



RIVERCITY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB, LLC

www.rivercityssc.com

rivercityssc@aol.com

(804)307.7294



GENERAL TEAM RULES

SPORTSMANSHIP

RCSSC is an organization that encourages members not to take winning or losing too seriously, and stresses that the social aspects of the league are really more important than a win or a loss. We expect all participants to behave in a sportsmanlike manner, on and off of the field. We strive to ensure that each member "shows that he or she has qualities of fairness, courtesy, and grace in winning and in losing."

PENALTY FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- RCSSC staff has the right to have any player(s) sit-out for a series if necessary for a "cooling-off period." However, if the players actions are considered unsportsmanlike; they will be removed from the game. The decision on whether to have a player sit-out or be ejected/suspended is dependent upon the severity of the infraction.

Cooling Off Period:

- Teams may replace the player on the field during a "cooling-off" period.

Ejected Player(s):

- Teams will lose a position on the field for any player that has been ejected for the duration of the game. If the removal of a player results in the team not having enough players, the game will be forfeited (no fine will be assessed).

Suspended Player(s):

- A suspended player is not only removed from the game in which the infraction occurred, the player will also not be eligible to play in the next scheduled game. Teams will lose a position on the field for any player that has been suspended for the duration of the game. If the removal of a player results in the team not having enough players, the game will be forfeited (no fine will be assessed).
- If a player that has been suspended is caught playing in the next scheduled game, the team will forfeit all regular season games and a forfeit fine will be assessed.

Post Season Ejections:

- Any player suspended in the post season will NOT be eligible to participate in any remaining post season game(s) their team may play.

Removal from the League:

- Any player who has been ejected two times during the season will be removed from the league. If that player is caught playing after being removed from the league, the team will not be allowed to play their remaining games for that season.
- Any player(s) who is involve in any physical confrontation during any RCSSC activity, will be banned for LIFE. If this confrontation occurs during a game, all players will be removed from the field and the game will end. If it can be determined who started the confrontation, that player's team will have a loss recorded for the game.

PLAYER RESTRICTIONS

- All RCSSC participants must be at least 22 years old before the season starts.
- Players that have participated in NCAA Division I sports must be five years removed from Division I participation if they wish to play in a similar RCSSC sport (e.g., if a player played D I football in college you must wait five years to play RCSSC football).
 - o Teams will forfeit all games if either of the above GAME RULES is broken.
- RCSSC will have the right to request ID from any player throughout the regular and/or play-off season.
- Any player whose athletic ability exceeds league definitions may be removed from the league (e.g., a player with Social league ability playing in Super Extreme). If the RCSSC determines that more than one player on a team should be in a higher league, the RCSSC has the option to forfeit all future games for that team. (No refund will be given.)

ILLEGAL PLAYER

If a team does not have the minimum number of players needed to play on a particular night, they may NOT - use someone to "fill-in" to complete team requirements. Using someone not on your roster is considered to be unsportsmanlike conduct by the RCSSC.

Illegal Player definitions:

- A player who has signed a roster for one RCSSC team, but plays in a game for another team in the regular or a post season.
- A player who is not a member of any current RCSSC team, but plays in a regular or post season game.
- A player who has broken the age or division one (D I) requirements and has played in a regular or post season game.

Illegal Player Penalties:

- Illegal player and the coach will be suspended for the entire season, including post season play.
- The penalized coach will no longer be allowed to coach in the RCSSC for any sport.
- All wins will be removed from the penalized team for that season.
- If an illegal player is used in a play-off game, that team will not only lose the game, but will be suspended for one year.

PLAYER PARTICIPATION LIMITS

Each RCSSC player must sign their team waiver/roster **before** participating in their first game. Most players will have done this by registering online for the team they play for. ALL players added late (by 3rd week of season), either being a new player or replacing a player, must sign a waiver form prior to playing. **Players may only sign up for one team/league in any sport.** Players will be considered illegal players if they break this rule and penalties to both player and team will be assessed.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON THE FIELD

Go to GAME RULES for information about the specific numbers of players needed for a particular sport including the male to female ratio.

ROSTER LIMIT

There is no maximum number of players allowed on your roster for any RCSSC sport. Minimum team number is 12 players.

ADD/DROP PLAYER(S)

A player may be added to your roster up through the third week of the season, using the following criteria:

- The ONLY way to add a new player to your roster after the final T-shirt order deadline has passed is by first dropping a player from the online roster, then adding the new player online.
- All changes must be sent to the RCSSC and the new player must sign the roster/release form at or before their first game.
- The new player must obtain the T-shirt from the dropped player in order to play (since the T-shirt order deadline will have passed).
- After the 3rd week of the regular season, ALL rosters will be frozen and no additional players may be added.

