



Coach Handbook

Rev. March 2017



Oshkosh Youth Soccer Club
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Leslie Burns	Referee Coordinator
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Rosters

Teams are comprised of 10-17 players assigned by neighborhood. Team placement is relative to the geographical area of player's permanent residence; the boundary of which may change from year to year based upon the relative number of players in a given age division. It must not be assumed that a player will be with the same group of players from one year to the next. Late registration adds a high probability that a player will be assigned to a team outside their immediate area, although every effort is made to make an assignment as close to home as possible.

Rosters are final. OYSC will not accept special requests for team placement. While we promise to provide a quality, fun, soccer experience, we cannot guarantee that players will have "the same coach as last year, play with their best friend, or be on a team in their baby-sitter's neighborhood." School boundaries are not taken into consideration.

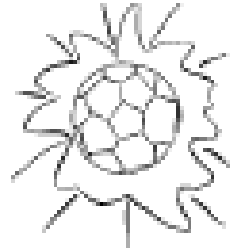
Rosters are given to coaches at the Equipment Handout in April. Players can expect to hear from their coach within 7 days following the Equipment Handout. **Under no circumstances will team rosters be disclosed to anyone prior to Equipment Handout.**

Once a player is assigned to a team, they will NOT be moved. Only the League Administrator is allowed to make additions to a roster. **If a player quits, the coach and parent must notify the League Administrator.** Most age levels have waiting lists of players anxious to play. One of these players will be assigned to your team, and the new player's I.D. and information will be given to you. No additions will be made to a roster after the team's third game of the season, unless the team has never had a full roster. In that case, players may be added up to the sixth game of the season. In the event a player quits the team prior to the sixth game, the player must forfeit their jersey. The Club retains ownership of the jerseys until after the 6th game.

Game Preparation

Before the game, remember to bring:

- I.D. Cards (MANDATORY)
- Medical Release Forms (MANDATORY)
- First-Aid Kit (MANDATORY)
- Ice
- Towel
- Water (gallon)
- Corner/Goal Flags (2)
- Properly Inflated Game Ball (MANDATORY)
- Goalie Shirt
- Mosquito Repellent



Have your team ready for equipment check by the referee ten (10) minutes before scheduled game time.

Pre-Game Referee Examination

Before the game the referee will examine:

- **Player & Coach Identification Cards**

You must present the referee with an I.D. card for every player and coach. No player may participate in an OYSC game without one. No one is permitted on the player's sideline without a coach or player I.D. card. I.D. cards are furnished by the Oshkosh Youth Soccer Club. The coach keeps the cards between games and brings them to each game. If the cards are not there within 10 minutes of game start time, your players will not be qualified and your team will forfeit the game. Lost cards can be replaced by contacting the League Administrator.

- **Footwear**

Cleats are not required, but if worn shall be specifically manufactured for soccer play. Baseball and football cleats, which have a single cleat at the tip of the toe and have very squared cleats, are dangerous, even if the toe cleat is removed! If in question, always have a pair of gym shoes until a referee can approve the cleats.

- **Medical Appliances**

Casts, external braces with metal, hard splints – even with padding and a doctor’s excuse - are not permitted. If the OYSC Board of Directors makes an exception, the referee will be notified prior to the match.

- **Jewelry**

It is Club Policy that all jewelry, including, but not limited to, earrings, watches, hair ornaments, chains and bracelets, body ornaments, or anything else which, *in the opinion of the referee* could injure that player or any other player, may not be worn. Pre-wrap is acceptable item for hair control and rolling up sleeves. Medic Alert bracelets **MUST** be worn and **MUST** be taped to the body with the medical information showing. (Valid admission wristbands must be fully covered with tape.)

- **Shin Guards**

All players must wear age-appropriate shin guards at all times while in a game. Player’s socks must cover the shin guards.

- **Jerseys**

All players must wear uniform jerseys. Jerseys must be tucked into shorts. Jerseys must be free from blood. Jerseys must be clean at start of the game. Sleeves may be rolled up and held with Velcro or pre-wrap only.

- **Shorts**

For the safety of all participants, shorts should be of an athletic type. They may not include any metal fittings or zippers, any ball type sliding closures, buttons or cargo style pockets. If a slot type pocket exists, it must be empty. The drawstring may not be exposed.



