



# 2019 PENINSULA VETERANS SOCCER LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS

(Current as of May 2019)

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## 1. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Team shall remain in good standing with the League-Refer to rule 12 (but not limited to)
- b) Team shall comply with the PVSL By-Laws and Constitution and Rules and Regulations
- c) All outstanding money owed to the PVSL is to be paid within the timelines set by the Board of Directors.
- d) Each team or club shall submit membership fee to the Niagara Soccer Association (NSA for short) as required by PVSL and the NSA along with:
  - i. a copy of its current Constitution & By-Laws and any amendments if applicable.
  - ii. a list of all officers including their address, phone number, email address and position shall be provided to the NSA.
  - iii. a financial Statement (audited if club is Incorporated), a club contact person with mailing address, phone & fax number, email address and position.
- e) Directors/Officers/Team Managers/Team Contact is required to complete an “Administration Registration Form” that has been approved by the Board and pass the club's volunteer screening policy. This is a district form from the NSA.
- f) All participants associated with the club including but not limited to the coaches, trainers, and players shall complete the “Ontario Soccer Association Waiver and Release of Liability” form.
- g) All Players are required to complete a “Player Registration Form” that has been approved by the Board.
- h) OSA Insurance will not cover Team Officials and Player unless registered for the current season in the registration system.
- i) PVSL fiscal membership year is February 15 to February 14.
- j) Application for annual renewal of membership accompanied by current season’s membership fee must be submitted no later than February 15.
- k) Membership terminates on February 15 of the current season if the organization fails to submit its application for renewal of Membership or fails to provide the required membership renewal criteria by this date.



- l) The membership will vote per division (D1 teams vote for D1, D2 teams vote for D2). Promoted and relegated teams as of the end of the last played season will vote for their respective divisions in the coming season. The two teams in the higher division moving down (relegated) vote for their next season's division. The two teams moving up (promoted) vote for their next season's division. Majority vote results will stand. Voting based on the current year's membership. Teams must be present for the vote.
- m) Any new applicant teams must start with our league in the lowest division.
- n) Current registration fees for the PVSL are \$325 per team. Any team that does not provide the league with the registration fee on the required date as determined by the PVSL board shall be subject to an additional late registration fee of \$200.
- o) The deadline to enter new teams into the league shall be the registration meeting by March 15 of current season.
- p) One blackout date will be permitted for the season. This date must be submitted at the registration meeting to allow for scheduling.

## 2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- a) All participating players must be in the possession of a Player Registration Book (PRB)
- b) Each team is to check the opposing teams PRB's 15 minutes prior to the kickoff. If the books are not available prior to the game, the game shall be forfeited by the team that does not have the books and shall pay for their full regular portion of the referee fee and the opponent's field user fee up to a \$100 maximum payable to the other team within a week of the infraction. Teams have the right to check any player's book at any point prior to or during the game (at a stop in play). Any player, who shows up after a book check or after the start of the game, **MUST** show their player book to the opposing team official prior to entering the game.

Note 1: Teams have the right to check a player's book even if it interferes with the start of the game.

Note 2: Referees are to witness book checks **if** requested by the opposing team.

- c) No protest regarding player eligibility shall be accepted if teams fail to check the opposing team PRB's.



- d) The Board of Directors may act upon discovery of ineligible players where they witness the offense including a match they are involved.

## 2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY continued

- e) The PVSL does not allow the use of call-up players.
- f) Players on Trial/Temporary Registration permits (done at the NSA office) must be designated as such on the team sheet by placing the letters "T.P." beside their name.
- g) A player can only register with one PVSL team at a time.
- h) If any irregularities occur pertaining to the above, a protest by the team official is to be lodged with the referee who in turn shall note it on the game sheet in the check box allotted. The referee and team official must acknowledge with their signatures in order for this to be valid.
- i) Each player must wear their teams official jersey which must be visibly identified (keeper exempt) with a properly applied number which coincides with the player wearing that jersey and the name listed on the game sheet.
- j) No player with professional status will be eligible for registration in the PVSL, no exceptions.
- k) If a player is playing for a semi-professional or professional team and his playing status is either amateur or professional, he will not be permitted to register with the PVSL until he retires or no longer plays at that higher level. Documentation stating the above will be required prior to acceptance of registration.
- l) Player signing deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup> (of current season)
- m) Players are eligible to play in the league when they have reached the age of 35 in the current season prior to signing deadline.
- n) Any new team to the league must outfit their roster with new players not from other teams during their probation period.



