

GREATER DES MOINES JUNIOR SOCCER LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Each club shall be responsible for distributing a copy of these League Rules and Regulations to all coaches and referees. Copies are to be supplied by the League.

A PLEA OF IGNORANCE TO ANY PUBLISHED RULE OR REGULATION SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AN EXCUSE FOR VIOLATING THE SAME

I. PLAYER ADMINISTRATION

A. AFFILIATION

1. All players shall be affiliated with United States Youth Soccer (USYS).
2. The League shall collect and remit all necessary fees to ensure above affiliation.

B. REGISTRATION

1. Youth Amateur Players. A player is one who prior to August 1st of the current seasonal year has not reached the age of nineteen (19) years. A player who reaches his/her nineteenth birthday on or after the date above shall be allowed to complete the seasonal year and shall pay the applicable registration fee.
2. Registration Fee. Players shall be registered each season on a form to be provided by the club. Each club shall pay the League registration fee as set forth by the League Board.
3. Logical Solutions. Clubs without Logical Solutions software will have one year to obtain and implement it's use or there will be a two dollar (\$2.) surcharge per registration – (Oct. 12, 1999 minutes). All Clubs who join GDMJSL will have two playing seasons to comply with the requirement of using logical solutions.
4. Date of Registration. Players shall be officially registered with both the Club and League registrars no later than 96 hours prior to the date on which he/she is to take part in any League game. Registrations are to be mailed/delivered to League Registrar.
5. Proof of Age. Proof of age shall be required to register for the first season that a player registers, and shall consist of any of the following:
 - a. Birth certificate
 - b. Passport or alien registration card issued by the United States Government
 - c. Certificate of Naturalization issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service
 - d. Drivers License
6. Player Identification Cards. Player identification cards shall be used by all players on Under 11 through Under 19 teams. Identification cards shall be issued with player name, date of birth, and team assignment (both Primary & Secondary teams, if dual rostered). Player identification cards must be validated (stamped) by the Iowa Soccer Association (ISA) Registrar. Identification

cards shall be presented to the referee before the start of each game. Player passes must be signed, and have a current photo attached. Laminating of player cards is encouraged.

7. False or Improper Registration. Any player who has not met any of the above referenced and participates in League play shall be referred to a Disciplinary Committee for action.
8. Multiple Registration. Players may register on no more than two teams provided the following are complied with:
 - a. A player cannot play for more than one team in the same division.
 - b. Multiple registrations for League play will only be allowed if such registrations are received by the League Registrar at least ten days prior to the Divisional Placement meeting.
 - c. Multiple registration cannot take place after the Divisional Placement meeting, without the permission of the GDMJSL Executive Committee.
 - d. Multiple rostered players will be issued 2 player ID cards with the primary team listed first and the secondary team listed second.
 - e. The number of multiple rostered players will be limited to 3 on any team. Only secondary players are considered in determining the limit of 3 multiple rostered players
 - f. A fee equal to the registration fee will be charged for each multiple registration.
 - g. A multiple rostered player's first responsibility is to the team listed as primary. If the team that is listed as secondary has a conflict with a game or practice schedule of the primary team, the player must play or practice with the team listed as primary. In addition, the team that is listed as secondary may not cancel or reschedule League games due to the unavailability of players that are rostered as secondary to their team.

9. Team definitions:

Recreational Team:

All forms of recruiting, invitations, and tryouts or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on basis of talent or ability are specifically prohibited at the recreational level. Coaches will have no direct input to or involvement with the assignment of players to their team(s).

The member Club accepts any and all eligible youth (subject to reasonable terms of registration).

Recreational soccer programs are intended to provide the opportunity for all interested children within the area served by the GDMJSL to participate in and enjoy the game of soccer without regard for athletic ability or soccer skills, up to the limits of the GDMJSL to accommodate them.

Criteria for player assignment will include **NO** consideration for the ability of the player or the relative strength of the team. "Special" requests by players, coaches, or parents for specific team assignments are strongly discouraged.

Teams which fail to meet one or more of the rules for recreational team formation and player assignment specified herein will be considered a competitive team in the GDMJSL. A competitive team may play in the Classic or Premier Division of GDMJSL.

Classic team:

Team formed to provide players with advanced skills and an expressed desire to experience a level of competition beyond that afforded by a recreational team.

The Classic Division consists of teams that use tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to register players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability.

Premier team:

Greater Des Moines Junior Soccer League rules on Competitive Team Selection. All clubs offering competitive team opportunities shall abide by the deadlines and procedures set forth in this rule. The failure to do so may result in sanctions being imposed upon the club as determined by Greater Des Moines Junior Soccer League. "Competitive Teams" are any teams that are made up of players based upon a selection process that includes evaluation of a potential player's skills including, but not limited to, team tryouts. Competitive teams shall not include teams formed in accordance with club rules and regulations related specifically to recreational teams (as long as those club rules are not inconsistent with the definition of competitive teams).

All competitive team bids or invitations to join such teams shall not be presented to a U-11 through U-19 player prior to July 1st for participation in the following soccer year, consisting of both fall and spring seasons. Tryouts for competitive teams may occur at anytime. Competitive teams are not required to hold tryouts each year for all roster positions. Instead, this rule applies only to those positions on competitive teams for which an evaluation or selection process is to be conducted.

