

Gaetano Indoor Soccer

Rules and Regulations

*Please read carefully the following rules and regulations. These rules and regulations have been written in order to protect coaches, players and spectators. Observing these rules and regulations will enhance the pleasure of playing soccer and will make it more enjoyable to watch. In addition, we observe the right to eject any player or other person alike from the facility that continuously disrupts the game or in the judgment of management is a threat to other people. We ask for everyone's cooperation and wish all coaches, players and spectators an enjoyable time at our facility.

- 1. Game Ball:** the home team must provide the game ball. It must be a regulation size ball, made for outdoor use. (size 4 for U-7 through U-11 & Size 5 for U-12 and up). The referee will ask for the ball before the start of the game. You should always bring a game ball with you even if you are the visiting team.
- 2. Practice Balls:** Both teams must provide their own practice balls and must collect them when finished. *PLEASE NOTE* Gaetano Indoor Soccer and its employees will not be responsible for any loss or damage of any ball before, during or after the game.
- 3. Players Equipment:** Each player must have the same color shirt or jersey and the goalie must have a color that is different from the field players. *PLEASE NOTE* Numbers are not mandatory; however it will make it easier to tell the players apart. All players must wear shin guards during games and practices. All players must wear indoor soccer shoes, sneakers, or shoes designed for indoor turf. Every player must have the proper equipment or he/she will not be permitted to play.
- 4. Number of players:** Seven (7) players 6 field players and a goalie for teams under U-11. Six (6) players 5 field players and a goalie for teams U-11 through U-14. Five (5) players 4 field players and a goalie for teams U-15 and up. The minimum number of players that a team may have is four (4) 3 field players and a goalie. Forfeiting will result if a team shows up with less than four players and no additional players arrive after a five minute grace period.
- 5. Duration of the Game:** A regulation game will consist of two (2) twenty-five minute halves. Half time shall be 2 to 5 minutes, based on the referee's

discretion. *PLEASE NOTE* Referees will be instructed to keep half time lengths short, in order to keep games ahead of schedule; in case of any unforeseen problem that would lead to a stoppage of the game clock.

- 6. Start of the Game:** Each game will be scheduled to start at the top of every hour. Each player should be stretched and ready to go before they step on to the field. *PLEASE NOTE* Referees will be instructed to try and keep games running ahead of schedule; this may mean that games could start a minute or two before the scheduled time. This will only happen if both teams are present and ready to begin play. The amount of warm up time that each team will get once they have stepped onto the field will vary, based on the referee's discretion. Keep in mind that there are a number of games that are scheduled for each day, especially on the weekends, and as already stated, referees will be instructed to keep games a little ahead of schedule, in case of any unforeseen problems that may arise. We ask that you please have your team ready to step on to the field as soon as the game before you has finished.
- 7. Ball In and Out of Play:** the start of every game will begin with the home team playing the ball backwards to a teammate from the middle of the centerline. If a foul is committed or if the ball is kicked out of play, a restart will occur similar to outdoor soccer. The ball is in play at all times, even if it hits off the arena walls, fence or netting above the fence. The ball is out of play when it hits the netting above the wall of the goal mouth, if it goes over the netting above the fence or if it hits the rafters in the ceiling. *PLEASE NOTE* Building #2 is setup differently than building #1. The netting that lines the ceiling in building #2 is out of play. The netting above the fence and arena walls in building #2 is in play. The netting above the wall of the goal mouth is out of play. Any out of play ball will be an indirect kick for the opposing team.
- 8. Kicks:** A corner kick shall be awarded when the defending team kicks the ball over the wall of their own goal and it hits the netting. The ball will then be placed at the nearest corner from where it went out of play. The ball shall be approximately six (6) inches from the goal wall, with proper distance from the box. The referee will estimate as to what is the proper distance. A goal kick shall be rewarded when the offensive team kicks the ball over the wall of the opposing team's goal and it hits the netting. The ball will then be placed anywhere on the line of the secondary goal box. (Each goal will consist of two goal boxes). The primary goal box is the larger of the two; it is like the 18 yard box in outdoor soccer. The secondary goal box is the smaller of the two; it is like the 6 yard box in outdoor soccer. A goal kick must go out of the penalty area before it can be touched by another player. Goal kicks can be kicked over passed the midfield line. A free kick shall be awarded when the referee has

called any kind of infraction against the opposing team, if the ball is kicked out of play over the side netting or if the ball hits the rafters in the ceiling. For an out of play call the ball will be placed approximately six (6) inches from the wall where it went out of play and an indirect kick will be given. Any ball that hits the rafters will be placed directly under the spot where it hit; an indirect kick will be given. Referee's discretion will be used to decide whether an infraction called will be a direct or an indirect kick.

