control of the ball in the goalkeeper area or when a goal has been scored. The opposing team may also make a change at the same time.
- b) Shirts cannot be swapped during the substitution.
- c) No substitution can be called in the last 3 minutes of each half.
- d) When a player is injured, they may be substituted at anytime.
- e) The clock will not be stopped for substitutions. It will only be stopped in finals for serious injury and if an injured player needs assistance from the court.