All written notices or advertisements of selection processes, evaluation or tryouts for competitive teams shall include a statement prominently displayed in the notice or advertisement that no invitations or bids to join the team will be made prior to July 1st for all players. All invitations or bids must be in writing and must allow such player at least 48 hours to respond by either accepting or rejecting the invitation or bid. Written invitations may be followed up by discussions with a player. Any player accepting a bid in violation of this rule may be declared ineligible for the team. Clubs are further encouraged to provide all players, receiving invitations or bids, with information as to the financial and time commitments that will be involved if the player accepts the bid.

At the time a Club provides team registration information to the League, the Club shall designate all teams that are competitive teams as defined in this rule, with the letter "P".

Definition of terms:

Tryouts – Selection based on evaluation of a player's skill level.

Invitations – a representative of a given team (i.e. coach, parent, player) extending a request to a player to participate on that team.

Recruiting – actively seeking a player/players to participate on a given team.

C. LEAGUE RECORDS

1. Player Information - The League computer will store the following information in its data base:

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. Player name | g. Playing season |
| b. Street address | h. Team assignment |
| c. City, state, zip code | i. Sex |
| d. Phone number | j. Status (active or inactive) |
| e. Birth date | k. Power ranking |
| f. Player identification number | |

2. Services Provided. Each club shall be entitled to the following output each playing season:
 - a. Printed roster - one per registered team
 - b. Worksheets for adding and changing information

4. Cost of Computer Service. The President and Registrar shall recommend to the Executive Board the fees for League and outside services for records and computer services.
 - a. Data base items listed in C. 1. will be input into the computer for all U-11 through U-19 players as part of the team fee paid each playing season.
 - b. Clubs may choose to add U-6, 8 and 10 player information (listed in C. 1.) and services (listed in C. 3.) for a set fee as established prior to the start of the fall playing season.
 - c. Optional services will be available at the set fees established by the Executive Board. These services may include the following:
 - 1) Changes made to rosters after the registration deadline as established by the League Board. Changes include additions, deletions or change in player information.
 - 2) Additional rosters
 - 3) Replacement player passes and coaches cards

5. All outstanding fees for services and/or fines must be paid to the League prior to the club being allowed to schedule any teams the following playing season.

6. Outside Fee. Fee rate schedule for the ISA will be per player per year.

7. Confidentiality of League Records. Computer data base information will be for League and club use only. Persons or organizations wishing to obtain the names of players, coaches, referees or officers will submit a written request for such names to the Executive Board.
 - a. The League policy is to distribute names of coaches, players, officers and referees only when it would not be detrimental to those individuals and only when it would be educational or beneficial and for the interest and betterment of our soccer program.
 - b. Names of players, coaches, officers or referees shall not be distributed for commercial solicitation purposes.

D. AGE LIMIT DEFINITIONS AND ROSTER LIMITATIONS

1. Age divisions shall be comprised of players who, prior to the first day of August of the current seasonal year, are:
 - Under 19 years of age - 18, 17 and 16
 - Under 16 years of age - 14 and 15
 - Under 14 years of age - 12 and 13
 - Under 12 years of age - 10 and 11
 - Under 10 years of age - 8 and 9
 - Under 8 years of age - 6 and 7
 - Under 6 years of age - 5 and under

A player may move up one or more age division(s) above his/her specified age division. The club shall be the final authority for approval of such a move to a higher age division.

2. Team Registration. Each club is responsible for team assignments. Clubs shall submit all team registrations to the League on or before the date specified by the League.
3. Minimum and Maximum Rosters. No team shall be allowed to have fewer than seven (7) nor more than eighteen (18) registered players at any given time, and shall field a minimum of seven (7) players in order to participate in a game.
4. Removing Players from a Roster. No player is to be forced off a team by a coach or by a parent because of lack of playing ability. A player may be removed from team membership if his/her behavior is so disruptive as to adversely affect the team. Such action shall be reported to Club and League officials. Support data is required. A player, removed for disruptive behavior, shall be ineligible for League play for the remainder of that playing season.
5. Dropping a Team from League Play. In the event that a club declares a team defunct, no players shall be assigned to that team number. A team may be declared defunct when the number of players remaining on a roster is reduced to a number where the team cannot be expected to field eleven (11) players on a regular basis because of players dissolving membership with the team for that playing season. (See Section III. H. PENALTY FOR DROPPED TEAMS).
6. Team Assignments. A player assigned to a team is bound to that team for the entire seasonal year, subject to transfers as allowed by National and State rules. If a player moves to another club jurisdiction during the seasonal year, he/she may request a transfer.
7. Notification of Roster Changes. Club registrars shall be responsible for reporting all transfers, deletions and additions to rosters to the League Registrar.
8. Improperly Registered or Ineligible Players. Any team found playing an overage player, unregistered player or player not registered to that team shall forfeit the game(s) in which the player participated. A coach or club knowingly allowing a player to play who has falsely or improperly registered may be subject to disciplinary action.
9. U-11 teams must be comprised of 60% of its players being age 10 as of Aug. 1st.

