

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 1: GENERAL

1.1. The League shall organize soccer according to the Laws of the Game as directed from time to time by F.I.F.A., subject to any change considered by the CSA or NB-PEIWPSL Board of Directors to suit the conditions under which the game is played in this country. Changes may come into effect after due notice has been given to all member teams and affected parties.

1.2. The League shall affiliate with the Canadian Soccer Association, or any other sports organizations as deemed appropriate by the NB-PEIWPSL Board of Directors.

Rule 2: MEETINGS

2.1. In addition to the Annual General Meeting, there shall be a Spring General Meeting before the end of May each year.

2.2. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly but may dispense with meetings in December and either July or August unless there is urgent business that must be dealt with.

Rule 3: FINANCES

3.1. *Budget*

The NB-PEIWPSL Board of Directors shall establish an annual operating budget for the NB-PEIWPSL which shall not be permitted to project a deficit. The budget shall be approved by the Board of Directors prior to the Annual General Meeting and presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

3.2. *Fees, Fines and Bonds*

The NB-PEIWPSL Board of Directors has the right to levy disciplinary action and/or monetary fines against teams, clubs and registered persons where it is deemed necessary to maintain control over the game of soccer. Teams, clubs and registered persons may be required to post bonds for further participation in the NB-PEIWPSL in certain deemed circumstances. Teams will be advised when they are required to replenish their performance bond, payment of such notice is payable within twenty-one (21) days of notice. Teams failing to pay within the prescribed time may have their membership suspended until such times, as payment, is made. Any games scheduled during a suspension will be forfeit and subject to further fines.

Any invoice or billing letter from the NB-PEIWPSL for fees or fines not paid within twenty-one (21) days of issue shall result in the suspension of the defaulting team until

the invoice is paid. Any games scheduled during the suspension period shall be forfeit and the points awarded to the opposing team.

Bonds must be paid as follows:

- (i) Individual performance bonds shall be paid before an individual can participate in the NB-PEIWPSL programs again.
- (ii) Teams with unpaid invoices will not be allowed to vote at General Meetings and may be denied entry into the League.
- (iii) Any team receiving more than 8 cards during the course of the season will have an additional team bond levied against them (see Appendix A)

Rule 4: TEAM REGISTRATION

4.1. A team is registered by its Club to play in sanctioned competition(s). A sanctioned competition may include a registered league, sanctioned tournament, or sanctioned exhibition game.

4.2. A Club shall annually register each of its teams for each of the designated playing seasons on the proper registration form approved by NB-PEIWPSL.

4.3. All teams participating in a sanctioned league shall comply with the team registration rules outlined herein.

4.4. A team is registered only after its registration has been validated by NB-PEIWPSL.

4.5. At the conclusion of its current playing season, the team shall be de-registered and shall cease to exist as an entity.

4.6. When registering a team, a Club must provide the following information:

- Name, address, phone number and email address of Team Contact;
- Team Name and Team Classification.

4.7. When registering a team, a Club must provide the following information for each player:

- Name (in full)
- Address (in full)
- Date of Birth
- Phone Number
- Email Address (if available)
- Signature of player or parent/guardian (or notification that a signature is on file with the Club).

4.8. *Team Withdrawal*

An administration fee of \$400 will be applied to any team withdrawing from the League prior to April 30th. Any team withdrawing from the League on or after May 1st will forfeit League entry fee and team bond.

4.9. Clubs will be denied membership for failing to abide by published rules or for conduct on or off the field that calls the League into disrepute.

Rule 5: PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

5.1. All players shall be registered on an approved NB-PEIWPSL registration form, by the appropriate District Association, and shall be covered by Provincial medical or similar insurance.

5.2. A player shall be registered with the Soccer NB or PEISA at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to playing in an NB-PEIWPSL game.

5.3. Team officials shall be registered on team registration forms.

5.4. A team may have no more than twenty-five (25) players registered. No more than eighteen (18) may be named (dressed) and play in any one game.

5.5. All NB and PEI Published rules regarding signing and transfer of players shall apply.

5.6. *The use of players not registered with a team*

A team may call up players to their team subject to the following:

(i) From within their own Club: A team is allowed to use up to five (5) players per game. Each player can play an unlimited number of times during the season.

(ii) Not registered to a Club: A team is allowed to use up to five (5) Trial Players per game. Each player can play a maximum of four (4) games per season.