### 3. GAME RULES & REQUIREMENTS

- a) All game fees paid to game officials fifteen minutes prior to the start of the game by cash or cheque.
- b) Each team may dress a maximum of 21 players. A match may not start or continue if either team has fewer than seven players.
- c) Only ten substitutes and three registered team officials are to sit on the team bench.  
(\* Kids - exception may apply.)
- d) All team officials shall be in possession of a registration book as provided by the NSA and the books must be in possession of the team officials during the tenure of the game.
- e) Each team must provide the referee 2 approved game balls fifteen minutes prior to the start of the game for inspection.
- f) All games will be 90 minutes with 2 X 45 minute halves. Teams should request notification of when clock commences to avoid conflict of time played.
- g) Substitutes can be made at goal kicks, own teams throw-in (Piggy Back changes MUST be agreed on at the beginning of the game by both teams and referees are to be notified), after a goal. All substitutes made from center field, bench side, at the discretion of the referee.
- h) In the event there are teams tied on points at the end of the season, the standings will be decided by the team's head-to-head points (# of wins vs. losses in the games the teams were involved against each other). If the teams are still tied, the aggregate score on the games with the teams will break the tie involved. Still, if a tie remains the team who has the least amount of goals against determines the winner.
- i) Extreme or unforeseen circumstances are the only reasons for any rescheduling of a game. PVSL board approval is necessary. A shortage of players to field a team is not an acceptable circumstance.
- j) E2E game sheets are the official PVSL game sheet. The referee's instruction is not to accept any other form of game sheet. A game forfeit will occur if the official E2E printed game sheet is MIA prior to kick off. In such circumstances where E2E is down or experiencing issues, teams



**must** have back up printed copies from E2E. The offending team that does not have the official game sheet will be fined \$25 and pay for their full regular portion of the referee fee and the opponent's field user fee (if not at home) up to \$100 maximum within a week of the infraction.

### 3. GAME RULES & REQUIREMENTS *continued*

- k) The home team is responsible for field marking, nets and corner flags. If a team fails to provide any or all of the above mentioned, they will be fined \$50 for delay of game and will have 15 minutes (deducted from the official game time) to provide missing elements or the opposing team will be awarded the win, 3 goals and three points. The offending team is responsible to pay their full regular portion of the referee fee (2019 current fee \$75 May 2019).
- l) In the instance a color clash of jersey occurs, it will be the responsibility of the **AWAY** team to have alternate matching jerseys and colors complying with rule PVSL rules. If the team fails to provide the proper color uniform, they will be fined \$50 for delay of game and will have 15 minutes (deducted from the official game time) to provide missing elements or the opposing team will be awarded the win, three goals and three points. (The use primary & alternate colors versus home & away). The offending team is responsible to pay their full regular portion of the referee fee (Currently \$75 revised May 2019).
- m) Goalkeepers must have shirts distinctive from both teams and the referee.
- n) Teams charging admission must honor (accept as payment) the cards of the PVSL and NSA Board of Directors.
- o) Teams using players on a Trial or Temporary permit will submit the appropriate form signed by the NSA Administrator to the referee prior to the start of the game. The referee will send the permit form along with the team sheets to the secretary of the PVSL within twenty-four hours of the conclusion of the game.
- p) All divisions will play per PVSL published rules, OSA published rules if unclear from PVSL, with the exception of slide tackles. Rule implemented for 2017 season. Games will be officiated by one (1) referee and two (2) assistant referees. Any additional costs needed to play match will be the responsibility of the teams involved.
- q) Slide tackles **NOT PERMITTED** in the PVSL. Exceptions to the rule include sliding to get possession of the ball when no opposing player has a play on the ball.
- r) Goalies are permitted to slide tackle inside 18 yard box only



- s) All divisions will play per PVSL published rules, OSA published rules if unclear from PVSL, with the exception of slide tackles. Rule voted and implemented in 2017.
- t) Games will be officiated by one (1) referee and two (2) assistant referees. Any additional costs needed to play match will be the responsibility of the teams involved.

### 3. GAME RULES & REQUIREMENTS continued

- u) Game reports need to be submitted on the web site or to the administrator within 48 hours. Failure to do so will result in a \$25 fine per occurrence.
- v) The home team reschedules a postponed game due to weather within 14 days. In the event the home team does not comply, the away team will offer a date to the league within 48 hours or the league will assume responsibility of rescheduling the game. With the exception of postponements for September games, all other rescheduled games must take place prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in September, the last weekend of the regular season.
- w) League game scheduling is to be created by two members of the executive appointed by the president. Format will reflect previous year's point standings & promotion or relegation by the PVSL (OSA).