II. COMPETITION

A. SCHEDULING

1. Playing Season. The seasonal year is August 15th through August 14th and includes both the fall and spring playing seasons. A playing season is either the fall or spring schedule of games.
2. League Scheduling Responsibility. Scheduling is defined by playing season and is applicable to all League teams from the time the schedule is published to the end of the final game of the season. All League games shall be played on the day and time scheduled unless the League postpones and/or reschedules the games due to adverse weather or poor field conditions, unless a request for rescheduling has been approved by both coaches, or due to extenuating circumstances approved by the League President.
 - a. Divisions with an odd number of teams shall play through the teams in the division and then replay teams in the division starting in the same sequence as with the first game.

3. Rescheduling. If two coaches agree to reschedule a game, it shall be the home team coach's responsibility for contacting the scheduling director of referees, remarking the field and any other business necessary for the completion of the rescheduled game. If two coaches cannot reach an agreement on rescheduling a game, the matter shall be referred to the presidents of the clubs involved for settlement. If the two club presidents cannot agree on rescheduling, the matter shall be referred to the League Commissioner for settlement.
 - a. A team who is attending a tournament during regular season play will be allowed to reschedule League game(s) which may conflict with tournament or travel time, provided a minimum of two weeks notice is given to the opposing coach. Games will be forfeited if 2 weeks notice is not given. If Tournament schedules are not available (2) weeks prior to scheduled play, this rule does not apply.
4. Teams not maintaining their League schedule or forfeiting two or more games will need to appear before the Disciplinary Committee before being allowed to participate the following season. The offending team coach and Club Representative will be asked to appear.
5. Non-League Games. During the season, any non-League scheduled games (friendship games) must be between teams on which all players are registered with USYS. In addition, the game must not interfere with any scheduled practices on the field or any League scheduled games.
6. Only games on the League schedule will count toward League standings. Non-scheduled League games where two teams in the same division meet (i.e. tournaments or friendlies) may not be used for a dual purpose (i.e. tournament advancement & League standings).
7. Unplayable Fields, Postponements. To declare a field unplayable due to adverse conditions at the time of the scheduled game shall be the prerogative of the referee. In the event that the referee does not arrive within a fifteen (15) minutes grace period, the two coaches may agree to declare the field unplayable due to adverse weather conditions. An officer from the home club, prior to the time of the scheduled game, may cancel the contest due to adverse weather or adverse field conditions. The home club shall notify the scheduled referee and the opposing team as soon as possible, preferably 3 hours prior to the scheduled game time.
8. Referee Scheduling. All Under 13 through Under 19 Premier and Under 15 through Under 19 recreational games will be officiated using the USSF diagonal system of control (three certified referees). All other games, Under 11 through Under 14, scheduled by the League will be officiated by a certified referee. It is recommended that each team provide an assistant referee (linesman).

B. FIELDS OF PLAY

1. Field of Play. The field of play shall include the playing pitch and a defined team/technical area.
2. Proper Marking. It shall be the responsibility of each Club to provide for the proper marking of the fields which should, where possible, include two team technical areas on the same side of the field, a substitution area at the midfield and a recommendation to move the spectators behind a line two (2) yards outside the touchline and within eighteen (18) yards of the goal line on the opposite side from the teams' side of the field.

The technical area is defined as the length of the bench plus one (1) meter at each side of the bench, and the area in front of the bench up to one (1) meter parallel to the touch line.

3. Restrictions on Use, Unplayable Fields. Certain fields are used only with the stipulation that they will not be damaged during inclement weather. A club officer shall have the power to declare a field unplayable prior to the scheduled game time. After the game has started, the referee is the only person that can terminate a game due to unplayable field conditions.

C. RULES OF PLAY

1. FIFA "Laws of the Game". Except as otherwise provided herein, the FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall apply to any and all competition sponsored by the League.
2. "Rules of the USYS". Except as otherwise provided herein, the rules of USYS affecting game play and participants shall apply to any and all competition sponsored by the League.
3. Sanctioning of Games. All League teams may play in only USYS sanctioned events. All League scheduled games are USYS sanctioned. Any team playing in an unsanctioned event does so at their own risk.

4. Length of Games, Ball Specifications and Recommended Minimum Field Size.

<u>AGE</u>	<u>Game Length</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>	<u>Recommended Min. Field Size</u>
Under 17/18/19	Two 45 Minute Halves	#5	55 x 110 yds.
Under 15/16	Two 40 Minute Halves	#5	55 x 110 yds.
Under 13/14	Two 35 Minute Halves	#5	50 x 100 yds.
Under 11/12	Two 30 Minute Halves	#4	50 x 100 yds.