ON-LINE ROSTER DEADLINES

- Before Start of First Game: All players' names must be on the online form BEFORE the start of the first regular season game in order for RCSSC to check-off game day signatures. Teams will have a LOSS recorded if all players' names are not online by the beginning of the first regular season game.
- First Monday After Third Week: In order for a team to become eligible for the POST SEASON, the online roster form (all names and e-mails) must be completed by this date. Teams will be allowed to play their full regular season schedule, but will not be allowed to participate in the play-offs.

FIELD/GAME EQUIPMENT

RCSSC will provide all necessary equipment for each court, field or diamond (cones, bases, nets, etc.). Richmond City Recs and Parks are responsible for cutting the fields. Players must - provide all equipment to play the game (gloves, broom ball pads, footballs, etc.) unless otherwise noted in the RCSSC GAME RULES.

GAME UNIFORMS

- RCSSC T-shirts are your team's uniforms.
- All players must wear their current RCSSC tee shirt to participate.
- Any player not wearing his/her T-shirt will be will be sidelined for that game. If the sidelined player(s) will cause the team to forfeit, they will be allowed to play in the game with the following stipulations:
- Players must show proper ID.
- Every player present from the team must print his/her name and sign a roster form or has registered online each sport/season.
- Players are not allowed to swap shirts. If players are caught exchanging shirts, both players will be suspended for that game. These players must sign a roster sheet to confirm roster eligibility. Signed names will be checked against the online form and signed roster. If the names do not match up, the illegal player penalty will be assessed.

UNIFORM ALTERATIONS

- RCSSC T-shirts must remain in the original color ordered.
EXCEPTION: White may be tie-dyed, only.
- Alterations that are allowed:
 - Name of the player/team may be on the placed on the upper back of the shirt along the shoulders ONLY.
 - American flag, team name patch, or player's number may be placed on the SLEEVE ONLY.
 - Any addition must be minimal in size, not offensive in nature, or cover the RCSSC or sponsors logo
- Alterations that are NOT allowed:
 - Altering a shirt's general color through dyeing or bleaching, cutting of the shirt to make it unrecognizable, adding a company name/logo/patch, website address, phone number, etc.
- *Teams that break these rules must purchase new RCSSC shirts @ \$20 per shirt. Teams will forfeit all games until the balance is paid on the purchase of new shirts.

TEAM REFEREEING DUTIES (Football ONLY)

Certain sports are officiated by RCSSC staff and/or outside organizations. Other sports will be refereed by RCSSC teams participating in the sport. Reference the GAME RULES pages for clarification.

NO REFEREE FINES (Football ONLY)

If a referee is required, teams will be fined \$45 for not providing a referee (or line judge if applicable) when scheduled to do so. In addition, the team will be awarded a loss for that week's game in which they were to provide a referee/line judge. **Teams** will be allowed to play the game and no forfeit fine will be assessed. If you would like the RCSSC to outline your refereeing duties, please email a copy of your schedule to Rivercityssc@aol.com.

FORFEITS

A team must have the minimum number of players (see GAME RULE page) in order for teams to start play. Because of the large amount of teams playing in the league, game time is considered forfeit time The RCSSC will add 5 extra minutes to the start time if an unplanned traffic event has occurred. A \$45 forfeit **fine** will be assessed if a team cannot begin play due to the number of players present at game time This fine will go towards your opponent's bar tab to be used at our bar sponsor(s) the next week. Teams will be given their voucher by RCSSC staff at their next regularly scheduled game. Teams that receive a forfeit fine must use it the following week or lose it.

Forfeit Time Exemption:

If your team mails the RCSSC prior to a forfeit (see GAME RULES for specific time frame), your team will not be assessed a forfeit fine. The deadline will allow for the RCSSC to contact the captain and players of the opposing team.

Playing a Forfeited Game:

If the game has officially been called a forfeit, teams will have the option to play an officiated "FUN GAME". Whether a forfeiting team wins or loses a fun game does not affect the fact that the opposing team receives a win on its record and a \$45 bar voucher.

PAYING LEAGUE FINES

All fines (forfeit/no-ref) must be paid **before** your next scheduled game by either cash or check. The RCSSC will email the entire team to remind them about a fine owed from the previous week. Teams will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled game until the fine(s) are paid. Teams that have any outstanding forfeit/noref fines from the last regular season game will not be allowed back into the RCSSC for any sport until these fines are paid in full.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In case of inclement weather, the RCSSC uses the following to communicate cancellations to it's members:

- A flash banner on the home page
 - An email to coaches and league participants
 - Voice message on the rain-out # 804.307.7294
 - You can now also receive text messages on your cell phone.
- If a cancellation message is not made through one of these means, then all games are on. At times, inclement weather may occur after the first game has started. In this case, a cancellation message will be posted as soon as possible.
- If the RCSSC sport is outdoors, ALL games will be immediately cancelled if lightening is spotted. If a storm passes rapidly, later games may be able to be played that day if field conditions allow. No games will begin until 30 minutes after the last lightening strike. Any cancelled games will be added to the "rain out" schedule on the website.
- If the game is called because of lightning ALL PLAYERS must retreat to their cars IMMEDIATELY and may not return to the field until instructed to do so by BSSC staff.

