

**CENTRALIA RECREATION COMPLEX
MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER RULES 3rd & 4th GRADE**

- Number of Players: 6 vs. 6 (5 field players and 1 goalie)
- Playing Time: 4 – 8-minute periods with 1 minute between each period and a 3 minute halftime between periods 2 and 3. Each team will be granted 4 time-outs per game.
- The Ball: A size 5 ball will be used for this league.

NO PLAYERS MAY HEAD THE BALL IN THIS LEAGUE

- Start of Play: Opponent must be behind the white volleyball line while the kickoff is in progress.
- Throw-in: A sideline throw-in is awarded when the ball goes out of play over the sideline. The game is restarted by a throw-in by a player of the opposing team of the player who last touched the ball.
- Goalies: The goalie may play the ball with his/her hands only in the goal area (goalie box). The Goalie Box is the designated area directly in front of the goal. Should the goalie contact the ball, he/she may not throw, kick, or pass the ball past the half court line. An infraction will be a free kick from mid-court. A team may change goalies only on a dead ball and inform referee.
- Corner – Kick: A corner kick is awarded to the attacking team when the whole ball passes over the goal line (except between goal posts) having been touched last by a defender.
- Corner – Kicks are taken from inside the corner on the side the ball passed over the goal line.
- All opponents must be at least three yards from the corner kicker until the ball is kicked.
- Goals can be scored directly from a corner kick.
- Goal – Kick: A goal kick is awarded to the defending team when the whole ball passes over the goal line (except between goal posts) having last been touched by an attacking player.
- The goal kick should be kicked directly into play from the goal area (out of the goal box).
- Opponents must be three yards from the ball.
- A goal may not be scored directly from a goal kick.

- Free Kicks: No penalty kicks are to be taken in this league.
- All free kicks in this league will be indirect. This means that the ball must be touched by another player before going in the goal.
- A free kick will be awarded at the spot closest to the infraction. If a penalty occurs in or within 5 feet of the goalie box the result will be either a goal kick (if penalty on the offense) or a corner kick (if penalty on the defense).
- Offsides Offsides will be called in this league. **Offside** position if: Nearer to his opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second to last opponent. A player is not in an **offside** position if: – He is in his own half of the field of play.
- Goal Scoring: Goals can be scored from anywhere on the field but cannot be scored directly from a kickoff, goal kick, throw in, or an indirect free kick. If the ball goes in the goal on a kickoff, goal kick, throw in, or free kick it will result in a corner kick for the team that was in possession of the ball at the time of the kick or throw. **A GOAL WILL BE AWARDED IF THE WHOLE BALL CROSSES THE GOALLINE. (So, if the goalie moves backwards with the ball and crosses the goalline it will be counted as a goal)**
- After a goal is scored, the team against whom the goal was scored kicks off from the center of the field.
- Substitutions: Substitutions may be made during stoppages of play by referee and between periods. If a coach would like to substitute during a stoppage of play a referee must be made aware of the substitution and the referee will call in the sub.
- Substitutions may be made upon any injury of a player.
- Equipment: It is required that players wear team shirt and shin guards.
- All players must wear athletic shoes with non-marking soles.
- Overtime: Regular Season – No overtime will be played in the regular season. A game may end in a tie.
- Postseason Tournament - If the score is tied at the end of the 4th quarter the game will be decided by penalty kicks. 5-3-1
- Spectators: Spectators are not allowed to stand near or behind the goal area. Fans are reminded to conduct themselves in a way that will have a positive impact on the players. The Complex has the right to remove any spectator that is displaying unsportsmanlike conduct.