

Suffolk Soccer Interleague - Short Version Rules

1. Length of game:

U-16 and older	2 x 40 minute halves	U-11 to U-12	2 x 30 minute halves
U-13 to U-15	2 x 35 minute halves	U-8 to U-10	2 x 25 minute halves

2. Size of ball:

U-13 and older	Size 5 ball	U-8 to U-12	Size 4 ball
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The home team supplies the game ball.

3. Referees:

The home team supplies the referee (**SSI two referees, U 16 and older**).

If there is only one referee, each team must supply a lines person.

Referees should be at least three years older than the oldest player.

SSI has a zero tolerance policy for any type of dissent or abuse (physical or verbal) toward a referee.

4. Players' equipment:

These rules must be strictly adhered to due to **insurance requirements**. No exceptions.

Players may not wear anything that, in the opinion of the referee, may cause injury to themselves or to other players.

All players must wear shin guards that are fully covered by socks.

Players may **not wear jewelry** or hard clips in their hair. **Earrings covered by tape are not acceptable**.

No player may play while wearing any type of cast, even if covered.

Appropriate footwear must be worn. Soccer shoes, while recommended, are optional. Goalie helmets are optional.

SSI recommends that uniform shirts be numbered, for player identification.

5. Number of players:

U-12 and older	11 v. 11	U-11	9 v. 9
U-10	7 v. 7	U-9	7 v. 7
U-8	6 v. 6		

If a team is short of players, teams must play match (that is, both teams must field the same number of players).

The only exception is when a player is red-carded and his team has no substitutes.

6. Injuries:

When a player gets hurt, the referee must stop the game immediately. The injured player must come off the field.

A substitution can be made for the injured player. The injured player may return through a normal substitution.

The match restarts with a drop ball at the place where the ball was at the time of the injury.

7. Substitutions:

These substitution rules apply to ensure that each child plays at least one-half of the game.

Substitutions may be made on any out of bounds ball by either team, with the referee's permission.

If a substitution is being made due to injury, both teams may substitute other players, with the referee's permission.

8. Five-goal rule:

SSI vigorously enforces a five-goal differential. Please cooperate. Violations will be reported to both clubs' Interleague Coordinators and the SSI Coordinator. Suspensions may result.

9. Red and yellow cards:

Any field player sliding for a ball is cautioned (yellow card) second time same player red card. NO SLIDING at all

A player or coach shown a red card receives an automatic two game suspension (to be served the next two games).

A player shown a yellow card must leave the field of play for a minimum of five minutes.

A substitution may be made for a carded player, whether a red or yellow card was received.

The referee must file a report regarding a red card with the home club's Director of Referees, who will inform SSI.

10. Fighting:

Player: Players are automatically suspended from the league.

Adults (coaches or parents): The team is automatically suspended from the league.

11. Protests:

SSI will not entertain protests.

12. Spectators:

Teams, along with their spectators, must occupy opposite sidelines.

Coaches are fully responsible for the behavior of their team's spectators.

Coaches can be red-carded due to offensive behavior by their team's spectators.

13. Team management:

The visiting team must call the home team at least 72 hours prior to the game to verify field location and directions, game time, and color of shirts.

If the visiting team does not call at this time, SSI recommends that the home team call the visiting team.

Home coaches are responsible to notify the visiting coach and the referee at least two hours prior to game time if a game must be cancelled.

All scheduled games must be played. Make up any rainouts or rescheduled games.

14. Problems of any kind are to be handled through your club's Interleague Coordinator.

15. Any matters not covered by SSI guidelines will be handled by the SSI Arbitration Committee.