

Hello Coach/Captain,

Thank you for selecting SportsIowa for your indoor team(s). We appreciate your support and hope you and your players have a great session. There are a few housekeeping items that I will go over for you before we get started this session.

Captains Meeting (Adult Leagues only):

We will have two captains meetings. One on June 13th and one on June 15th. They will be approximately 30 minutes in length, in the meeting room and will undoubtedly bore you to tears. Doesn't matter. A team representative must attend at least one of them. We will have refreshments.

Memberships: All players must have an active SportsIowa player membership. This fee is:

- Day = \$2
- Month = \$5
- Year \$15

The membership form and waiver may be purchased/completed in person prior to the first game or by going online, downloading the form from www.sportsiowa.us/membership completing it and bringing the form to the first game along with payment. The player's information is kept in the SportsIowa database and you will be assigned a SportsIowa number that can be shown on the MemberMe+ phone app. Each player must check in before each game. Rosters will be monitored (see below)

Uniforms, Shirts and Balls: Teams provide their own shirts and they may be from their outdoor teams or other shirts they may have. If you have a team that would like to purchase SportsIowa Shirts, let us know and we can quote you a price. In the event team colors are similar, SportsIowa will provide pinnies for the occasion. Teams are expected to bring their own game balls. SportsIowa has some in the event it is needed.

Payment, Rosters and Check-in: The team fee is due in full at when play begins. Payment can be made to SportsIowa in the form of a single check, cash or credit card payment at the facility, or online. The coach or team parent is required to provide SportsIowa the full roster prior to the start of the first game. This may be emailed to SportsIowa up to the day before the first game. Players who have an active status (paid membership and signed waiver) will appear on the SportsIowa roster.

- Rosters will be enforced. Maximum 13 players
- Limited to two guest players per game. Guest players must have membership (Day is acceptable)
- Teams can play with more than two guest players, but will forfeit the game 6-0

Fields and Footwear: SportsIowa has a rubber in-fill field and a regular turf field. Depending on your division you will play on one or the other. There may be times where you will play on the other field but typically once your league is assigned a field you play on that field each week. No cleats are allowed on SportsIowa's field surfaces. Indoor turf shoes and sneakers are acceptable.

Referees and Game Conduct: Referees are scheduled, managed and paid by SportsIowa. If there are issues with the officiating of a game, please see the manager on duty. Players and Parents are expected to play and act like good sports. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. The player will be removed from the game and possibly from playing altogether at SportsIowa.

We all understand soccer is a physical game and contact is part of the sport. The safety of each player is our highest priority. Many parents who are not accustomed to higher levels of play may not be familiar with the rules and physical nature of play. With that said, good physical conduct does not refer to the players whose arms and legs are extending past the acceptable areas (those who come up behind a player and provide unwanted assistance in their forward motion or the player who believes they are playing hockey and lowers their shoulder to provide the opposing player a check into the boards). **THESE ACTIONS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED** and we have asked the referees to diligently enforce these rules.

For Adult Leagues:

We have instituted a yellow card which is 3 minutes on the sideline or until a goal is scored. During the penalty period the offender's team is a person down (works like hockey). You may have multiple offender's sitting out. The goal only allows one person to re-enter. You may receive a blue card for

- Derogatory commentary about the opposing team or the referee.
- Continual profanity.
- Slide tackles

To some extent these are at the discretion of the referee, but the owner is a big believer in the way you talk becomes the way you act, so it's best to error on the safe side because I will get after the refs to enforce these rules.

For Youth Leagues:

The same yellow card rules apply. Hopefully the youth aren't behaving that way, though.

That said, generally it's the parents and occasionally the coaches who are the issue. Parents and Coaches must set an example for the players and conduct themselves as an adult and "coach" the team. Berating or badgering the referees or other players will not be tolerated. You are there to provide game guidance to your players and set an example of how they should act. Some find it useful to spend the game providing commentary and refereeing the game – not your place. For many of the younger age games the referees are learning and your support is encouraged. If you have an issue or feedback for the officials, please contact the manager on duty and they can discuss any issues.

Yellow cards and Red cards are issued per standard usage for outside soccer

A red card will result in expulsion from the game in play, and after consultation between the referee and management, result in suspension for the remainder of the tournament or the next league game. Further red cards will, at a minimum, result in suspension for at least one game and may, depending on the infraction may result in suspension of play from Sportslowa. No refunds for games missed will be given.

For youth games, we expect parents to set an example for how their children should act by refraining from unsportsmanlike conduct off the field – **IT'S JUST A GAME!!**

Concussions: US Soccer and the US Indoor Sports Association have focused on concussions. Sportslowa follows their recommendations including the following:

All Sportslowa referees and staff complete the CDC concussion training. Certificates are on file in the manager's office.

Heading is not allowed except for High School and Adult Leagues. In all other leagues, intentionally heading a ball follows a three tier penalty enforcement per game per player.

- 1st offense: Spot foul with the other team receiving an indirect free kick from the point of infraction
- 2nd offense: Spot foul (as for 1st offense) and player receives a yellow card
- 3rd offense: Spot foul (as for 1st offense) and the player receives a red card. Note: This requires the player to exit from both the current game and not play in their team's next game.

Any SportsIowa staff or referee has the right to remove any player or fan from the game or facility for any reason, including unsportsmanlike conduct or suspicion of a concussion.

Schedules, Scheduling Request and Game Times: The schedule is provided on our website. Click on the clipboard in the menu frame on the right-hand side of the page. The full schedule may not be found during the first week of play as we continue to sign up teams but should be complete shortly thereafter. Any changes to the schedule will have the agreement of all involved. PLEASE TELL PARENTS TO VIEW SCHEDULE ONLINE AND DO NOT PRINT IT OUT – ANY CHANGES ARE NOT REFLECTED ON PREVIOUSLY PRINTED COPIES. We understand that there may be scheduling conflicts from time to time and we will try to do everything we can to accommodate those needs. Please provide us with reasonable time (at least two weeks) if you need to have a game time changed. The published game time allocation for each division may be modified should we get more (or less) teams in that division. We will make every effort to ensure you are notified of those changes. Once a game is scheduled, that will not change unless everyone involved in a change agrees to the moving of that game.

Notifications and Updates: The vast majority of our correspondences to coaches and players are via email.

Leagues: The youth 7v7 summer league will run for 5 weeks and play one single 40 minute segment per week. The summer league will run for 8 weeks with one with one 50 minute game per week. Full rules are available at www.sportsiowa.us/SoccerLeagueRules

Weather Issues: In the event there is severe weather, SportsIowa management will determine if it will close the facility. In this case games will be rescheduled and all efforts will be made to do that make-up on the same day of the week, however, that may not be possible all the time. Severe weather is just that – impassable roads, a state of emergency, etc and players/parents should check our website for game day status. If we cancel a game it will be at least two hours prior and notification will be provided to the coaches and posted on our website. You should always use your own judgment as to your comfort level traveling to the facility for a game or activity.

Thank you and have a great indoor season!!