

Rules for Intramural Soccer:

**NCAA Rules:** All rules not covered here are governed by NCAA rules. Each team is responsible for knowing these rules.

**Sportsmanship Policy:** All players sign the sportsmanship agreement form given to each team captain at the captains meeting stating they have read and understood the rules of the game and APU's Intramural Sportsmanship Policy. Players who do not have the form signed will not be permitted to play until they sign the form.

**Number of Players:** Each team may consist of 16 players. However, only eight players, one of whom must be a goalkeeper, may participate in the game at any one time. Teams are allowed to have four ex-collegiate players on their roster. Only three ex-collegiate players may be on the field at the same time. All players must be current APU undergraduate, graduate students or faculty and staff.

**Substitutions:** Are permitted when the ball is out of play, in your possession, and referee has been notified or if the other team with possession has substituted. A team must have 6 players in order to start a game time.

**Ineligible Players:** Any member of the APU Varsity soccer team, men or women's, who participated in the previous season, any red shirt player from the previous season, and any collegiate player who has not sat out for at least two consecutive academic semesters. Violations will result in immediate forfeits of games played by the student and possible expulsion from the league for the team. No team may have any alumni on their roster.

**Players Equipment:** A player shall not wear anything which is dangerous to another player. Either soccer shoes or tennis shoes must be worn (no bare feet). No metal, aluminum, or hard plastics studs allowed.

**Referee:** The referee shall enforce the rules and decide on any disputed point. His decision on the points of fact connected with the play shall be final so far as the result of the game is concerned. Any player ejected from a game faces a minimum one game suspension. A player can be suspended from the league for verbal abuse towards an official.

**Duration of Game:** The duration of the game shall be two periods of 20 minutes running time with three minutes of half-time.

1. Ball in and out of Play:

- a. The marking on the soccer field are considered in play.
- b. The ball is therefore in play until it is completely across the goal or touch lines either in the air or on the ground.

2. Method of Scoring:

- a. In order to score a goal the ball must completely cross the goal line, between the goal posts, and under the crossbar.

3. Fouls: Penalties are imposed upon players who commit fouls or are involved in misconduct or general dangerous playing. Some of the more frequent fouls are:

- a. There is absolutely no slide tackling allowed under any circumstance!
  - b. Kicking, striking, or jumping at an opponent.
  - c. Tripping or stopping in front of an opponent.
  - d. Handling the ball anywhere below the shoulder (other than the goalkeeper when he is in his own penalty area). Unintentional handling is not a foul.
  - e. Holding, pushing, obstructing with the hand, or arms, or using the knee against an opponent.
  - f. Charging an opponent in a violent or dangerous manner.
  - g. Charging the goalkeeper in the penalty area unless he is obstructing an opponent.
  - h. Kicking the ball when it is in the possession of the goalkeeper.
  - i. Obstruction an opponent, i.e., using the body as an obstacle to block the path of an opponent.
4. Direct and Free Kicks: Free kicks are classified as direct, from which a goal can be scored directly: and indirect, from which a goal cannot be scored until the ball has been touched by another player. Direct free kicks are awarded for major infractions of the rules and for personal misconduct. (Direct kicks awarded in the penalty area are penalty kicks). Offenses for which a direct free kick is given include;
- a. Offenses committed with the hands or arms (handling the ball, holding, using hands or arms on an opponent in order to reach the ball, pushing and striking).
  - b. Slide tackle
5. Throw-In: A throw-in from touch is awarded when the ball passes completely over a touch line either on the ground or in the air. The ball is thrown in from the spot where it crossed the touch line. The following stipulations govern the throw-in:
- a. The throw-in is taken by a player of the team opposite to that of the player who last touched the ball.
  - b. The thrower must face the field of play and must have part of each foot on the ground outside the touch line at the moment of delivering the ball.
  - c. The thrower must use both hands and must deliver the ball from behind his/her head. Hands must be even, no twisting arms or hand during throw.
  - d. Player has only 3 steps to make throw-in.
  - e. The thrower may not play the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player.
6. Penalty for Improper Throw-In:
- a. The throw-in is taken by player of the opposing team for an infringement of throw-in stipulations 2 or 3.
  - b. An indirect free kick is taken by a player of the opposing team for an infringement of throw-in stipulation 5.
7. Goal Kick: A goal kick is awarded when the ball is last touched by an offensive player and passes over the goal line without resulting in a goal. The kick is made by a defender from a point within that half of the goal area nearest to where the ball crossed the line. The following stipulations govern the goal kick:
- a. The ball must be kicked from the ground in any direction beyond the penalty area (ball must leave penalty area).
  - b. The kicker cannot play the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player.

8. Penalty for Improper Goal Kick: The kick is retaken if the ball is not kicked beyond the penalty area. An indirect free kick is taken by a player of the opposing team for an infringement by the player kicking.

9. Corner Kick: A corner kick is awarded when the ball is also touched by a defensive player and passes over the goal line in an area other than the quarter-circle at the nearest flag or cone post.

The following stipulations govern the corner kick:

a. The kicker cannot play the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player.

10. Code of Conduct: Offenses include

a. Offenses involving the goalkeeper. Once goalie controls the ball with his hands, he has 4 steps and must release the ball (rolling or bouncing the ball is considered a step).

b. Offenses involving persons on the sidelines (substitution made at improper time, substitute failing to report to the referee, illegal coaching from sidelines after a warning).

c. Offenses concerned with unsportsmanlike conduct (arguing with the referee, unsportsmanlike conduct, dangerous play, and failure to leave the field of play after ordered to so).

d. Offenses concerned with improper charging, interfering with goalkeeper, or obstruction other than holding.