

**City of Chino Hills**  
**Community Services Department**  
**Adult Soccer Rules and Regulations**

Revised winter 2020

The City of Chino Hills Adult Soccer League has adopted the rules as stated by the Federation International De Football Association (FIFA), except where the City of Chino Hills rules modify or supersede those rules, as outlined in this document.

**Objective:**

To provide a family friendly safe and enjoyable environment for all levels of soccer participants who wish to participate in an organized, recreational program, emphasizing sportsmanship and fair play.

**Liability:**

The City of Chino Hills, game officials, employees and/or agents are not liable for injuries, losses, and/or damages to a person or property occurring from their participation in the Adult Soccer Program.

**League Fees:**

League fees cover the cost of a regular season plus playoffs, referees, soccer goals, nets, flags and team awards.

- Resident: \$60
- Non-resident: \$75

\*\*Returned checks will result in an additional \$33 insufficient funds fee.

Player(s) are not allowed to play until payment is made in either cash or money order to the City of Chino Hills\*\*

**Refunds:**

A refund request form must be filled out and turned into the Grand Ave Park Office prior to the beginning of the third played game. Request for refunds made after the third played game will not be honored.

A \$4 processing fee per person per class will be deducted from all requested refunds and/or household credits.

**City of Chino Hills League Right:** The City of Chino Hills reserves the right to terminate or alter a game, discipline or suspend a player and/or coach for any action against the league or its participants, for the purpose of maintaining a safe and secure atmosphere at all times.

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### **Team Roster**

- 1) Teams must roster a minimum of ten (10) paid players and a maximum of twenty-two (22) paid players for all leagues. All teams must have a minimum of ten (10) paid players to be guaranteed a spot in the league. Players may not be on a roster of more than one team in the same division.
- 2) No player will be permitted on the playing field without showing his/her valid photo I.D. at the check-in table prior to the start of each game.
- 3) **All team rosters become final before the start of their third game of the season, unless the hardship rule applies.** Additions/deletions must be submitted to the Grand Avenue Park Sports Office prior to any new players taking the field. The recreation coordinator shall approve or deny all requested roster additions.
- 4) **Hardship Rule:**  
**Men's and Women's League:** Any team that has their official roster drop to 13 or less players after the third played game may be allowed to add players to a maximum of 16 on the roster.

**Coed 30+ League:** Any team that has their official roster drop to 4 females or less are allowed to add additional female players to a maximum of 6 on the roster. An official roster that drops to 7 males or less are allowed to add additional male players to a maximum of 9 on the roster.

- The Hardship rule will only apply during the regular season and once the team roster has become final. All roster changes made under the hardship rule must be approved by the recreation coordinator in advance.
- Any players dropped under the hardship rule are eligible to receive a refund. Added players will be required to pay league fees in full.
- Request to qualify for the hardship rule must be submitted to the recreation coordinator 3 business days prior to the next scheduled game.
- If approved, all additional players must register at the same time
- Managers may utilize this procedure only once per season and no hardship rule request will be accepted after the 8<sup>th</sup> league played game.

## 5) Women's and Men's 30+ League Roster:

In the Women's and Men's 30+ leagues, teams may **roster** two (2) players under the age of 30. All other players must be 30 years of age or older by the end of their division's registration. No one under the age of 18 can participate in the City of Chino Hills adult soccer league.

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### Illegal or Ineligible Players

- If an opposing manager suspects an illegal or ineligible player(s) on the field, he/she must **NOTIFY THE CITY STAFF** immediately. Referee will not remove questionable player(s) until directed by city staff. Play and game clock do not stop for the questioning and removal of illegal or ineligible player.
- For verification, the supposed illegal player must be a registered player on their team's roster and provide valid picture identification.
- In the event the player cannot prove his/her identity when requested, the player will be removed from the current game and remain out of the game until verification is possible. If the player is deemed illegal, the game may be forfeited and further disciplinary action will be taken against illegal player/team.
- First offense will result in a forfeit of that game along with a forfeit of the next scheduled game. The second offense will lead to a team's dismissal from the league.
- If the staff verifies the player in question is a legal player, play will resume.