Starting The Game

- No game will start without an OYSC Certified Referee. If there is no Certified Referee present on the field 10 minutes **before** game time, **call 920-232-6972 ASAP!!**
- Referee will inspect player I.D. cards, uniforms, and equipment in accordance with “The Referee Examination” outlined on Page 2.
- Due to liability risks, OYSC cannot allow games or practices without proof that all participants are registered and have a club issued ID card. If a person who was not registered injured a player, or a player injured someone who is not registered, our insurance might not cover us; therefore, the Board of Directors has established the policy that for a “legal” game, proof of registration must be presented BEFORE the game. While we understand that this is harsh, the risks to the Club are too high.
- Medical Release forms are completed at the time of registration. Every player has one on file. Coaches will not have to have a Medical Release form at the games or practices.
- If either team has less than the minimum number of players, as listed in the chart below, at the field at the scheduled game time, the referee will allow a 10 minute grace period. If at the end of that time a team still does not have at least the minimum number of players, then that team will forfeit the game. The procedure for forfeitures is as follows:
 1. The referee will check that the other team has at least the minimum number of qualified players.
 2. The referee will line up the team with the correct number of players and instruct them to kick the ball into the undefended goal.
 3. The referee will then record the score as 1-0.
- Each coach will bring their game ball and two corner or goal flags to each game. Goal flags are used for the U6 age

group only and will be placed in the designated spots prior to the game.

AGE GROUP	AGE (YRS)	BALL SIZE (Circumference)	FIELD SIZE (Free Kick Distance)	MINUTES PER HALF (Halftime)	PLAYERS ALLOWED	MINIMUM # OF PLAYERS	ROSTER SIZE B/G	
U6	4-6	Size 3 (23" to 24")	30 X 40 (5 yards)	11-minute quarters (5)	5 (NO GOALIE)	4	11/10	
U8	6-8		50 X 80 (8 yards)	25 (5)	9	6	14	
U10	8-10	Size 4 (25" to 26")	50 X 80		30 (5)	9	6	14/15
U12	10-12		60 X 100	11		7	15	
U14	12-14	Size 5 (27" to 28")	80 X 120 (10 yards) except U16 boys	25 (5) Boys 35 (5) Girls	5 boys / 11 girls	3 boys / 7 girls	16	
U16	14-16				50 x 80	11	7	10/16
U19	16-19							

During The Game

- All teams (players and official coaches) shall be on one side of the field and spectators shall be on the opposite side. In all age groups, no one is allowed along the penalty areas or on the goal lines. Coaches and players are to remain approximately 10 yards from the centerline, except when players are waiting to substitute.

At U6 ONLY, the coach will be allowed on the field with the players. The assistant coach will stay on the sideline with players not currently on the field. OYSC rules will apply with the following exceptions. There will be NO goalie, NO corner kicks, NO goal kicks, and NO offsides called. A ball kicked out of play at the goal line will be played back into play with a kick-in at a designated spot that is 22.5' from the corner. This spot will be marked with an orange dot. No free kick will be placed less

than 5 yards from the goal. THROW-INS will be used at U6. Please give the player 3 tries to throw-in the ball correctly. Coach CANNOT change the player once the throw-in procedure has started.

- **At U6**, all games will be played as four 11-minute quarters. The first and third breaks will be 3 minutes, and halftime will be 5 minutes.
- At all ages, **with the permission of the referee**, players wanting to substitute must be waiting at the halfway line when play stops. Substitutions may be made prior to a throw-in in favor of your team, prior to a goal kick by either team, following a goal by either team, following an injury to a player from either team, or at half time. Substitutions may also be made for your team on the opposing team's throw-in if the opposing team also has a player at the half-way line. **Players must wait for the referee to give permission for them to enter the field of play.**
- If play is stopped solely for an injury, the injured player(s) must be substituted. The opposing team may substitute one player for each injured player substituted, if desired.
- Coaches must coach from behind the spectator line, but are to remain near their team area. All players not in the game are also to remain on their bench or in their designated team area behind the spectator line.
- At no time may coaches, substitutes, parents or spectators stand along or near the goal line.
- Coaching is not allowed near the penalty area.
- Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players and of parents and spectators associated with their team.
- All spectators **MUST** remain behind the spectator line.
- **Injury during the game:** The procedure for injuries varies with the age of the players.

- For U6, U8 and U10, if a player appears hurt, the referee will stop play immediately and call the coach onto the field to attend to the player.

