



SOCAL Discovery Division Rules and Game Day Procedures for 2021/22

(Please read this email in its entirety and PRINT it to keep with you on Game Day)

ROSTER SIZE: For Discovery NPL teams roster limit will be a maximum of 26 but only 18 players may suit up and participate in each game. Any player beyond the 18 playing in the game can NOT be in uniform if they are on the bench.

SUBSTITUTION RULES: For all Discovery Division games, the following substitution rules will apply:

- 18 players are eligible to compete per game-day.
- No re-entry per half. Each half stands on its own.
- Each team allowed only 3 stoppages per half
- Half-time does not count as a stoppage
- Exception #1 to the above as it applies to Goalkeepers (if there is an injury, sickness etc. and a GK is unable to continue, teams can substitute that GK with another GK even if they have already substituted their GK, or out of stoppages or both). Exception #2 is for suspected concussions. The player may come off the field to be evaluated by on-site Athletic Trainer and, if deemed ok to return to the game, the player may return to the game and not be counted as a substitute.
- Exception #2 to the above sub rules applies to suspected concussions. A player that comes off of the field for a suspected concussion does not count as a substitute and, if cleared by the on-site Athletic Trainer, can return to the game and not be counted as a sub.

REFEREE FEES: – All fees are paid, by SOCAL

HOME TEAM wears light/white uniform. AWAY TEAM wears dark. Away team changes if there is a color conflict.

HOME TEAM kicks off 1st half.

AWAY TEAM chooses direction in 1st half.

Home team to provide the game ball.

BENCHES will be provided for each team. Each team is to provide their own tents and hydration.

NO DOGS are allowed at Discovery NPL games or venues.

NO ALCOHOL is allowed at any SOCAL game.

PARKING: \$12 per car at Silverlakes, So Cal Sports Complex, Galway Downs and \$10 at Surf Sports Park in Del Mar. Re-entry, with ticket stub is allowed on the same day at the same venue only.

GAME REPORTS:

Home team is responsible for bringing 3 copies of the Game Report to the game. It is suggested that visiting teams bring copies as well, just in case. (Games will not be forfeited if someone forgets a Game Report). Go to www.socalsoccerleague.org > Club Directory > Your Club > Your Team > Team Login > Use your email and PIN# to login > TEAM PAGE. You have to be logged in to your team page to print your Game Report. If neither team brings a Game Report then BOTH teams are required to manually hand-write their rosters for the referees for the game so my suggestion is to bring Game Reports whether you are home or visitor.

Once you are on your team page, go to your schedule at the bottom of the page (you may have to click "show schedule" in order to see your schedule).



Click on the blue "vs" in between the team names. The "Official Pre-Match Lineup" will appear. Do not update the player eligibility field. That should be left alone. If you mistakenly click on player names the system will add red cards to your overall count and this cannot be undone. Click on the tab at the top of the page that says "PRINT GAME REPORT PDF". This will convert the Game Report to a PDF that you will print 3 copies of. In the upper right corner of the pdf, you will see the Match # and the date you are printing the report. Don't panic and think this is your game date and time. It's only to verify time and date report is printed. If the opposing team roster is not on the GAME REPORT, please email hayley@scdssoccer.com and let her know so she can follow up with the club. If the roster is still not on the Game Report by game day, the opposing team will need to handwrite their roster on the Game Report. To print your Game Report, right mouse click on the pdf and select "print" (make sure you print 3 copies).

CLUB PASS RULE:

If you have a player(s) from your club that is (are) playing on your team (and are age appropriate), write the player name and player id# and the team that the player is club passing from on all 3 copies of the game report. Players MUST HAVE THEIR PLAYER ID CARD (US CLUB SOCCER CARDS are the only player cards accepted in SOCAL) in order to be eligible to play in the game (a photo of the player card will also be accepted).

Players CAN PLAY IN TWO GAMES PER DAY. There is no special card for the club pass, the player just needs their US CLUB SOCCER player ID card or a photo of the player card is acceptable too.

NOTES ON CLUB PASS RULE:

Players can only club pass between teams, from their own club, in SOCAL. Players from other leagues (CSL, Presidio, DPL, GA, MLS NEXT, EA) may NOT club pass to a SOCAL team within your club without having a US CLUB SOCCER PLAYER CARD. ECNL and ECRL players can Club Pass using their ECNL or ECRL player card since they are issued by US Club Soccer.

CLUB PASSING from leagues outside of SOCAL Rule: *For any team that club passes from any other league (listed above) there can only be 2 players and/or a GK allowed to club pass from another league to a Discovery NPL team.* Those players MUST have US Club Soccer player cards. They must be hand written on all 3 copies of the Game Report and **the league that they participate in MUST be written next to their name on the Game Report.** Club passing from outside leagues is meant to serve as a last resort in case a team is short on players or has multiple injuries. It is NOT meant to be done to win games or provide an unfair advantage. Any team proven to be club passing against the intention of the Club Pass policy which would be a violation of protecting the integrity of the league may have consequences implemented against them which may include forfeiting games, coach suspensions and/or removal from the league.

Every player club passing must have a US CLUB SOCCER player card. No card. No game. A photo of the player card will suffice.

Please read the SOCAL Code of Ethics and the SOCAL Handbook with Rules & Regs on what is expected from all SOCAL members in regards to doing things in the spirit of the game.

PARENTS & SPECTATORS (IMPORTANT):

Parents/spectators all sit on one side of the field. Home team coach will choose which side of mid-field the home team sits on. Each team parents/spectators will mirror their respective team/coach on the opposite side of the field. Parents are to stay on their side of midfield.