(iii) From any other Club: A team can use up to three (3) players per game from other clubs but each player can only play a maximum of three (3) times during the season.

The TOTAL number of non-roster players as defined in (i) (ii) and (iii) or any combination thereof, is five (5) per game.

(iv) **Players registered to more than one club:** Players that are registered to more than one club, where both clubs have teams registered in the NB-PEIWPSL, and play a game for any NB-PEIWPSL team in league, are club tied for the remainder of that season.

5.7. All teams must have a minimum of 11 players registered to their Soccer NB or PEISA team roster and players must be posted on the NB-PEIWPSL Website by May 8th, all additional players added to the team roster at any time during the season must be registered to the Soccer NB or PEISA and then entered onto the NB-PEIWPSL website 24 hours prior to the next scheduled game to be eligible to participate.

Failure to comply with this deadline shall carry a fine (see Appendix A) and could result in forfeiture of games played. Continued failure to comply, will be referred to the discipline committee.

5.8. Changes to the team roster must be reported to the League administrator in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of the change. Failure to report changes will result in a fine (see Appendix A) and possible disciplinary action notwithstanding Rule 5 (B).

5.9. All coaches shall receive a copy of the NB-PEIWPSL By-Laws and Rules & Regulations. An Acknowledgment of receipt form, provided by the NB-PEIWPSL, shall be signed by all coaches. The acknowledgment form shall state that the coach has read and understands the rules of the NB-PEIWPSL and that he/she agrees to abide by these rules.

5.10. The completed acknowledgment form shall be returned to the NB-PEIWPSL Administrator no later than May 14th. Failure to comply with the deadline shall carry a fine to the club (see Appendix A).

Continued failure to comply will be referred to the disciplinary committee and may result in forfeiture of games played.

5.11. Players playing for another team and/or Club shall not be permitted after July 31st to transfer or re-register to play for a team in the NB-PEIWPSL during the current playing season.

Rule 6: PLAYER MOVEMENT

6.1. If a club fields two or more teams at ANY level the following will apply to that club when using call up players.

The teams may call-up players from a LOWER LEVEL of play from any team within its own club to play on the team at the higher level. Once the player has played for one team at the higher level, the player is not permitted to play for another team at that higher level of play within the same division, the called up player is team tied for the remainder of the season to that team.

6.2. If a player is used by both teams then the team calling up the player second will be deemed to have used an illegal player.

Rule 7: LEAGUE SCHEDULES

7.1. The Director for the League is responsible for executing the schedule.

7.2. Any game requiring rescheduling will be rescheduled and played within 14 days. If the teams cannot agree a date or secure a field, the league director will schedule the date and the location of the game at a neutral field secured by the league. The home team will be responsible for field and officials costs.

7.3. Rescheduling

In cases where games require rescheduling due to inclement weather, referee cancellation due to player safety and/or field quality, or field closure from Municipalities (requiring appropriate documentation), **the Home Club must communicate with the League director and provide a date for the reschedule within 14 (fourteen) days of the originally scheduled date**, and at the discretion of the director, the game location can be moved to a neutral site. (as per Rule 7.1.).

7.4. Both coaches shall be responsible for reporting the game scores within 24 hours of the completion of the game by entering all game information on to the website. Failure to report either of the above will result in a fine (see Appendix A).

7.5. Field Closure

The home team coach is responsible to ensure that ALL parties are notified as early as possible by telephone (in the following order); the League Administrator, League Director, Opposing Team Official. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

Rule 8: GENERAL RULES

8.1. No Team Official or player is permitted to smoke within the confines of the playing field.

8.2. No Club, team or member may charge an admission fee to any member or spectator at an NB-PEIWPSL soccer game. However, a Club or team may request a donation from spectators or fans for viewing an NB-PEIWPSL game, and all spectators and fans have the right to decline a monetary donation.

For any Spectator or fan that is abusive, rude and acting in a threatening manner the home club or game organizers have the right to call the Police to have this person removed from the grounds.

8.3. Players shall wear uniforms supplied by their clubs. Each shall be identical in colour and each sweater will show a different number on the back. The uniform colours will be stated on the team roster sheet.

8.4. The goalkeeper shall wear a contrasting sweater with its own independent number, which shall be different from the opposing team and game officials.

8.5.1. The first team named on the schedule shall be the home team.

8.5.2. When uniform colours are similar, the home team shall change to a colour distinct from the opposing team and the game officials.

