



Indoor Soccer Rules

General IMS Policies and Procedures

All participants are required to complete a waiver of liability form each year. All participants in intramural sports activities assume the risk of injury. Rice University, its employees and agents shall not be liable for injury to person, loss, or damage to personal property arising from or in any way resulting from participation in the intramural sports activities.

The soccer rules will be conducted under the NFHS rules with the following additions, exceptions and clarifications. *If you have further rules questions, please contact ims@rice.edu.*

Captains are required to read the general IM Rules and Eligibility, and inform their team of any changes to policies and/or procedures!

Starting the Game

Each team shall consist of five players on the floor (including the goalie). Each team will have one team captain. The Captain will be the only individual allowed to discuss with the officials any questions relating to the rules (NO JUDGMENT DISPUTES). Any player other than the captain (on the bench or on the court) whom makes a protest or interferes with play in any way is subject to an ejection. Coed: The team shall be composed of 2 females and 3 males or 3 females and 2 males. The team may begin the game with 3 players providing there is 1 female/ 2 males or 2 females/ 1 male.

Equipment

A team may supply its own jersey, but they must be the same color. Proper shoes are required i.e., athletic/tennis shoes. All players must remove all jewelry before a game begins. Goalies must wear a jersey of a different color from his/her teammates and the other team.

Game Time

Two periods shall constitute a game. Each period shall be 12 minutes in duration-running time. The winner of the coin toss prior to the beginning of the game shall have the option to kick-off or to select the end of the court they will defend the first period. There will be a 2 minute break between periods. Teams



change ends of the court at the start of the second period. Each team shall have 2 time-outs per game, each being 30 seconds in duration. The clock will stop during time-outs.

Mercy Rule

With 5 minutes remaining in the second half, the mercy rule will be in effect. At any point during this time, if one team has at least a seven-goal lead on their opponent, the game will be called.

Summary

A kick-off begins from the center of the floor on the officials whistle. A goal may not be scored from the kick-off. When a player is taking an indirect or direct kick, all opposing players shall remain at least 10 feet from the ball until it is kicked: PENALTY-yellow card. When ball is played close to the wall, the defense must give way for safety: PENALTY-indirect free kick. Goalkeepers have 6 seconds to release the ball after they have gained possession: PENALTY-corner kick. A goalie may pass the ball to a teammate who may return the ball to the goalie; however, the goalie may then only use his/her feet to play the ball. The PENALTY - indirect kick from the closest spot on the penalty box where the ball is illegally touched. The goalie may only use his/her hands within the penalty area: PENALTY-direct kick.

Offensive team may not enter goal area box. PENALTY – Goal Kick Referee may elect to play on if advantage is permitted to defensive team. ***The goalie shall not punt, drop kick or throw the ball from the penalty area beyond the center line: PENALTY-indirect free kick from the center line.*** There shall be no offside rule. Unnecessary roughness / dangerous play (such as slides with contact or any dangerous kicks with contact) are illegal: PENALTY-Yellow card. A second yellow card = a red card = EJECTION

Substitutions

Free substitutions shall be permitted without stoppage of play. In order for a player to enter the game the player coming out must be off the court: PENALTY-indirect kick. If the goalkeeper is replaced by another goalkeeper, the official must be properly informed and the change made during a stoppage in play. Teams violating the substitution rule for putting excess number of players on the court: PENALTY-an indirect free kick from mid-court will be given to the opposing team.



Scoring

A goal is scored when the ball completely crosses the goal line and under the cross bar. At the time of the kick if there is an offensive violation the goal will not be rewarded. Coed: **All goals scored will be counted as one (1) goal, regardless of gender.**

Tie Game

Regular Season: If the game ends in a tie, the result of the game will be a tie. Playoffs: If the game is tied at the end of regulation a 5 minute sudden death overtime will be in effect. The first goal scored ends the game. If the game is still tied after sudden death each floor player (not goalies) will take a penalty kick at the top of the key. If still tied at the end of the fourth kicks, then a sudden death shootout will occur and any member of the team who has not taken a penalty shot can then shoot.

Penalty Kicks

Any violation of rules that ordinarily requires the awarding of a direct free kick shall be penalized by a penalty kick if said violation occurs in the penalty area and is a violation by a defensive player. A penalty kick shall be taken only from the penalty mark ("X"). All players, except the kicker and the opposing goalkeeper shall be outside the penalty area and at least 10 feet from the penalty mark. The goalkeeper must stand on his/her own goal line until the ball is kicked. The goalkeeper must remain motionless until the ball is kicked. The player kicking the ball must kick the ball forward. He/she is not permitted to play the ball a second time. A defensive team member committing a violation during a penalty kick will cause the kick to be retaken if a goal was not the result of that penalty kick. An attacking team member committing a violation during a penalty kick (other than the kicker) will cause the penalty kick to be disallowed. The defending team will be awarded an indirect free kick from the penalty mark. A violation by the player taking the penalty kick will result in the goal not being counted if scored, and the defending team being awarded an indirect free kick from the penalty mark.

ALL PENALTIES ARE ASSESSED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE OFFICIALS.

Please Note: All final decisions to eligibility and game rules will be at the discretion of the Competitive Sports Coordinator



FURTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO:

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