When the player leaves the field, a substitution will be allowed for each team. The game will restart with a drop ball where the **ball** was when play was stopped, unless play was stopped for some other reason.

- At U12 and higher, play may be allowed to continue unless the player is bleeding, in danger, or very seriously hurt.

If there is an advantage situation, play will be allowed to continue. When play is stopped, the referee will call the coach onto the field to attend to the player. The injured player must leave the field for a substitute. During the injury stoppage, players may go get a drink, but should not leave the field of play.

Please remind your players that play continues until the referee stops it. Only the injured player should sit down until play is stopped.

2017 Rule Changes

- **OYSC has modified the U16 Boys** division to play on a smaller field (U8 size) and play with five (5) players on the field, with a minimum of three (3) players, to avoid a forfeit. The keeper will only be allowed to throw the ball out of the box when he picks it up. He cannot kick the ball out of the box.
- **OYSC has modified the U10** divisions to play on a smaller field (U8 size) and play with nine (9) players on the field, with a minimum of six (6) players, to avoid a forfeit.
- **All age groups – Kickoffs** - A ball is in play from a kickoff when it is kicked and moved in ANY direction.

- **OYSC has modified the U19 Coed** division to always have one more girl on the field than the boys, unless player numbers cannot accommodate. If coaches agree to modify the numbers, the refs will allow the change for this game **ONLY**. There will also be **NO** slide tackling allowed. Penalties for slide tackling are: Automatic Penalty Kick if slide tackle occurs in the 18 yard box (a yellow card is issued if warranted by the referee) and automatic Direct Kick if slide tackle occurs outside the 18 yard box.
- OYSC has approved and adopted the following new guidelines that restricts players from engaging in heading of the ball at U14 and younger.

U10 and Younger – US Soccer guidelines are players in U10 programs and younger shall **NOT** engage in heading, either in practice or in games.

U12 and U13 age groups – US Soccer guidelines are for players U12 and U13 programs, which includes OYSC's U14 division, that heading in training be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes per week with no more than 15-20 headers per day, per week, per player.

All coaches should emphasize the importance of proper techniques for heading the ball. If you do not know the proper technique to teach heading, please contact OYSC.

At age groups U10 and younger – Heading the Ball -
If a player deliberately heads the ball, play will be stopped. The proper restart is an indirect free kick awarded to the opposing team. If this occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If there is

incidental contact with the ball and head, play is to continue, (No Infraction) unless an injury occurs.

Postponements & Rescheduling

If there is no club certified referee present on the field 10 minutes prior to game time, **call the Soccer Hotline ASAP (920) 232-6972 and you will be given directions on how to proceed.**

If the first half of the game has been completed prior to weather or other field conditions forcing a game stoppage, the game score at the time of stoppage will be the game score of record.

If the game is called off at any time before the end of the first half, the game does not count, and will be rescheduled and replayed from the beginning.

In the event a game is called off due to weather or other field conditions, it is the responsibility of the Home team coach to notify the League Administrator as soon as possible. The telephone number for the League Administrator is 920-232-OYSC(6972). If there is no answer, leave a message with your name, team name and number, the scheduled game time and date, as well as the field location.

If the game is to be replayed, the Club will assign a date, field and official for the make-up game.

Coach's Responsibilities

- **Reporting of Games**

Each coach is responsible for reporting the result of each game. Reporting of games will solely be done on our website www.oysc.org. You will report your team name and number, those on your team who scored goals, and *bonafide* saves by

your Goalie. (Use the player's full name.) **If you do not have internet access, please contact our League Administrator at (920) 232-6972 immediately.**

We would ask that you report your games as quickly as possible.

- **Keep Your Records**

Each coach should keep a season record of goals, assists and goalie saves for the information of the players. Remember, a goalie-save is defined as "action of the goalie which prevents a score by stopping a ball that has been played on goal." Merely catching the ball is not a save!



- **The Official Scorer**

The referee is responsible for reporting the Official Score to the Standings Coordinator. Each coach will provide the referee with whatever information is requested before, during, or after the game. **Again in 2017, after the player handshakes, the coaches shall meet the referee on the field to approve the official score of the game. Coaches will no longer sign the Referee Report Card. Failure to check the referee's official score forfeits all rights to contest the score at a later date.** *Note: This does not affect your right to file a written statement of protest concerning the game.*

- **Housekeeping Notes**

Coaches are responsible for the players and spectators associated with their team. Coaches are expected to adhere to, and remind others associated with their team (parents and spectators) of the following OYSC Rules and Policies:

1. **No Alcohol**

No drinking will be tolerated at OYSC games! Enforcing this rule is the responsibility of the coach. In the event someone associated with your team is in violation of this rule, you must handle it quickly and firmly, assuming this

person is unfamiliar with our rule, which is generally the case.