### Game Time

- 1) The game will consist of two, forty (40) minute halves, running time for all divisions. The halftime interval will not exceed 10 minutes in length unless altered by the officials. **Game officials are the official timekeepers.**

- 2) The lights at Grand Avenue Park must be turned off no later than 10:00 p.m. we cannot have any delays at the start of a game. Due to these strict time restrictions, there will be no time allowance for any of the following reasons:
  - Substitutions
  - Wasting time
  - Injury to a player(s), unless granted by an official
  - Removal of injured player(s) from the field of play for treatment, (including the use of EMS)
  
- 3) Team captains, officials, and staff will be required to meet at the center circle for a coin toss, five (5) minutes prior to game time. At this time, both teams shall be on their respective sidelines, preparing for the start of the game.

### **Standings**

- 1) A win will be awarded three (3) points, a loss will be rewarded zero (0) points and a draw will be worth one (1) point.
- 2) If at the end of the season team's finish with an uneven amount of games played, overall win percentage will be used to determine standings. In this case, each tie will be awarded a half-win toward their overall win percentage.

In the event of a tie in the standings, the following ties breaker(s) will be used:

- I. Head to head record among tied teams
- II. Goal differential in all games among tied teams
- III. Fewest goals allowed in all games
- IV. Goal differential in all the games

### **Playoffs: (if applicable)**

Playoffs will be determined after the regular season has been played. Seeding will be determined by the total points accumulated during the season. Playoffs vary for each league, please refer to season schedule for more information about playoffs and seeding.

If the score is tied after regulation time has expired, the game will be determined by a five (5) player shootout. If a tie still exists after 5 player shootout, the game will move into a sudden death shootout. Sudden death will consist of 1 shooter from each team at a time; the first player to score, while the other player misses will determine which team wins the match.

Penalty shootout for Coed league will consist of 3 male and 2 female players. If the score remains tied after the 5 player shootout, teams will alternate between a male and female player.

## Forfeits

- 1) If either team is not on the field ready to start the match at the scheduled time then the referee will start his/her watch. A team may play with a minimum of 7 players listed on their roster. If a team does not have 7 players ***on the field and ready to play*** at game time, the grace period will start. Teams will be given a **10-minute** grace period and time will officially be kept by the game officials. ***Grace period time is deducted from playing time.*** If either or both teams are not ready to play after the grace period has elapsed, the game will be considered a forfeit.
  
- 2) The forfeiting team will lose the match with a score of 2-0. If both teams have less than 7 players at the end of the grace period and/or are not ready to play, then the game will be declared a double forfeit with a score 0-0. Neither team will receive points in the standings and both teams will be charged with a forfeit fee.

## Coed 30+ Player Ratio

- A. Teams must meet the requirement with a minimum of one (1) female on the field and a maximum of six (6) male players to start the game.
  - B. Once the minimum player requirement has been met, teams may play with a maximum of seven (7) male players on the field.
  - C. In the event that a team uses a female goalie; teams must play short one male player or with a maximum of six (6) male players on the field.
- 3) If a team is unable to play they can notify the Grand Ave Park Sports office by **TELEPHONE** at least **24 hours** in advance of the scheduled game and receive a “NO CONTEST” bye and not pay the fee. A “NO CONTEST” is recorded as a loss and the forfeiting team will lose the match with a score 2-0.

### Forfeit Fine:

- 1) For the first offence of a forfeit in a single season, there will be a \$25.00 penalty or fee towards the forfeited team. For the second offence in a single season, a \$50.00 forfeit fine will be charged for any game forfeited.
- 2) The forfeit fine must be paid by the team’s next scheduled game. If fees are not paid the team will forfeit the following scheduled game and be charged with an additional forfeit fee.