5. Overtime Periods. In regular League games no overtime is permitted, and tie scores shall be reported.
6. Forfeiture. When two teams have been scheduled for a game, and one team fails to show following a fifteen (15) minute grace period, the referee shall report to the assigning Director of Referees, and the game shall be recorded as a forfeit, provided that a minimum of seven (7) players are present on the showing team. If both teams fail to show within fifteen (15) minutes of game time, the referee shall notify the assigning Director of Referees.
7. Completed Game. Any game suspended for any reason shall be considered a completed game after the second half kickoff. If the second half kickoff has not occurred, then the game shall be rescheduled and played in it's entirety.
8. Substitutions. Substitutions shall be unlimited. Substitutions shall be made with the consent of the referee at the following times:
 - a. Prior to a throw-in in your favor
 - b. Prior to a goal kick by either team
 - c. After a goal by either team
 - d. A team may substitute for an injured player or players and the opponent may substitute a like number of players, when the referee stops play for an injury
 - e. At halftime
 - f. When play is stopped for a caution, only the cautioned player may be substituted

Substitutes shall enter and exit from near the center of the field on the team side, and may not enter the field of play until the referee has granted permission.

9. **Minimum Playing Time.** All players on teams in the Under 14 age groups and younger shall play at least one-half of the game. All players on teams in the Under 15 through Under 19 age groups shall play at least one-third of the game. The only exception shall be where a coach is restricting a player from participating for disciplinary purposes, in which case the coach shall notify the referee and opposing coach of said decision. There is no minimum playing time for players on Premier Division teams.
10. **Restrictions on Participants.** Only registered players who are dressed to play but not on the field of play and coaches shall remain in the team technical area, as specified in Section II.B.2. but not within eighteen (18) yards from the corners of the field so as not to impede the progress of play and duties of the Assistant Referee.
11. **Restrictions on Spectators.** Spectators shall remain behind the spectator line, (2 yards outside the touch line) and shall not be allowed between the eighteen yard line and goal line or behind the goal line. Spectators shall be on the opposite side of the playing field from the teams and coaches.
12. **Use of Orthopedic Casts and Braces.** Players wearing an orthopedic cast or other protective brace or device shall be eligible to participate in any game if the cast or device meets the following requirements:

All orthopedic casts shall be 100% covered with protective foam. All braces shall have any metal pieces completely covered and no sharp surfaces exposed.
13. **Game Balls.** It shall be the responsibility of both teams to have a game ball, properly inflated, at game time. The referee shall select the game ball.
14. **Player I.D. Cards and Rosters.** A League issued and validated current team roster shall be in the possession of each coach or assistant coach at the game site for proper player verification. Current valid player identification cards (see Sec I. B. 6.) for each player must be presented to the referee before the start of each game and be checked against the roster for proper registration. The roster shall also be checked to determine the responsible adult when the coach is below the minimum coaching age. Failure to produce a team roster at the game site may result in a fine of \$20.00 and the matter will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee. The game will proceed prior to the referral to the Disciplinary Committee. The referee will secure an unofficial roster (hand written) that matches the player cards from the offending team prior to the commencement of the game. The unofficial roster will be sent to the League Commissioner. Players not possessing a current valid player identification card shall not be permitted to participate in League play.
15. **Goalkeeper's Colors.** If the goalkeeper's shirt is similar to the opposing team's colors, the goalkeeper shall change to a different color.
16. **Team Colors.** If the referee determines that uniform colors are close enough so as to cause a problem in the quick identification of a team during play, it shall be the visiting team's responsibility to change to an acceptable color shirt. It is recommended that each team have a dark and a light colored Jersey or at least a T-shirt of an alternate color. Each Jersey needs to have a unique, identifiable number.

17. Game Suspensions and Called Games. The referee shall have the power to temporarily suspend the game for up to fifteen (15) minutes to allow for game control of participants and/or spectators or the passing of inclement weather. If after fifteen (15) minutes of suspension, unplayable conditions exist, the game shall be called. In the event of grave disorder, the referee shall permanently suspend the game and report same to the assigning Director of Referees and the League Commissioner.
18. Game Protests. Only violations of the By-laws, Rules and Regulations of this League, or the misapplication of the FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall be proper subjects to consider for protest. (See Section III. E. HANDLING OF PROTESTS)
19. Recommendations for Under 6 through Under 10 Games not League scheduled -- The League recommends that member clubs follow the guidelines established and approved by the USYS for modified rules of play for these age groups.
20. Shin Guards. Shin guards that provide an adequate degree of protection must be worn by all players and must be covered by a sock. Referees shall send any player not wearing shin guards from the field. Such player may re-enter the field with the consent of the referee after he/she complies with this rule.

D. GAME CONDUCT OF PARTICIPANTS – Coaches, Players, and Referees

1. COACHES' CODE OF ETHICS (note from the committee: Recommend that this section be on a separate paper in coaches packet also)
 - a. Strive to maintain integrity within our sport.
 - b. Know and follow all the rules and policies set forth by clubs, leagues, state and national associations.
 - c. Work in the spirit of cooperation with officials, administrators, coaches and spectators to provide the participants with the maximum opportunity to develop.
 - d. Be a positive role model.
 - e. Set the standard for sportsmanship with opponents, referees, administrators and spectators.
 - f.. Keep sport in proper perspective with education.
 - g. Encourage moral and social responsibility.
 - h. Coach should continue his/her own education in the sport.
2. Cautions and send offs - Player. If a player is sent off the field of play, he/she shall be ineligible to play or dress in uniform for the next scheduled League game. A player receiving a second send off within one playing season shall be ineligible to play or dress in uniform for the next two (2) scheduled League games. If there are not enough scheduled games remaining in a playing season to enforce the specified suspension, the penalty shall be carried forward to the next playing season that a player is registered to participate in League play. If a player participates in League play while suspended, that player's team will forfeit the game(s) in which the player participated. The suspended participating player will be ineligible to participate or practice with any team under the jurisdiction of the League for a period of one (1) year.