- 9. Slide Tackling & Head Balls:** Slide tackling is not permitted at Gaetano Indoor Soccer. Head balls are not permitted at Gaetano Indoor Soccer for age groups U-11 and under.
- 10. Scoring:** A goal is scored when the entire ball passes completely over the goal line. ***PLEASE NOTE*** that any ball crossing the goal line after the halftime or final buzzer will not count.
- 11. Substitutions:** Each team shall be allowed unlimited substitutions. Players must use the door by their respective bench when entering or leaving the field of play. ***PLEASE NOTE*** any player entering the field before the player they are replacing has reached the bench will be given a two minute (2) penalty for too many players on the field. Any goal keeper substitutions must be made during a stoppage of play with the referee's permission.
- 12. Goal Keeper:** When the goalie has full possession of the ball as per the referee's discretion, he or she may not distribute it past the midfield line. The ball must be touched by another player before it crosses midfield. If it is not touched, an indirect will be awarded to the opposing team on the center line. It does not matter if the goalie throws the ball out or he or she places the ball on the ground and passes it out, it still has to be touched. Even if the goalie decides to place the ball on the ground and dribble it out, it still has to be touched. Goalies may not punt or drop kick the ball. They are only permitted to throw, roll or pass the ball out. ***PLEASE NOTE*** That if one of the younger age groups are playing and if in the mind of the referee the goalie is having trouble throwing the ball out, he or she will be permitted to punt. (We will be flexible with this rule). Goalies have approximately five (5) seconds to distribute the ball. Goalies are not subject to any type of step violation. They are permitted to take as many steps as they feel necessary provided that they do not step out of the box and they distribute the ball within the proper time limit. Once the goalie has released the ball from his or her hands, they cannot play it with their hands again until it has been touched or played by another player outside the box. If the goalie touches the ball with his or her hands outside the box or if

they play the ball with their hands after it has been released, an indirect kick will be awarded to the opposing team outside the box.

13. Standings: Divisions will be decided by points. Teams get two (2) points for a win and one (1) point for a tie. The team with the most points at the end of the session will be the division winner. In the case of a tie in points between two or more teams, head to head records will be used. If the tie in points still cannot be resolved, Gaetano's Indoor reserves the right to make the decision on how to resolve the tie. (examples, co-champions or a one game playoff) *PLEASE NOTE* total number of goals scored will not be used in order to settle a tie.

14. Player Eligibility: All teams must be registered in the proper age group. The age groups that are being offered follow the same guidelines that have been set by the NJYS. (the proper year for each age group can be found on Gaetano's Indoor Youth League Registration form) Each player on your roster must fall within the set age group. No Exceptions! If one player is too old to play, then you must move up to the proper age group or drop said player. Younger players are allowed to play up only one age group. Players are permitted to play on multiple teams within or out of their age group, just as long they meet the age requirements and they are on the team roster. Every player must be rostered for each team they are playing for. A consent/release form must be turned in for each player on a roster. *Keep in mind that if any player on your roster is not age appropriate or if Gaetano's Indoor does not receive a signed consent/release form for any player on your roster, that player(s) will not be permitted to play. *Player passes are not needed.

15. Coaches Responsibility: During each game there should only be a maximum of three (3) coaches on the bench. **NO EXCEPTIONS**. If anyone is on the bench who shouldn't be, the head coach will be responsible to remove that person as soon as possible or risk being penalized during the game. Head coaches are responsible for their assistant coaches, their players and their parents at all times. Problems that occur before, during or after the game or practice will be taken care of by the head coach or the person in charge at that specific time. If the problem persists the team will be penalized. If after that, the problem still persists, Gaetano's reserves the right to take action. (Example: Forfeiture of games, kicking a coach, player, team or parent out for the remainder of the game or session). Coaches are responsible for any outstanding balances owed. All balances must be paid prior to the third game. If it is not then you will forfeit that game and every game going forward until the balance is paid. Coaches are also responsible for the following paperwork; a completed roster and a signed consent form from each player on the roster. Roster and consent forms are

printable from our website (www.gaetanoindoorssoccer.com). All completed paperwork must be turned in before your first game. *PLEASE NOTE* We have posted numerous signs throughout the indoor facility in order to prevent any damage to walls, lights, fixtures, exit signs, etc... caused by players that play with the soccer ball outside of the playing field. Soccer balls must be kept in the bag until players enter the field. Coaches will be responsible for any damage caused by their players.