Note: Teams with a second forfeit offence will also not be allowed to participate in the playoffs and may be subject to being placed on league probation.

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## **On The Field**

### **Coed League:**

#### **Ball Live Rule-**

In order for the ball to become live and score-able, a female player must touch the ball in the offensive half of the field. Once the ball becomes live in the offensive half, it remains live until the ball crosses back to the defensive side of the field. (if play is stopped for a foul/ out of bounds, ball remains live.)

If a female player throws in a ball that is deemed not live into play from the offensive out of bounds, the ball will be considered live and playable.

#### **Coed Mercy Rule-**

- If a team is ahead by (5) goals, the team leading must sit a player. If leading team is playing short, they still must sit a player.
- Team captain will decide which player must sit.
- If losing team comes within 3 goals, leading team may bring back the player asked to sit.

### **Women's 30+:**

For teams in every division:

- If a team goes down by 4 goals, goals scored by a player who has previously scored do not count.
- Final score will be capped by a difference of 4 goals (ex: 2-7, 10-5)

### **Alcohol/Smoking:**

The City of Chino Hills has an ordinance that does not permit the consumption, sale or distribution of alcohol or illegal drugs on its property. Players or teams under the influence of any substance will be removed from the game. If a team or player fails to comply, behavior may result in forfeiture of the game. A first offense will result in a minimum two (2) game suspension. A second offense will result in suspension from the season and may result in possible removal from the league.

**Smoking and the consumption of alcohol will not be permitted at Grand Avenue Park**

### **Profanity:**

The use of profanity at Grand Ave Park will NOT be tolerated. Use of profanity on or off the field will result in a yellow/red card.

### **Team Uniforms:**

- 1) Teams will be required to supply their own team uniforms which consist of matching shirts and shorts.
  - A. If there is a conflict of jersey colors, it is the responsibility of the **home** team to reverse their jerseys, wear back up jerseys or may borrow pennies provided by the city.
  - B. Teams are encouraged to have both a home and away jersey.
- 2) Jerseys are required to have a 6"-8" number on the back of each player's shirt. All players must have a clearly visible and consistent jersey number different from his/her teammates throughout the entire season starting week 1.
  - A. If a player is caught playing with a different jersey number than the one written on the official game card, they will be removed for the remainder of that game.
  - B. If a player receives a red card while wearing an un-assigned number, that player may receive an extra game suspension on top of the red card infraction received.
  - C. The Recreation Coordinator and/or Specialist reserves the right to permit players to play with a substitute number and/or jersey.
  - D. The goalie is not required to have a numbered jersey. However, goalkeepers are required to wear colors which distinguish them from other players, and referees.
- 3) Shin-guards are required. Players are required to wear rubber/plastic sole cleats. No metal cleats will be permitted.
- 4) Players are not allowed to wear jewelry or dangerous equipment (i.e. earrings, rings, chains, or protective metal braces, etc.) Players are permitted to wear non-metal protective braces that are concealed with a protective covering.

### **Captain Policy:**

- 1) Only the designated captain for each team is permitted to discuss with the referee any disputes on the field.

### **Substitutions:**

The names of substitutes must be stated on the official line-up card when being submitted to the official prior to the beginning of the match. The following conditions must be observed when substitution occurs:

- A) Substitutions may occur for an unlimited number of players during ANY stoppage of play at the referee's discretion.
- B) All substitutes must be signaled into play by the referee.
- C) A substitute may only enter during a stoppage of play. The substitute officially becomes a player when the official signals a proper substitute.
- D) Goalkeepers may be replaced with any other player provided that the official has been informed before the change has been made.
- E) If players choose to exit field from the opposing team's sideline, they must return to their sideline in a timely manner.

### **Sidelines:**

Teams playing each other must be on opposing sidelines during the game. The home team will be on the north/east side of the field and the visiting will be on the south/west side of the field.