Any player who receives three (3) send offs in a playing season shall appear before the Disciplinary Committee to explain his/her actions.

3. Cautions and Send Offs – Coaches. Any coach may be sent off by the referee from coaching the team if in violation of these or any other rules of competition and shall immediately leave the grounds out of sight or sound of the team. If a coach remains on the premises following a send off, then the referee shall declare a suspension of the game. In the event a coach is sent off, an assistant coach or parent will be permitted to continue coaching the team. If a coach is sent off from the field of play, he/she shall be ineligible to coach or attend the next scheduled game. If a coach is coaching more than one team, and is sent off from one team, that coach can not participate at any other teams games for that weekend.

Any coach who receives two (2) send offs in a season shall be asked to appear before the Disciplinary Committee to explain his/her actions.

4. Threats or Assaults to Referees. Any verbal threat or physical contact on a referee prior to, during, or after a game by a member of any team (coach, player, spectator) shall be reported by the referee to the League Commissioner. The offending member shall receive a hearing before the Disciplinary Committee within fourteen (14) days. If the offending member is found guilty, he/she may be permanently suspended from further participation in the activities of the League.
5. Notice of Appeal. See III. D. 3.
6. Undesirable Conduct - Coach. The coach may convey tactical instructions to players during the match. The coach and other officials, however, must remain within the confines of the technical area (see II. B. 1.) where such an area is provided and they must conduct themselves, at all times, in a responsible manner. No coach is to make derogatory remarks, use foul or abusive language, or make gestures to the referee, other coach, players or spectators.
7. Undesirable Conduct – Referee. The League Board shall have the right to suspend or bar from officiating games under its jurisdiction, any referee who, by word or action, displays an attitude detrimental to the League's purposes and principles, or who willfully violates the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the League or FIFA "Laws of the Game".

Referees who have been brought before a Disciplinary Committee may have their privileges to referee in the League suspended for a period of time as the Committee shall deem proper.

8. Entering the Field of Play. The referee may caution or send off a coach without prior warning for entering the field of play without permission.
9. Removal of Team from Competition. Any coach who removes his/her team from the field of play prior to the completion of the game shall be asked to appear before a Disciplinary Committee to explain such action. Removal of a team before game completion may constitute game forfeiture. Additionally, the coach may be suspended for up to two (2) games. In the event that a forfeiture is ordered, the score which exists at the time the team was removed shall stand as is, unless the removing team was ahead, in which case the removing team shall lose by a score of 3 - 0.
10. Temporary Suspension of Play. The referee has the discretionary power to stop the game for any infringement of the Laws and to suspend or terminate the game whenever, by reason of the elements, interference by spectators, or other cause, he/she deems necessary. All such suspensions must be reported to the League Commissioner.

11. Calling Off a Game. A referee is empowered to terminate a match in the event of grave disorder or if a temporary suspension of play has exceeded a period of fifteen (15) minutes. Consideration must be given to the effect on other scheduled games. Any game called off must be reported to the League Commissioner.
12. Control of the Playing Field and Vicinity. The referee shall, from the time he enters the playing field or its vicinity and until such time as he leaves the playing field or the next game begins, have the authority to caution any player guilty of ungentlemanly behavior, and if the player persists, suspend that player from further participation in the game. There shall be no doubt that this authority extends to before, during and after game play. The referee is further given the authority to order off the field or its vicinity any player or coach who, in his/her judgment, is acting in a manner that is detrimental to the game.

Coaches will be responsible for their assistants, players, substitutes, and spectators. Upon request from the referee, the coach shall be required to give his/her name, the name of any assistant, player or substitute that the referee desires. Coaches shall locate their bench on the same side of the playing field, opposite the spectators.

At the referee's request, spectators and/or parents who unduly interfere with the progress of the game shall be cautioned by the coach, using the coaches yellow card. If such undesirable behavior continues, the coach will send the spectator away or the referee will suspend the game.

13. Minimum Coaching Age. All coaches shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older unless written approval of the League Board is obtained. An adult shall be present at each game if the coach is under eighteen (18) years of age and approved by the League Board. The adult shall occupy a place on the side-lines with the players and shall be responsible for the team before, during and after the games. No team shall be allowed to take the field or to remain on the field unless this requirement is met.
14. Possession of an Approved Roster. See Section II. C. 14.
15. Referee Eligibility. All clubs will provide USSF certified referees for all games. The following should be used as a recommended minimum guide:

Under 6 -	Under 10	USSF Referee Grade 8 or 16 hours of training
Under 11 -	Under 14	USSF Referee Grade 8 or 2 years experience
Under 15 -	Under 19	USSF Referee Grade 7 or above
16. Referee Scheduling. The Director of Referees in each Club will schedule the referees for their home games. Each club shall provide the names of referees who are available for assignments to games. The League Commissioner will have final approval of referee assignments for the Under 13 through Under 19 Premier age groups, and U-15 through U-19 Recreational age groups. Each club will provide certified referees for all games Under 11 through Under 19. (Also see II. A. 8.)
17. Referee Attire. All USSF certified referees will be expected to meet the FIFA standard of appearance for referees.