2. No Smoking



Smoking on or near fields of play **is not allowed**. If someone chooses to light up, they must leave, period.

3. No Pets

Pets are **NOT ALLOWED** at practices or games. Playing fields are on park or school property, which prohibits pets.

3. No Swearing

The Laws of the Game are clear. Bad language is not to be tolerated on or near the field. You can help your players and spare them the embarrassment of a red card during a game if you will nip the improper language right away. Improper language includes ethnic, racial or sexual remarks directed toward anyone – player, fan, or official. You must stop it whether it is from a player or from a fan.

4. Spectator Lines



In addition to the “Field of Play” lines, spectator lines will be painted adjacent to the field sidelines. Please observe these boundaries when watching a game. There is a risk of injury to players, referees and spectators, when spectators are seated or standing too close to the field of play. During the game make sure that all spectators are safely behind the spectator line.

5. Authority

Coaches have the authority to request that unruly spectators, or others disrespectful of rules or exhibiting unsportsmanlike behavior, leave the area.

6. Trash



Most fields do not have garbage cans. It is required that all fields be trash-free upon leaving. Communicate with spectators so you don't have to pick-up after them.

- **What To Do When Trouble Is Lurking**

Sometimes it can be tough to deal with some of the aspects associated with enforcing the rules. If you are having trouble “getting through” to someone who is breaking the rules, or ignoring them, contact the League Administrator, at 920-232-OYSC(6972), who will then diplomatically assist in resolving the situation with the offending individual, in a manner which will not implicate you.

- **Know The Parents**

Your players' parents are a valuable asset to your team. Get them together early, before the season starts, and tell them what you expect of their child, and of them. Go through the rules; explain them, and make a point in letting them know that it is up to you to enforce Club policy and rules.

Get parent “buy-in”. Make them feel a part of the team effort. Let them know what they can do to help their kids learn; to encourage their children; to instill a sense of fair play, sportsmanship, and above all, have fun!



Call for volunteers for tasks to make practices run smoothly, or perhaps to handle the job of submitting game results (We will issue a separate log-in name and password to a parent. We do NOT want anyone using the coach log-in except the coach.), providing oranges at half-time, scheduling a team picture; things they can do to feel a part of the team; to help you!

Protest Procedure

Protest is a formal procedure. Only a coach can file a protest. Protest of judgment calls cannot be upheld. If the Laws of the

Game has been violated, a protest can be upheld. If a coach feels that there has been a violation of the **Laws of the Game**, he/she may file a formal protest, carefully following this procedure:

- Submit a written statement of protest, setting forth your contention as to how the **Laws of the Game** were violated.
- This protest must be accompanied by a \$15.00 fee.
- This statement must be received by the Games Commissioner within 96 hours of the end of the game. This allows 2 days for the mail.

**Games Commissioner
Dan Beane
1723 Cloverview St.
West Bend, WI 53095**

If the protest is upheld, the fee will be refunded. If the protest is not upheld, the fee goes into the Club treasury. No protests, whatsoever, will be accepted for games played in the Soccer Saturday Tournament. You may obtain a copy of the **Laws of the Game** by contacting the League Administrator. A copy is also available on our website, www.oshkoshyouthsoccer.org.

Questions About Weather

Instruct players to report for games rain or shine. Games can be started and/or completed in the rain. Weather can, of course, cause a postponement or an interruption in a game. Referees are instructed to stop a game, delay the start, or cancel if:

- There is lightning in the area.
- There are high winds, which will interfere with play.
- There is poor visibility. For example, so dark that continued play is dangerous.
- There are any field conditions which make play dangerous.