- 16. Rosters:** All team rosters will be completed and turned in before the first game. After the session begins, you will have until your third game to add players. After the third game you will not be permitted to add players. **NO EXCEPTIONS**. If you need to add players please bring all of the proper information for that player and we will pull your roster from our files. If you are missing any information for said player, he/she will not be permitted to play until the information is given. We will still honor the adding of the player to the roster since it is before your third game. Rosters should not exceed fifteen (15) players. *PLEASE NOTE* that the roster size is not mandatory but we will not give more than fifteen trophies to the winning team.
- 17. Referees:** A referee will be provided for each league game. You are expected to treat each referee with respect before, during and after each game. This rule applies with coaches, players and parents. Please keep in mind that referees are usually kept in the same time slots each week, so there is a good chance you will have the same referee for each one of your games; also keep in mind that our list of referees to choose from is usually not that long. It's important to know these two things because it is difficult to change or switch referees. We will not discuss the officiating or any other problem with the players and or parents. We ask that only the head coach or one of the assistance coaches come to discuss the issue. Please try to remember that the referees are human and they will make mistakes sometimes. Also whenever you are discussing a matter with an official, please give him/her the respect that you would like yourself.
- 18. Rescheduling of Games:** Games may be postponed from time to time due to inclement weather or any other unforeseen problem. If you are unsure as to the status of your game, you may call 8566944303. We will also try to send out a message regarding the game(s) in question, either by email or by text message. When calling to inquire about the status of a game, keep in mind that we will wait until the last possible moment before making a decision. We understand that some teams come from far distances, so we will try to make a final decision as soon as possible. Any games that are postponed will be rescheduled to a later date and time. Please be prepared to play your

rescheduled game on any day and at any time, due to the limited time that is available. ***Please note that in some instances Gaetano Indoor may decide that a game or games cannot be made up because of season time restraints. If this happens, money will not be refunded.*** If you need to reschedule a game for a legitimate reason, we ask that you inform us as soon as possible. If a request is made by a team to reschedule a game, an alternate date and time will be found and given to the coach. The coach will also be given the name and number of the opposing team's coach. It will then be up to you as the person in charge of your team to contact and ask the opposing coach. If the opposing coach agrees you must inform Gaetano's as soon as possible. The team that has requested the rescheduling of the game must pay for the referee's services for said game. If you do not inform us or if you cannot come to an agreement with the opposing coach, then you must show up for the original date and time or risk forfeiture.

19. Fouls and Misconduct: All offenses shall be penalized by the award of either a direct or indirect kick. Direct kicks shall be awarded for hand balls, slide-tackling, tripping, kicking an opponent, charging an opponent in a violent and dangerous manner, holding, or pushing an opponent. Indirect kicks shall be awarded for kicking the ball out of play, dangerous play, obstruction, unsportsmanlike conduct, delay of game, too many players on the field, charging or obstructing the goal keeper while he/she is holding the ball and goal keeper delay of game. ***PLEASE NOTE*** that most calls are based on referee's discretion. The intent of a player while committing a foul will be decided by the referee's judgment. Yellow and Red cards will be issued on the intent of the foul committed. Any player or team issued a yellow card will also be given a two (2) minute minor. The team will play shorthanded for two minutes or until the opposing team scores; whichever comes first. Two yellow cards issued to the same coach or player during a game will result in a red card. Once the red card is issued, the said coach or player must leave the bench immediately. A one game suspension will then follow. If a coach or player is issued a straight red card, they will be kicked out of said game and must leave the bench immediately. A one game or two game suspension will follow, depending on the intent or violence of the foul/act being committed. If a second red card is issued to a coach or player for any reason, then the coach or player in question will sit out for the remainder of the session.

20. Fighting: Fighting will not be permitted at Gaetano Indoor Soccer for any reason! Anyone who is involved in a fight will be kicked out of said game and said session. The player or players in question must then sit out for one whole session before he/she is permitted to play again.