18. Failure of the assigned referee to appear at an assigned game will result in the home team forfeiting the game. If a certified referee is available within 30 minutes of the scheduled game time, and can be agreed on by both coaches, the game can be played. If no referee is present, or agreed upon, the home Club will be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00) and the home team forfeits the game.
19. Declaring a Field Unplayable. An officer from the home club, prior to the time of the scheduled game, may cancel the contest due to adverse weather or field conditions (see section II. A. 7.). The referee shall be the final authority at the scheduled game time on whether a game shall be played. The referee shall take into account any agreements that may have been specified in securing the fields, the inherent danger to the players from weather or field conditions, and the level and importance of the game. Field conditions which should be considered, but not limited to, are significant accumulations of water or snow which do not allow the ball to roll or which obliterate field markings, i.e. goal lines, touch lines, halfway line or penalty areas. Also to be considered are any holes, ruts, or obstructions which present themselves as hazards to players and referees. All unplayable fields are to be reported to the assigning Director of Referees.
20. Failure of Either Team to Show. If either team should fail to show or to field a minimum of seven (7) players within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled game time, the referee should check the player identification cards of the showing team to determine that the minimum required number of players are present, and report this to the League Commissioner
21. Handling of Player ID Cards by the Referee. Identification cards shall be acquired, checked against the team roster by the referee prior to the start of the game and held until the completion of the game. This shall be accomplished by collecting the card from each player, checking the picture, the current season, the signature, and the ISA Registrar's Stamp. If a player is sent off, the referee must record the team number, player number, player name, the misconduct and the reason for the send off. The referee shall give the player ID card back to the coach. The referee must call the League Commissioner within 24 hours of the game and give a verbal report, and follow that with a written report, if requested.

Players not possessing a current valid player identification card shall not be permitted to participate in League play.

22. Roster Certification. See II. C. 14.
23. Improper Marking of Fields. Any referee, upon checking the field, who determines that any of the markings or playing conditions of the field are not acceptable shall endeavor to correct such deficiencies with the home coach.
24. Determining Equipment. The referee shall be the final authority as to what constitutes equipment which would be unsafe. The following are offered as guidelines to promote consistency:
 - a. Field players must be uniform in attire.
 - b. Jersey must be kept tucked inside the shorts at all times.
 - c. Garments worn under the shorts must be of matching colors as the primary color of the shorts.
 - d. Garments worn under the jersey must match the garments worn under the jersey by the rest of the team.
 - e. No head bands, bandannas, barrettes or other hard surfaced or pointed hair control devices.

- f. No hard visor or protective head gear is allowed for any player. This includes goalkeepers.
 - g. No jewelry. To include no taped-over earrings, and no bracelets, cloth or otherwise with the exception of a medical alert ID.
 - h. No necklaces or other ornamental devices worn around the neck except religious medals and medical alert ID and these must be taped to the inside of the player's uniform.
 - i. No ornaments may be pinned to the uniform or player's equipment, nor may any ornaments be used which protrude from the normal surface of the uniform.
 - j. No protective devices for joints may be used without sufficient padding to render them harmless to other players.
 - k. In inclement weather, players will be allowed to wear mittens, gloves, stocking caps, sweats or running tights. Sweats or running tights must be worn under the jersey and shorts and must be of the approximate same color as the uniform.
30. Use of Orthopedic Casts and Braces. See II. C. 12.
31. Determining Team Colors. See II. C. 16.
32. Length of Game. See II. C. 4.
33. Substitutions. See II. C. 8.
34. Minimum Playing Time. See II. C. 9.
35. Signing of the Score Verification Sheet. At the conclusion of the game, the referee shall date, record the score, and sign the score verification sheet for both teams. It shall be the coach's responsibility to present the score verification sheet to the referee.
36. Reporting Game Results. All cautions, send offs, and protests (coach lodging a protest before the game begins or notifies the referee at game end) for all Under 11 through Under 19 games and must be reported via phone call to the League Commissioner within 24 hours of the game. The referee shall record game results, sign and note any unusual conditions of the game, including but not limited to cautions, send offs, protests, suspensions, cancellations and forfeits.

The referee game report shall be mailed to the League Commissioner within twenty-four (24) hours of the game for such things as follows:

- a. Forfeits, cancellations or suspensions
 - b. Ordering off any spectator, coach or assistant coach
 - c. Protest of any results
 - d. Teams or players not having proper player passes and/or rosters.
37. Club Responsibilities:
- a. It is recommended that each team provide either a certified Referee or a certified Assistant Referee to be an Assistant Referee (linesman) for each game. The person serving as a Referee or an Assistant Referee must be older than the age group for which they are to referee.
 - b. No alcohol will be sold at or brought to the vicinity of any GDMJSL/Member Club fields/complex.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

A. DETERMINING DIVISIONAL PLACEMENT

1. Forming Divisions. The League Board shall form all-girls and coed divisions when sufficient teams are available. Divisions shall consist of an even number of teams when possible.