PARENTS/SPECTATORS DO NOT SWITCH SIDES AT HALF-TIME. They are to stay where they are the entire game.

Please make sure ALL spectators understand what is expected of them on the sidelines during SOCAL games. Clubs, DOC's and coaches will be held accountable for the sideline behavior of their spectators.



I would recommend printing a copy of the SOCAL rules in case the referees do not know them. This is a learning process for everyone and the more prepared Team Managers are and the more information they have available to answer questions, the better things will go.

WE AREN'T GOING TO TOLERATE PARENT/SIDELINE PROBLEMS IN THIS DIVISION any more than we do in any other division. **ANY PARENT SENT OFF FROM A GAME WILL SERVE A MANDATORY (and minimum) OF A 3-GAME SUSPENSION.**

Managers should introduce themselves to each other prior to the game. If there are issues with parents/spectators from the opposing teams, parents/spectators are NOT to get confrontational with the opposing team. Managers should communicate with each other and each manager should deal with their own sideline issue. Parents/spectators are NOT to talk, criticize or bother the Assistant Referee on their side of the field. Referee Associations have been instructed that if this does occur, the AR will inform the center ref and the person causing the problem will be sent away from the field.

PARENT EJECTIONS – ANY parent ejected from a game will serve a MINIMUM of a 3-game suspension that will be enforced by the coach AND the manager. If a parent fails to serve their suspension, the coach of the team will be suspended. I would suggest notifying your parents of this policy and encouraging them to monitor their sideline behavior. Poor sideline behavior by parents will not be tolerated and suspensions may be longer than 3-games depending on the severity of the offense. Poor sideline behavior can also cause a team to be disqualified and removed from the Discovery NPL Division and will impact future acceptance into the division.

AFTER GAME:

Both teams should sign all 3 copies of the match report. Make sure both teams verify the information recorded by the referee, including score, cards, who scored, etc. REFEREES DO NOT MAIL IN COPIES OF THE SOCAL MATCH REPORTS (UNLESS THERE IS A VIOLENT CONDUCT OR REFEREE ABUSE SITUATION) SO YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SUPPLY ENVELOPES OR STAMPS.

Referees are only to keep player cards in the case of Violent Conduct or Referee Abuse or for suspected concussions. No other incident requires the referee to keep the player cards and all cards should be returned after the completion of the game.

SOCAL on-site staff will collect the Game Reports and will post the scores for each game on-site. SOCAL will retain 1-copy of the Game Report for the remainder of the season in the Discovery NPL Division.

MAKE SURE YOU RECEIVE YOUR TEAM PLAYER CARDS back after the game, not the opposing team cards by mistake. Any card that a referee keeps will be mailed to the SOCAL office. We will contact the team with further instructions if a Disciplinary hearing is required. Player cards will be returned to the team by the SCDSL office.

Players with suspected concussions. SOCAL on-site staff will hold the player card for any player suspected of having a concussion until clearance is received via a dr's note for the player. Once a player has been cleared by a physician, the note from the dr can be given to the SOCAL on-site staff in exchange for the return of the player card.

REPORTING SPECIFIC CARDS:

CARD REPORTING POLICY FOR 2021/22 SEASON – The SCDSL does not track single yellow-cards in any age group. ALL DOUBLE-YELLOW and RED cards MUST BE REPORTED. ALL COACH SEND-OFFS must be reported.

All teams have 24 hours to post VIOLENT CONDUCT ejections for their team. All teams have 48 hours to post ALL ISSUED DOUBLE-YELLOW AND RED CARDS IN A GAME FOR THEIR TEAM. If a team does not post red/double-yellow cards within the allotted amount of time, there is a monetary fine imposed on the club for failure to follow the rules. Any discrepancies should be reported



to hayley@scdssloccer.com and she will ask the opposing team for their copy of the match report. This league is based on an honor code of ethics and there is no need to cheat or not record the actual information from the game.

Disciplinary Points will be added for double yellow card (2pts), red card (3pts). Coach ejections count for 3 pts. Suspension guidelines are included in the SOCAL Rules & Regulations posted under RESOURCE CENTER on the SOCAL website. Disciplinary accumulated for winning or tying are NOT the points that are deducted for red cards. Disciplinary points are NOT the same as Points Per Game. Disciplinary Points are listed as DP on the standings page in the 2009 and older ages only.

If your coach or a parent is sent off, you are to EMAIL hayley@scdssloccer.com within 24 hours of the ejection and it must also be recorded on the Match / Stat page.

All regular SOCAL Rules regarding player/coach and/or parent ejections and suspension apply to the Discovery NPL Division.

In the event teams are tied in standings at the end of league play, the Champion and/or 2nd place team will be determined as follows. If 3 or more teams are tied, skip to #2 in the tie-breakers below:

- The winner in head to head competition
- Best goal differential in overall competition
- Most goals for
- Least goals against
- Most shutouts
- If a tie still exists after steps 1 through 5, a coin toss will be made with two league officials present the result of which will then be communicated to each team manager.

The Discovery NPL Division is a promotion/relegation division. The bottom 3-teams in each age group will be relegated. Should there be a tie in who the bottom 3 teams are, then the tie-breaker rules above will apply to determine who the relegated teams will be.

Good luck to everyone this season!

**You are receiving this email because you are associated with SOCAL.
To be removed, please contact your League Administrator.**