REGULAR SEASON POINTS AWARDED

Win — 2 points, Tie — 1 point, Loss — 0 points

PLAY-OFF TEAM ADVANCEMENT POLICY

- The number of play-off teams that will advance to the next higher division will be based on the number of teams that played in the post season. This format will help balance out the caliber of teams in all RCSSC sports leagues.
- 32 team play-off schedule, the "final four" will advance to the next higher league the next season.
- 16 team play-off schedule, the "top two" will advance to the next higher league the next season.
- 8 team play-off schedule, the "top two" will advance to the next higher league the next season.
- Any RCSSC team may choose to move up to a higher league.
- Teams with a regular season record of 2 wins or less may choose to move down to the next lower level.

REGULAR/PLAY- OFF SCHEDULE DEVIATIONS

- The objective of the RCSSC is to have every team complete their regular season schedule. Sometimes in order to achieve this, the number of teams participating in the post season will be affected. Occasionally, circumstances beyond the RCSSC's control (inclement weather, field conditions, Recs and Parks equipment malfunction, etc.) dictates modifications in the regular/post season, which may cause the shortening of either the regular season or the post season schedule. Although every effort will be made to have each team play all of their regularly scheduled games, if circumstances dictate that all regular season games can not be completed, each team will receive a "tie" (1 point) on their record. This rule follows the spirit of the RCSSC, which strives for the largest percentage of member Participation.
- Make-up/play-off games may not be scheduled on the same days as teams play in the regular season. Example: Kickball plays on Tuesdays - Thursdays, make up/play-offs games may be played on a weekend or another day. The make-up date(s) will be provided before the start of the season to allow players to make adjustments to their schedules.
- Neither refunds nor pro-rated refunds will be given if the season is shortened due to inclement weather or by actions taken by the Richmond City Department of Recreation and Parks.

PLAYOFF GAMES

- Play-offs will start after the completion of the regular season including any rescheduled games.
- Teams are awarded 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss during the regular season. Teams with the most points at the end of the regular season will make the play-offs.
- The, number of play-off teams will be determined by the total number of teams in each league. A software program will randomly seed teams based on regular season point totals. Example: 5 teams are 7-0; the software will randomly seed each one of those teams 1 through 5. Alternatively, if there are 32 teams in the play-offs and 10 teams have the same record for the last seed, the software will randomly select the 32nd seed.
- In the spirit of the RCSSC, random seeding by our software eliminates the issue of teams needing to focus on beating another team by a certain amount of runs or points, strength of schedule, head to head competition, etc. The seeding schedule will be found on the play-off link; however, team numbers will not be filled in until after the last regular season games are completed.
- The play-off schedule may deviate from the day in which your team played during the regular season.
- Play-off games will not end in a tie. Formats are in place to break ties at the end of a post season game

Note: Extreme Social leagues will not have play-offs when there is a Social Div present in the same sport.

BEVERAGES

- The City of Richmond prohibits both possession and/or consumption of any alcoholic beverage on city property. Players will be responsible for any citations given by the Richmond City Police Department.
- NO alcoholic beverages are allowed in any of the RCSSC outdoor venues.
- If, at their own risk, members transport beverages to the field:
 - Beverages must be in a cooler or opaque container. If members are walking in sight of any RCSSC venue with opened or unopened packaging that is not in a cooler or opaque container, the entire team will be required to return all beverages to their car.
 - Players must drink beverages out of opaque cups.
 - No beverages may be in glass containers. If a team has any glass containers, the team will forfeit all games for the season.
Teams are also responsible for removal of trash before leaving the fields. RCSSC and its members have the responsibility to leave all Recs and Parks venues in clean, trash-free condition. The money generated from the recycled aluminum cans collect from our fields will go to the SPCA. In order to help the volunteers who collect the cans, we will have three sets of trash bags at every field. CLEAR BAGS will be used for cans & bottles (to recycle) and DARK BAGS for general trash.

INJURY

If a player is injured during the game, they must sit out one series, before reentering the game. A player can be removed from the game, if on the recommendation of RCSSC staff, their injury warrants such action.

BLOOD RULE

If an injury results in a bleeding/non-bleeding open wound, the player must immediately be removed from the field to receive medical attention. They may re-enter the game ONLY after the wound is bandaged and bleeding has stopped.

PREGNANCY RULE

For the safety of both mother and baby, pregnant women are not permitted to play in any RCSSC sport. Even though the RCSSC is a non contact league, accidents do occur. This does not prohibit a pregnant woman from managing a team. If this rule is ignored and a pregnant player is caught playing, that player will be suspended from play for the season and no refunds will be given.