8.5.3. The HOME TEAM must PAY FULL GAME OFFICIAL FEES and supply the game ball, nets and corner flags. Failure to comply with the above will result in a fine to the club. (see Appendix A.)

8.5.4. ALL teams playing in the NB-PEIWPSL must provide a field with lights for evening games. Weeknight games may not kick off prior to 8.30pm. Failure to do so on any occasion could cost forfeiture of game.

8.6.1. The length of a game shall be 90 minutes with two equal halves of 45 minutes and a ten (10) minute half time.

If a game is abandoned by the game official, through no fault of either team, or if the game starts late or there is a delay during the game for any reason and the full 90 minutes cannot be played, the game will be deemed to have been played after the 80th minute mark, the score at the time of abandonment shall stand as the game result. Where less than 80 minutes have been played, the game shall be re-scheduled (as per Rule 7.1.) and replayed in its entirety.

If either team is accused of being responsible for the abandonment, Rule 8.13. will apply.

Play-off games shall be played in accordance with Soccer NB and PEISA Published rules.

8.6.2. The game ball shall be size 5, as specified by FIFA rules.

8.6.3. A team shall dress a maximum of 18 players per game.

8.6.4. Each team is allowed unlimited substitutions. However, substitution shall only be made at the following times:

- (i) at a goal kick;
- (ii) at the time a goal is scored;
- (iii) at the start of the second half of the game;
- (iv) at an injury for the injured player only at the discretion of the referee.

8.7.1. *Starting time*

A grace period of fifteen (15) minutes shall be allowed in the event that a team has fewer than seven (7) players present at the scheduled kick-off time. The defaulting team shall forfeit the game and the points shall be awarded to the opposing team. The defaulting team shall be considered a NO SHOW and be assessed a fine (see Appendix A).

In the event that both teams have fewer than seven (7) players present at the scheduled kick-off time, no points will be awarded. Both defaulting teams will be assessed a fine (see Appendix A).

8.7.2. Teams forfeiting a game with less than 24 hours notice, shall be assessed a fine (see Appendix A).

In addition to the fine listed in Appendix A for a No show or a Forfeit, teams guilty of forfeiture will also be deducted an additional 3 points from the standings.

8.7.3. Teams failing to appear at a game, shall be subject to a fine (see Appendix A). A team forfeiting three (3) or more games in a season may be suspended from further play and assessed a non-performance fine.

8.8. *Cancellation because of weather or other conditions*

Games WILL NOT be started during electrical storms. Under any other conditions the game shall begin and/or continue to be played unless an electrical storm develops, or unless, in the opinion of the referee, the safety of the players and or the quality of the field is in jeopardy (e.g. field under water, loose turf, broken goal posts, etc.).

8.9. Both coaches shall be responsible for reporting the game scores within 24 hours of the completion of the game by entering all game information onto the website. Failure to report either of the above will result in a fine (see Appendix A).

8.10. *Officials*

There shall be three (3) game officials appointed to all games under the jurisdiction of the NB-PEIWPSL. When games take place with less than three (3) officials, Club linesmen maybe used, the Director for the division must be notified within 24 hours by the home team.

8.11. *Ineligible Players*

A team found having used ineligible player(s) shall forfeit the game(s) to its opponent(s), provided a protest is made (in accordance with Rule 9), or at the discretion of the Board of Directors. In the event that both teams are guilty of using ineligible players, no points shall be awarded. A club whose team is found guilty of using an ineligible player(s) shall be fined (see Appendix A) and the team may face suspension from the NB-PEIWPSL.

8.12. *Coaches Responsibility*

The coach is responsible for all his/her players and team staff at all times and shall conduct himself/herself in a gentlemanly/ladylike manner in accordance with the laws of the game. The coach, his/her staff and players shall confine themselves to the players bench which shall be deemed to be an area ten (10) meters long, commencing five (5) meters and finishing fifteen (15) meters from the center line.

It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that the team staff and players are on the opposite side of the field to the spectators of either team.

8.13. *Game Abandonment*

Any game abandoned by a game official shall be dealt with by the NB-PEIWPSL Discipline Committee. A team found guilty of causing an abandonment shall forfeit the points and will be subject to a fine (see Appendix A).

8.14. A player, coach or team official found guilty of impeding, harassing or otherwise intimidating a game official, opposing coach, team official or players shall be subject to disciplinary action including a fine to the club (see Appendix A).