B. RECORDING GAME RESULTS

1. Score Verification sheet. The Score Verification Sheet shall be properly signed by the referee upon completion of each game. The Score Verification Sheet shall be turned in to the League at the end of the season.
2. Club and League Score Coordinators. Game scores and no-game reports shall be called to the Club score coordinator on Sunday evenings. The club score coordinator shall forward the game results no later than Tuesday of the proceeding week to the League.
3. Failure to Report Scores. If both teams fail to report the score or if there is no score verification sheet submitted within 15 days of the end of the scheduled league season, then that game shall be excluded from the standings. If one team reports a score and the opposing team does not, then the score as reported by the reporting team shall stand as being official.
4. Rescheduled Games. Reschedules games shall be played as soon as possible, but not to exceed seven (7) days after the last scheduled game of the season. Rescheduled games not played within the specified time shall be recorded as not played.
5. Forfeited Games. Forfeits shall be recorded as a 3 - 0 win awarded to the showing team.

C. DETERMINING DIVISION STANDINGS

1. Standings Points. The following point system shall apply to League play:
WIN - 3 points TIE - 1 point LOSS - 0 points LOSS BY FORFEIT - Minus 1 point
2. Tie Breaking. Criteria to determine standings in a division if a tie in total points exists shall be as follows:
 - a. Results of head-to-head competition.
 - b. Highest goal difference (goals for minus goals against) with a three (3) goal maximum difference per game.
 - c. Fewest goals allowed.

D. HANDLING OF MISCONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

1. Reporting a send off. A referee who sends off a player, coach or assistant coach shall notify the League Commissioner.
2. Administering a send off. The League Commissioner shall keep a record of all players and coaches sent off.

3. Appeal of send off. A Notice of Appeal shall be filed by letter to the League Commissioner. The postmark shall be within forty-eight (48) hours after the end of the day on which the player or coach was sent off (excluding holidays). The Appeal may be hand-delivered (dated and initialed by both). The Appeal may be filed by either the coach, the player or the coach acting on behalf of the player. The Appeal shall be accompanied by an Appeal fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00); the fee shall be refunded to the appellant if the send off is overturned by the Disciplinary Committee. Upon receipt of a Notice of Appeal, the coach or player shall be considered eligible to coach or play until a decision has been made by the Disciplinary Committee. The League Commissioner shall notify the club Director of Referees so that the next referee shall know of the Appeal. In cases of abuse or assault, any player or coach will be immediately suspended from all League participation until the results of the hearing are known.
4. Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee shall be comprised of five (5) Club Representatives appointed by the League President for a term of one year. One of whom will be appointed, by the League President, as chairperson. A quorum of three (3) neutral Club Representatives shall be present to render a decision.
5. Authority of the Disciplinary Committee. The Committee shall deal with all players or coaches sent off the field by the referee for the following offenses and all appeals of send offs.
 - a. Threats or assaults to referees
 - b. Players who have received three (3) send offs in a season
 - c. Coaches who have received two (2) send offs in a season
 - d. Players who have registered falsely or improperly
 - e. Clubs who have falsely or improperly registered players.
 - f. To any player who receives a second send off during a season, a letter will be sent informing the player of the suspension and a notice that a third send off requires appearance before the Disciplinary Committee.

Any participant found guilty of an assault on a referee may be permanently expelled from all League activities. In accordance with USSF rule 3041, when the player, coach, manager, or official committing the referee assault is an adult and the referee is a minor (17 or younger), then the minimum suspension period is three (3) years.

6. Additional Powers. Nothing in these Rules shall limit the Disciplinary Committee from dealing with an offending player or coach more severely than is outlined.
7. Committee Procedures.
 - a. Appeal of a Send Off: Upon receipt in writing of an Appeal from a send off of a player or coach, the Committee may review the written information submitted with the Appeal together with the game report or other written information from the Referee, if available, and either decide the Appeal or schedule a hearing to secure additional information.
 1. The Committee's decision shall be by a majority of the Committee members voting.
 2. The Committee's decision shall be in writing and sent to the Appellant, his or her Coach and Club President, the Referee and the League Commissioner.

- b. Offenses defined in D (5) (a-f). Upon receipt in writing of an offense defined in III. D. (5) (a-f), that person shall be notified, in writing, by the Committee Chair of the report and a hearing date, which shall be within 10 days. The person who committed the offense shall appear at such hearing. The Committee shall hear what occurred, the circumstances surrounding the occurrence and determine what, if any, disciplinary action is to be taken. Such hearing shall be informal but in accord with all ISA, USYS and USSF rules and regulations.
 - 1. The Committee's decision shall be in writing and sent to the offender, his or her coach and Club President, and to the League Commissioner.
- b. The Committee may consult the Director of Referee Development as to any appeal or offense or, if such person is involved in the occurrence, other qualified interpreter of the "Laws of the Game".
- c. An appellant who is dissatisfied with the Committee's decision, or a person dissatisfied with the Committee's decision concerning an offense stated in paragraph III D (5) (a-f) may Appeal such decision as provided in section III. F.