Referees may cancel the game outright, or declare a 15-20 minute interruption, and may extend that period if it appears the weather will let up thereafter. A referee's decision is based on the safety of everyone and does not consider what the score is at the time. The referee is the sole judge of field conditions for beginning play, and of any conditions for continuing or discontinuing play. *Exceptions: Any member of the OYSC Board of Directors may decide to stop a game if; in his/her opinion there is any danger in continued play.*

Check Our Website: If conditions warrant canceling an **entire evening's** schedule, OYSC will post the cancellation on our website and notify the coaches. Remember, games played on any particular night may be played as much as 15 miles apart, extending from North to South. Conditions in one place can be entirely different from conditions in another. Remember too, that weather changes considerably from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Early games may be canceled, and the later games held as scheduled. **Don't assume that a game is canceled. Please do NOT call the OYSC Hotline for game cancellation info, check our website, it will be updated immediately for game cancellations.**

Safety & First Aid

While "First Aid" is generally defined as the treatment given to the victim while awaiting the arrival of medical assistance, and often involves only keeping the victim warm and comfortable until help arrives, there are some measures a coach can take to guard against injury, or treat a minor injury:

- **Warm-Ups & Cool-Downs:** These periods are one of the areas of coaching most often overlooked, but perhaps the most important! These periods before and after a game may have a major impact on a team or individual's performance and can prevent injuries.

Warm-ups help prepare the muscles to perform with less risk of injury. The purpose of warm-up exercises is to force

blood to circulate and thus bring the muscle tissues in the legs and extremities to the core body temperature and enhanced flexibility. The best way to stretch prior to a game is to warm up the muscles with a light activity (ball dribbling or passing), followed by light dynamic stretching. Check online for examples of dynamic stretching for soccer players in your age group. NO static stretching before a game or practice. Repeat. Stretch all muscle groups: legs, arms, shoulders, and abdomen.

Cool-downs can be just as important as the warm-ups, but occur at the end of the practice or game. The purpose of the cool-down is to address fatigued muscles and their waste products (lactic acid), which can cause minor soreness. Through a stretching and cool-down process at the end of play, this soreness may be reduced, and the muscles are thus allowed to relax again. Static stretching will complete the cool-down. Static stretching is stretching that involves a 20 second hold per muscle group. The mental component of cool-down helps put aside the game or practice, and prepare players for upcoming events. It is also a good time for coaches to make announcements and compliment players on their team effort. For any questions regarding dynamic vs. static stretching, please call Donna Beck at 920-685-0148. If no answer, please leave a message.

- **Fluid Replacement:** Have your players replenish fluids often. The body also needs fluids before one actually feels thirsty, so drink water even before play.
- **Sunburn:** Anytime there is exposure to the sun for extended periods of time, use sunblock to protect the body. Due to sweating, reapply at regular intervals.
- **Heat Exhaustion:** Signs of heat exhaustion include pale and clammy skin, profuse perspiration, weak pulse, weakness, headache, nausea, and cramps in abdomen or limbs. Victim does not need to exhibit all symptoms. Treatment includes lying victim in shady or cool place; loosen clothing, and sips of water or sports drink. If victim

is having difficulty breathing or keeping consciousness, seek emergency medical attention.

- **Sprains and Strains:** Place the injured part at rest. Apply cold compress or ice packs. Elevate the part above the heart if possible. Consult a physician.
- **Asthma:** Be aware of youngsters with asthma and the methods for avoiding associated problems or caring for them if they occur. Generally, these players need a very gradual and thorough warm-up. They need to be encouraged to relax rather than “psych up”. Playing several shorter blocks of time is recommended.
- **Open Wounds:** For minor cuts and abrasions, wash thoroughly with soap and warm water or hydrogen peroxide. Cover with a sterile gauze pad or bandage. For deep, extensive cuts or wounds cover the wound and the area around it, and bandage snugly. If bleeding does not stop, apply direct pressure. Seek medical attention.
- **Fractures & Dislocations:** The general symptoms of fractures are pain in the injured area, tenderness to touch, deformity of bones in fracture of the limbs, severe or moderate swelling, pain upon moving and discoloration. Never move the injured person in the event of a suspected fracture. Seek medical attention.

In the case of serious medical emergencies:

1. Avoid excitement or panic. Keep calm.
2. Never move a badly injured person.
3. Seek medical attention immediately. If you are in doubt about the nature or severity of an injury, do not hesitate to call 911.
4. **Universal Precautions:** Blood borne pathogens are a concern in all sporting events. The Oshkosh Youth Soccer Club has initiated the following policy:

- Any player with an open wound will not be allowed to play until the wound is completely covered.
- Any player who starts to bleed must be removed from the game immediately. They cannot re-enter the game until the bleeding has stopped and the wound is covered completely.
- Any player who has blood on his or her uniform (without regard for it being his or hers, or someone else's, and regardless of whether it is dry or wet) must leave the game immediately and clean it or change into a "clean" uniform.
- Substitutes can take the place for these players immediately, as they would for an injury.