8.15. *League Standings*

Point standing in each division shall be determined from game results as follows:

- (i) Win = 3 points
- (ii) Tie = 1 point
- (iii) Loss = 0 points

In the event of a tie for first place or for teams eligible for relegation at the end of the regular season, the tie shall be decided on the following basis:

- (i) Head to head;
- (ii) Least goals against;
- (iii) Goal differential;
- (iv) Most goals for;
- (v) Playoff game.

8.16. All games shall be played as scheduled unless:

- (i) At the discretion of the referee, postponement is necessary due to inclement weather or unplayable field conditions.
- (ii) At the discretion of the League's Board of Directors, a game may be subject to postponement.
- (iii) A game is postponed at the discretion of the Parks official.

8.17.1. All teams shall furnish a complete list of players and team officials on the game sheet provided, showing the full names of all players participating in the game together with their shirt numbers.

8.17.2. The game sheet, bearing the signature of team officials shall be handed to the referee before the start of the game. The officials' fees payable by the home team shall be paid before the start of the game.

8.18. *Player Identification*

- (i) Team officials must carry the Soccer NB or PEISA player registration books and applicable permits to all games. All players and team staff seated on the team bench must be registered to the team or be an eligible guest/trial/temporary player.
- (ii) The inspection of player's books and applicable permits by the opposing team is mandatory prior to the start of the game and must not delay the scheduled kickoff.
- (iii) Failure to produce the player books and applicable permits will result in the forfeiture of the game.
- (iv) Only players for whom books, trial permits, or temporary registration permits as

applicable are made available for inspection may have their names entered on the game sheet and be eligible to play.

(v) Once a game has been started, team officials forfeit the right to investigate player books, excluding late player arrivals only, whose books/documentation must be checked prior to entering the field of play and must refer to Rule 9 should they wish to initiate a protest.

(vi) Failure to identify guest/trial/temporary players will result in the player being deemed ineligible.

8.19. Each “team” MUST be independently represented at the Spring General Meeting of the NB-PEIWPSL. Failure to attend will carry a fine (see Appendix A).

Rule 9: PROTESTS

9.1. The NB-PEIWPSL Discipline Committee shall deal with all protests arising out of its League competitions.

9.2. The protest fee of \$500 shall be a certified cheque or money order.

9.3. Any party may appeal a red card offence only if the suspension is for two or more games. However, a red card offense must result in a minimum one game suspension unless the case of mistaken identity is proved;

9.4. The protest, together with the fee, shall be sent in duplicate to the NB-PEIWPSL Secretary within 48 hours of the date of the match to which it relates (Sundays and holidays excluded). A copy of the protest must be sent to the opposing team within the same time limit. All protest copies are to be sent either by registered mail, or courier.

9.5. The date of the postmark or courier receipt will be taken as the limiting date in all cases.

9.6. Any protest relating to the ground, goal post, bars, or other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained by the NB-PEIWPSL unless notice, with particulars, has been given to the opposing team immediately upon its knowledge, and an objection lodged with the referee before the commencement of the match. The referee shall require the responsible team to remedy the cause of the objection, if that is possible, without delaying the progress of the match.

9.7.1. *Mandatory Protest*

When an objection has been lodged with the referee, a protest must be made to the NB-PEIWPSL, and no objection of the protest can be withdrawn except by leave of the NB-PEIWPSL Board of Directors at a regular meeting.

9.7.2. *Protest Decisions*

The decisions of the NB-PEIWPSL Discipline Committee are binding but may be the subject of an appeal to the Soccer NB or PEISA.

Rule 10: DISCIPLINE

10.1. The Vice-President of the NB-PEIWPSL shall be the Discipline Chairman. The Discipline Committee shall consist of no fewer than three (3) members who shall be selected by the Discipline Chairman. If the player(s)/official(s) waive their right to a three (3) member panel, discipline may convene and carry on business with two (2) members.

10.2. The Discipline Committee shall deal with any report of misconduct with respect to the recognized rules of soccer on or off the field by a player, coach, or manager, brought to its attention by the referee or an NB-PEIWPSL representative in writing within seven (7) working days of the incident to the NB-PEIWPSL. The referee shall forward the offender's name to the Discipline Chairman with the game report and team sheet within seven (7) working days of the game ending.

10.3. Cautions (Yellow Cards)

(i) A player receiving three (3) cautions during the current season shall be suspended for one (1) game following receipt of the 3rd yellow card.