### **Sliding:**

The City of Chino Hills defines sliding as playing or attempting to play the ball while a knee or hip is on the ground.

- A) Sliding is **NOT** permitted in any league/division. The only exception will be for the goalie who may only slide within the 18-yard box.
- B) If a defending player illegally slides and attempts to prevent the ball from entering the goal; it is considered preventing a goal scoring opportunity. Player will be shown a yellow/red card and a penalty kick will be awarded to the attacking team.
- C) If a defensive player slides in the 18-yard box, a penalty may be issued to the offensive team, based on the discretion of the referee.

### **Disciplinary Procedures:**

Officials can issue yellow and red cards to any players, managers, and/or spectators that are on the sidelines during and after a match.

**Yellow Card:** A Player will be cautioned and shown a yellow card if he/she commits a cautionable offence per the judgment of the game official.

1. Any player, including the goalkeeper, receiving a "Yellow Card" will sit out for a period of five (5) minutes. The official time will be kept by the referee. The offending team will be able to substitute in a player during the five (5) minute sit out period for their carded player.
2. Any player receiving two yellow cards in a single game will receive a red card and will receive a minimum one game suspension. After the ejection, the offending team will play short player(s).



3. Any player who receives a yellow card in 5 (five) consecutive games, will receive a one game suspension. Suspension will be upheld in the next game following the game when 5<sup>th</sup> yellow card was given by referee.

**Red Card:** A player is sent off and shown the red card if he/she commits a serious offence per the judgment of the game official. All players receiving a red card must immediately leave the premises and may be ejected for all league games depending on the severity of the offense.

**Intentionally striking or physically attacking another player, game official, staff or spectator may result in an indefinite expulsion from the City of Chino Hills' Adult Soccer Program.**

1. Any player receiving a "Red Card" for unsporting behavior (Player will be shown a yellow/red card and a penalty kick will be awarded to attacking team. violent conduct, serious foul play, abusive language, etc...) will result in a suspension of a minimum of two played games.
2. Any player receiving a second offence red card for unsporting behavior will result in a suspension of a minimum of three played games.

**NOTE:** Suspended player(s)/managers are not allowed at Grand Avenue Park during the term of the suspension or their team will forfeit the game.

**Ejections:** Managers, players, or spectators who are ejected from a game will be asked to leave the park premises by the game official or city staff. If the individual does not comply within 5 minutes after being ejected, his/her team may forfeit the game.

**Probation:** Any player accruing 5 yellow cards and/or 2 red cards during the same season will be placed on probation. While on probation, any further player actions deemed inappropriate by the city will result in further disciplinary action.

The City of Chino Hills reserves the right to place any player with multiple offenses or constant unsporting behavior on probation. If behavior does not improve, the player will be permanently removed from the City of Chino Hills Adult Soccer Program.

**Taunting:** Officials reserve the right to issue a card and/or eject any player, manager, or spectator before during or after a game for taunting or using derogatory language.

**Cheating:** If a team is caught cheating i.e., checking in an unregistered player, swapping jersey numbers, swapping wrist bands, etc. the team will face disciplinary action up to the discretion of the Recreation Coordinator and Recreation Specialist.

**Turf Rule Infractions:** Infractions for violating turf rules will be given out by staff to each team that has a player or spectator on the sidelines violating these rules. Teams will be given a maximum of **three** (3) infractions per season before disciplinary action is taken by the specialist and coordinator. Disciplinary action will result in a one game suspension for the entire team resulting in a loss in points for the game scheduled. Suspended team will have to pay a forfeit fee of \$25 dollars for the first offense, and \$50 dollar forfeit fee for their second offense. Specialist or Coordinator will inform the team manager of any warnings given by staff, before applying an infraction. Refer to Grand Ave Park's Turf Rules for further information.

- Teams scheduled to play a suspended team because of turf rule violation, will be informed in advance. Opposing team will be given a \$6 credit to their account, and be awarded a win (3pts).