Players who leave the game for any of these or similar reasons may re-enter the game at the next substitution opportunity once they have rectified the problem.

**First aid kits should always be stocked!
For replenishment of supplies, contact:**



Tim Moore
Home Phone: (920) 232-9288
Cell Phone: (920) 379-4835
Texting is preferred!!

Referees

Respect our OYSC referees:

- OYSC referees are schooled in the *Laws of the Game*. They have passed a test or they don't referee.
- OYSC referees are also coached in techniques for dealing with players, coaches and spectators. Their duty is to expedite fair play, not to explain their calls. They may briefly explain an unusual situation; they will not engage in a discussion.



- OYSC referees are taught to respect you, and your players. They are also taught to require respect from you and your players. Respect their efforts as well.

During the post-game approval of the referee's official score of the game, you will have an opportunity to show sportsmanship toward the official.

Please limit post-game referee contacts to a brief consensus on the score.

If you feel that an official needs additional training in an area, please indicate that on your OYSC Coach's Report AND notify us via email to oysc@new.rr.com.

Field Care & Maintenance



**Never practice on a soccer field
when it is wet.**

There are lots of open places in parks and at schools, which can take an occasional use in wet weather. Save soccer fields for games!

Field marking and mowing takes precedence over practices!

If the field you are practicing on is being marked or mowed or about to be marked or mowed, you must move to another field or grassy location.

OYSC has a reputation for leaving the buildings and grounds, which it has used, in good, if not better, condition than when we arrived. It is the coach's responsibility to be certain that fields and surrounding areas are free of garbage and debris prior to leaving a playing field.

Care For Soccer Balls

- Never over-inflate a soccer ball. Check with an accurate gauge. Keep a pump and spare needle with your equipment.
- Never let anyone sit on a soccer ball.
- Dry a wet soccer ball at room temperature. Never apply direct heat.
- Keep the soccer ball clean. Wipe it off with a clean cloth. Remove mud with a slightly dampened cloth.
- Don't let anyone bounce a soccer ball on asphalt, concrete or gravel. Guaranteed to ruin the cover.

About Our Sponsors

Our sponsors, and particularly the sponsor of your team, make soccer possible for the players in your care. Remind your players and their parents of that. Without sponsors, either OYSC would not exist, or the fees would be much higher.

Please, get in touch with your sponsor before the season. Let them know when you are playing and that their presence is welcome. Help them feel like they are a part of your team.

It is the policy of OYSC that every sponsor receives a team picture. Coaches are given information from Oswald Photography at Equipment Handout. Whether you use Oswald Photography for your team picture, or whether you take one yourself is up to you and your team. If you do not use Oswald Photography, it is your responsibility to see that an 8"x10" team picture is taken and delivered to the sponsor. **The coach is responsible for delivering the team picture to their sponsor.**

Patronize your sponsor, and the other sponsors who are listed on every OYSC newsletter.



To sponsor a team next season, please contact the Oshkosh Youth Soccer Club office at 920-232-OYSC(6972).

Coaching Resources

OYSC has donated half a dozen excellent videotapes to the Oshkosh Public Library on soccer instruction. There are also a number of fine books related to skill building, and practice drills, also available at the Oshkosh Public Library.

Links to on-line resources, related to soccer and coaching, can be found on our website at www.osysc.org.

For a copy of *The Laws of the Game*, contact the OYSC League Administrator at 920-232-OYSC(6972), or access a copy on our website.

Club Philosophy

The Oshkosh Youth Soccer Club is a recreational program. Every player has paid the same fee and has the right to play the same amount of time. **Coaches are to play players at least 50% of each half.** No player, except the Goalie, may play an entire half unless all players on the team are given an opportunity to play at least 67% of the half. Violation of this policy, if observed and reported by a league referee or member of the Board of Directors may result in the forfeiture of the game.

A coach has a right to maintain discipline, and may restrict a player from starting the game, for instance, if a player habitually skips practice, but a player must not be punished for lacking skills.

It is the objective of the entire program to make the season a good, fun, learning and growing experience for every player on every team. Every coach is expected to understand this philosophy and to implement it whole-heartedly.



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