E. HANDLING OF PROTESTS

1. Reporting a Protest. The proper form to protest is as follows:
 - a. Upon completion of the game, notify the referee that the game is to be protested.
 - b. All protest shall be submitted in writing, in triplicate, postmarked or hand-delivered (dated and initialed) to the League Commissioner within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the day of the game to which it pertains (Holidays excluded).
 - c. One copy of the protest shall be kept in the League files, one copy to the chairperson of the Protest Committee, and one copy to be sent to the opposing team within twenty-four (24) hours after receipt of the protest.
 - d. Every protest shall be accompanied by a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee. Such fee shall be refunded if the protest is upheld
2. Content of a Written Protest. The written protest must include:
 - a. The date and time of the game being protested and your position with the team with which you are associated.
 - b. The team name(s) and number(s) involved in the protest.
 - c. The referee's name.
 - d. A description of the events and occurrences that led to the protest.
 - e. Arguments as to why the events and occurrences are worthy of protest, citing appropriate By-laws, Rules and Regulations, FIFA "Laws of the Game"
 - f. Your name, address and phone number.
3. Protest Committee. The Protest Committee shall be comprised of the Presidents of three (3) Clubs excluding those Clubs involved in the protest, and shall be appointed by the League President. In addition, the League Director of Referee Development or a certified referee appointed by the League President shall serve as advisor to the Committee for interpretation of rules.

4. Determining Good Cause. Only violations of the By-laws, Rules and Regulations of this League and the misapplication of the FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall be proper subjects to consider for protest. Good cause shall not be deemed to exist when the protest solely relates to:
 - a. The grounds, goal posts, bars or appurtenances of the field or referee's decisions relating thereto.
 - b. Referee's decisions regarding weather conditions, player's equipment, conditions of fields, etc.
 - c. Referee's decisions regarding actual happenings and occurrences in play during a game related to the conduct of the game and those perogatives granted to the referee by the FIFA "Laws of the Game."
5. Committee Procedures. Upon receipt of a written protest by the League Commissioner, the chairperson of the Protest Committee shall call a meeting within twenty (20) days. The Committee may review the written information submitted with the protest, together with the game report or other written information from the Referee, if available, and either decide the protest or schedule a hearing to secure additional information.
 - a. If a hearing is held, it shall be informal but in accordance with all ISA, USYS and USSF rules and regulations.
 - b. The Committee decision shall be by a majority of the Committee Members voting.
 - c. The Committee's decision shall be in writing and sent to the Protester, the Referee, Club President, and the League Commissioner.

F. APPEALS.

1. If an appeal is filed from either a Disciplinary Committee's decision [III d (7)] or a Protest Committee's decision [III E (5)], the League President shall appoint an Appeals Committee which shall be comprised of the Presidents of three (3) Clubs who are not involved in the appeal or in any of the earlier proceedings.
2. An appeal must be filed by letter to the League President postmarked within 10 days of the date of the decision being appealed. The appeal must be accompanied with a \$25.00 fee which will be refunded, together with the original \$25.00, if the decision is reversed by the Appeal Committee.
3. Within 10 days of receipt by the League President of Notice of an Appeal, the Appeal Committee shall schedule a hearing date which shall be within 10 days. Notice shall be given, in writing, to all parties, and the Referees, of the date, time, and place of the hearing. The hearing will take place at the designated time, even if some or all of the parties or referees do not attend
4. At the hearing, the Committee may review all written reports and documents and listen to the statement of any interested person. The hearing shall be informal but shall conform with all applicable ISA, USYS, and USSF rules and regulations.
5. The Committee's decision shall be by a majority of the Committee voting by secret ballot. The Committee Chairperson shall then make a written decision in accordance with the Committee's vote and send copies to the parties involved, Referees, League President, League Commissioner, and appropriate Club Presidents.

G. ATTENDANCE AT LEAGUE MEETINGS

1. Club Attendance. All Clubs should have a representative at each League Executive Board meeting. Any Club missing two (2) consecutive meetings shall be fined \$25.00 per meeting missed.

H. PENALTY FOR DROPPED TEAMS

1. Penalty. If a team withdraws from League play after the season schedules have been published, the club to which the team belongs shall pay a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), payable to the League before the start of the next playing season. All efforts will be made to redo the schedule for that division.
2. A team who chooses to register with GDMJSL and chooses not to play a schedule of GDM games due to joining another league for more competitive play, will pay all necessary fees but no additional fees. The team needs to inform GDMJSL prior to divisional placement.
3. A team who chooses to register with GDMJSL, play a schedule of GDMJSL games and play a schedule in another league is viewed no differently than a team who consistently plays in tournaments and needs to reschedule GDMJSL games.

I. CHANGES AND AUTHORITY

1. All changes to these Rules and Regulations shall be submitted in writing to all Club Presidents to include the page number of the additions or deletions. A complete new copy is to be made for everyone involved.
2. All changes to these Rules and Regulations are to go into effect before the first scheduled game of the fall playing season.

THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE LEAGUE ON APRIL 10, 2001 AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER DES MOINES JUNIOR SOCCER LEAGUE.