### 4. VENUE & FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

- a) Permanent, onsite, indoor showers (with hot & cold water) and change rooms are mandatory.
- b) Lights and above details are mandatory for any new teams or teams relocating to a new location.

### 5. TEAM BOND & FINES

- a) All teams must have a performance bond (\$250 existing teams, \$500 new teams 2017 and forward) paid and registered with the PVSL.
- b) Each **new** team shall pay a **\$500** bond at the beginning of their introduction to the PVSL. The PVSL will retain team bond at the end of the season (without interest). All performance bonds are held (without interest) until team leaves the league or is removed by the Board of Directors. The team will be required to be replenished their bond during or at the end of the season due to but not limited to the following infractions:

- i. \$200 fine for a team that assaults a referee
- ii. \$25 fine for each time an official team representative is not present at any officially scheduled meeting and a \$50 fine if a team representative is not present at the AGM.

### **TEAM BOND & FINES continued**

- iii. Fines issued to a team that plays ineligible, unregistered, under age players at any point of a game including warm up. The fine is \$200 for first offence & \$500 per subsequent or repeated offences. Multiple offense investigation for past offences will be addressed. Without exception, fines will be levied to past offences on a per offence basis and management suspension from the league in all manors for at least 1 year.
- d) Any existing team fined its entire bond (\$500 – for new teams) will be up for league review at the end of the season and may face suspension.
- c) In the event of an altercation on the field of play and anyone from the bench entering the FOP during the altercation, upon report from the referee of such an infraction, there will be a fine assessed to the team and any member of not less than one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150).
  - d) Teams must be on the field ready to play prior to the game or face a fine as determined by the BOD.

### **6. PROTESTS**

- a) The PVSL Board of Directors will deal with protests except in NSA and OSA cup competitions.
- b) Protest fee of \$100 must accompany written protest to the league secretary within 2 days of game to which it relates. The protesting team to the opposing team within the same time limit must send a copy of the protest.

### **7. DISCIPLINE**



- a) The NSA shall handle all discipline. However, the PVSL reserves the right to require a member to appear before them with not less than forty-eight hours notice. Failure to appear will result in a player fine not less than \$50. Non-compliance will result in the **player's** immediate suspension until fine is paid and player complies.
- b) All discipline will be handled under the Rules and Regulations of the OSA, NSA and the PVSL.

## 7. DISCIPLINE continued

- c) The PRB (of player facing discipline) and appearance fee need submission to the NSA under the discipline procedures as set by the NSA.
- d) In the event of back-to-back games in cup, league play or play-offs, the PVSL board of directors, if deemed necessary, mandates discipline to convene immediately following the game of the infraction and prior to the start of the second game. Prior to league, cup or play-off finals a discipline hearing shall be convened (no player shall play in any final with an outstanding red card).
- e) Any team's behaviour or misconduct that is seen as a threat to our club and the safety of the people involved, will be removed from any further league participation and must pay for all additional expenses incurred by the league relating to that incident, including additional expenses for the presence of security (or police) if required. Length of Removal from league participation is at the discretion of the executive.
- f) Notwithstanding discipline rendered by the PVSL, the executive has the authority to discipline a team, a team official or players for actions deemed to be detrimental to the game including the use of violence with intent to injure an opponent by a player. Penalties are to be at the discretion of the executive.

## 8. REFEREE ASSAULT

- a) In the case of referee assault, the NSA on behalf of the OSA shall handle discipline and the accused shall stand suspended from all soccer activities per OSA rules.



- b) The club of the accused shall be required to pay the OSA administrative fee as set down under the OSA rules pertaining to discipline. The accused player must pay fee in the case of independent teams or teams not belonging to an organization.
- c) In the event of back to back games in Cup or League play-offs, if deemed necessary by the Board of Directors, discipline takes place following the first game and prior to the start of the second game. Prior to League cup or play-off finals a discipline hearing shall be convened (no player shall play in any final with an outstanding red card).