(ii) A player who receives another two (2) cautions during the same season shall be suspended for one (1) additional game following receipt of the 5th yellow card.

(iii) A player who receives a further single caution during the same season shall be suspended for two (2) additional games following receipt of the 6th yellow card.

(iv) A player who receives a further single caution during the same season shall be required to appear before a Discipline Committee, and if he/she is found guilty of the offenses for which that caution was issued, he/she shall be suspended for a minimum of four (4) additional games following receipt of the 7th yellow card.

10.4.1. Ejections (Red Cards) for actions against other players or team officials

(i) For foul language: First offense - minimum of one (1) game; Second offense - minimum of one (1) game.

(ii) For abusive, threatening or insulting language and/or gestures: First offense - minimum of two (2) games; Second offense - minimum of two (2) games.

(iii) For violent conduct: First offense - minimum of two (2) games; Second offense - minimum of four (4) games.

(iv) For serious foul play: First offense - minimum of two (2) games; Second offense - minimum of four (4) games.

(v) For spitting at another person: First offense - minimum of two (2) games; Second offense - minimum of four (4) games.

(vi) For deliberate hand ball preventing a goal or goal scoring opportunity: First offense - minimum of one (1) game; Second offense - minimum of one (1) game.

(vii) For denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal: First offense - minimum of one (1) game; Second offense - minimum of one (1) game.

(viii) For two yellow cards received in the same game - minimum of (1) game.

Note: for the purposes of these sanctions, foul language is defined as profanity not directed towards any individual, whereas abusive, threatening and/or insulting language is directed towards another individual

10.4.2. Ejections (Red Cards) for actions against game officials

(i) Persistent criticism or disputing of decisions: First offense - minimum of one (1) game; Second offense - minimum of two (2) games; Third offense - minimum of four (4) games.

(ii) Use of foul, abusive or insulting remarks: First offense - minimum of two (2) games; Second offense - minimum of four (4) games; Third offense- minimum of eight (8) games.

(iii) Deliberate physical contact (i.e. pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening: First offense - minimum six (6) months suspension; Second offense - minimum one (1) year suspension.

(iv) Striking, spitting, kicking or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct: First offense - minimum three (3) years suspension; Second offense - minimum ten (10) years suspension.

(v) In the cases of Rule 9.4.2.(a) and (b), the sanctions may be applied automatically without the necessity of a disciplinary hearing.

(vi) In the cases of Rule 9.4.2.(c) and (d), a disciplinary hearing must take place.

10.4.3. Repeated Ejections

Upon being found guilty of any third ejection (Red Card) offense in one calendar year (365 day period), a mandatory minimum suspension of 30 days shall be imposed, in addition to any sentence imposed at the hearing.

It shall be the responsibility of team management to ensure that all sanctions/suspensions are served in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

A player found guilty of playing prior to fully serving any suspension shall be ruled an ineligible player during the game in question and the game shall be awarded to the opposing team on the basis of using an ineligible player. The player and team management may also be subjected to further disciplinary measures.

10.5.1. Suspensions, unless otherwise specified, either in these rules or by a disciplinary committee shall be for a stated number of games.

10.5.2. Suspensions handed down for infractions incurred during League games cannot be served in tournament or friendly games.

10.5.3. Suspensions incurred in tournament and friendly games must be served during the next League game(s) if that is the next contest the suspended player's team is to play.

10.6.1. Discipline Committees may add monetary fines and/or bonds to any sentence. Such monetary fines and bonds must be paid by certified cheque or money order and they must be deposited with the League which imposed the penalty within fifteen days of the receipt of the decision or within the time stipulated by that League.

10.6.2. Failure to pay fines and bonds within the time specified will result in the suspension of the person or organization penalized for a period of thirty days from the date of the receipt of the payment, without further notification.

10.7. The player's Soccer NB or PEISA Registrant Book shall be presented to the Discipline Committee prior to the commencement of the hearing.

10.8. All suspensions awarded shall be posted against games and the player/coach will be notified in writing by the League following the hearing.

10.9. The NB-PEIWPSL shall notify member districts and clubs of all suspensions and cautions

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

No Team Official or Player is permitted to smoke within the confines of the playing field.

Please note all leagues have decided to remove Overtime and go straight to Penalty kicks in all championship games if still tied after regulation time. (This is due to the time restraints as most lights are on timers).

The 2009 standings will govern the division allocation for 2010.