## 9. GAME RESULTS & STANDINGS

- a) League standings structure, 3 points for a WIN, 1 point for a TIE, 0 points for a LOSS.
- b) Ties in League standings will be decided in order
  - i. Total points in head to head matches
  - ii. Goal difference in head to head matches
  - iii. Least goals against
  - iv. Most wins
  - v. Goal difference in league standings
  - vi. Coin toss
- c) If a tie still exists, a one game playoff will be played (teams to pay all respective fees and split field cost) to decide the division winner. The home team status is determined by the coin toss. The game will include sudden death overtime (golden goal). Penalty kicks as per FIFA to decide winner should all else fail.
- d) Relegation shall be two teams up and two teams down according to League standings. If teams fold or withdraw from the league, ten teams will stay in the first division to allow new teams to enter the league.
- e) The first two placed teams from the "B" divisions must move up to the "A" Division. The last two placed teams in the "A" division must move down to the "B" Division.

## 10. GAME FORFEITURE



- a) If a team does not show up for a scheduled game, a 3-0 recorded loss and 3 points and a win awarded to the opposing team. In addition, a \$200 fine, field fees, if opponents field, full regular portion of the referee fee (Currently \$75).
- b) Game forfeited with less than 48 hours notice will carry a \$100 fine to forfeiting team along with team's full regular portion of the referee fee (Currently \$75), a 3-0 recorded loss and 3 points and a win awarded to the opposing team. If forfeit occurs on opponent's home field, the offending team must pay, before next regularly scheduled game, the opponent's field fees if applicable.
- c) Game forfeit with more than forty-eight (48) hour notice, no fine will be imposed, a 3-0 recorded loss and 3-points awarded to the opposing team.
- d) Abandoned games carry a \$200 fine payable to PVSL before next regularly scheduled game.

## 11. GAME RAIN OUT & FEES\*

- a) If teams arrive to play a match, the field is unplayable by match referee or venue staff, the officials will receive  $\frac{1}{4}$  game fees from each team at the time of the rain out. \$37.50 per team, which is  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the full fee of \$75 currently charged per side.
- b) Home team is responsible for setting the date for the make-up game within 14 days of the rain out. The away team is expected to attend the make-up or forfeit the match, 3 points and 3 goals to the home team.

## 12. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a) In order for any member to run for the executive, they must not be on probation and must be in good standing with the league for duration of two years.
- b) Any implied threats of legal actions against the Peninsula Veterans Soccer League by any participant in the league shall be banned from coaching/managing or playing on any team in any capacity in the league for an imposed time to be determined by the executive.
- c) Any team or participant that verbally or physically abuses a board member will be disciplined by the board and or removed from the league. Discipline may include fines and/ or suspension from the league. To be determined by the board.



- d) Members on the PVSL board of directors that represent teams in the PVSL shall attend meetings as team representatives and carry out all team manager/representative duties including voting.  
**Voted on and accepted by the league by majority on Wednesday, February 13, 2019.**

### 13. LEAGUE REVIEW

- a) Any team who has violated the following league rules including but not limited to the following will be up for a league review at the end of the season:
- i. Second offence for playing ineligible players.
  - ii. Any team that has forfeited their entire \$250 bond. (\$500 for new teams).
  - iii. Any team that has a total of 3 red cards in the first half of the season.
  - iv. Any team that has a total of 3 red cards in the second half of the season (count starts over at mid-season).
  - v. Any team that physically assaults a referee.
  - vi. Any implied threats of legal actions against the Peninsula Veterans Soccer League or its board members which is in contradiction to the Ontario Soccer Association Waiver and Release of Liability form signed by each participant.
  - vii. Verbally or physically abusive, harasses, threatens any board member in any way.

### 13. LEAGUE REVIEW continued

- i. Any team that is on probation.
- ii. Any team, player, coach, manager that continually creates animosity or verbally discredits the league or any of its board members.

### 14. PROBATION REVIEW

- a) New teams accepted into the PVSL are subject to a minimum 2-year probation period.
- b) During this time, teams can be subject to review by the PVSL board of directors at any point during or at the end of the season and subject to any reprimand necessary including extending this probation period if any issues occur during that time.



## **15. CLOSING DETAIL**

Should an incident arise over the course of the season that is not covered in the rules and which requires immediate action, the PVSL executive members will act in order to make the appropriate decision.

## **16. ADDENDUMS**

- a) Any dispute not covered by these rules and regulations will follow OSA published rules.
- b) All kick offs will commence between 6:30 PM and 9:00 PM unless otherwise agreed upon by both teams involved.
- c) If Sunday games are necessary (polled to and accepted by second division for 2018) in order to keep season on track, game start times are exempt from previous statement. Home team is responsible for match.



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