Markham Soccer Club

Outdoor Playing Rules

Youth Inter Club U14-U19

Effective Date: October 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Philosophy	3
Club & Team Official Responsibilities	3
Game Sheets	3
Player Eligibility	4
Call Up Rule	4
Inter Club Game Format Quick Reference	4
Scheduling, Postponements & Completion of Games	4
Grace Period, Minimum Players & Defaults	5
Short Handed Teams	5
Referees & Referee N0-Show	5
Uniform, Equipment & Game Balls	6
Scores, Standings & Fair Play	6
Discipline & Misconduct	6
Protests & Appeals	6
End of Season Tournament	7
Referee Quick Reference Guide for Inter Club Games	7

PHILOSOPHY

The Inter Club program is intended to provide an opportunity for players and coaches to enjoy developing, playing and coaching in a well-balanced, fun environment which promotes sportsmanship and development over competition and winning;

Inter Club house league is recreational soccer involving teams within the York Region Soccer Association (YRSA);

Teams entered into Inter Club house league must be house league caliber and not former competitive or disguised competitive teams;

The spirit of equal play continues to apply. Coaches must make a good-faith effort to provide fair playing time across games and the season;

Fair play, player safety and respect for match officials, coaches and spectators is mandatory.

CLUB & TEAM OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The home club is responsible for providing a safe, properly marked and permitted field with appropriate nets, corner flags and game conditions;

Each Club is responsible for the conduct of its players, team officials and spectators before, during and after the match until they have left the grounds and parking lots;

Team officials and players must remain within the technical/team area. Spectators must remain in the designated spectator area and away from team benches and goal lines;

A team may list no more than 4 (four) team officials on the game sheet;

All team officials and players must be properly registered according to Ontario Soccer, YRSA and club requirements.

GAME SHEETS

The home team must provide the required official game sheet copies or digital equivalent as directed by the host convenor/league. to the referees for each game.

The coach of each team must review the game sheet before the match. Players not participating must be crossed off and changes must be initialed by a team official;

A player or team official listed on the game sheet is considered to have participated unless crossed off before the game;

Players must wear a uniform with a number that corresponds with what is listed on the game sheet;

Call up players must be clearly identified on the game sheet;

The referee must complete the game sheet and submit it according to the host Clubs procedure.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A player must be registered with the player's club no later than the day of the match to be eligible, unless the YRSA rule requires an earlier registration timeline;

No team may use an un-registered/ineligible/suspended or improperly called-up player;

A team using an ineligible player may be subject to discipline, default or forfeiture;

Player eligibility protests or concerns must follow YRSA / league process and timeline.

CALL UP RULE

Call up players must come from the same club as the team using them;

Call up players must be younger recreational players;

A team may not use more than 3 call up players in one game;

The number of call up players used may not exceed the number of rostered players absent from the game;

Any individual call up player may only be used as a call up for a maximum of 6 times during the current season;
Call ups must be properly registered and must be identified as a call up on the game sheet;

Players from another club may not be used under any circumstances.

INTER CLUB GAME FORMAT QUICK REFERENCE

DIVISION	FORMAT	DURATION	MIN. PLAYERS	BALL	NOTES
U13/U14	11 v 11	2 x 40 minutes	7 for 11 v 11	Size 5	Follow Ontario Soccer field and reporting rules
U15/U16	11 v 11	2 x 45 minutes	7	Size 5	No extra time or penalty kicks in regular season ties
U17 – U19	11 v 11	2 x 45 minutes	7	Size 5	Follow host club rules for playoffs or year-end tournament

SCHEDULING, POSTPONEMENTS & COMPLETION OF GAMES

Teams may not postpone games on their own;

Games are played as scheduled unless the referee, league, parks/field authority or host club authority postpones or cancels the game;

A game abandoned due to weather or playing conditions is deemed complete if the league completion threshold has been met. Under Ontario Soccer rules, two thirds of the game plus one minute must have elapsed for the game to be complete;

There is no extra time or penalty kicks to break a regular season tie.

GRACE PERIOD, MINIMUM PLAYERS & DEFAULTS

A 15-minute grace period applies where a team has fewer than the minimum required players at scheduled kick off;

The game must start as soon as both teams have the required minimum of players;

If a team cannot field the minimum number of players (7) by the end of the grace period, the match is recorded and reported as a default and the team that was able to field players is deemed to have won 3-0;

If a team has the minimum number of players (7) but less than a full roster of 11, the opposing team may play "one-up" with one player more than the team with less than 11;

Any scrimmage after a default is not an official game.

SHORT HANDED TEAMS (the "One-up Rule")

In the event a team does not have the capacity to field a full team, the following points apply to that game:

11 A-SIDE GAME
If a team cannot field eleven (11) players due to absenteeism, illness or injury, the opposing team may only play one (1) more player than the short-handed team to a maximum of eleven (11) players. Thus, a team with only seven (7) players may play against a team of eight (8) or a team with only nine (9) players may play against a team of ten (10).

REFEREES & REFEREE NO-SHOW

The host club is responsible for providing a referee;

The referee is the sole official timekeeper and has final authority on field safety and playability;

If the referee does not show after the applicable grace period (15 minutes), there is no official inter club game unless the host club provides written direction (to the opposing club admin staff) permitting an alternate procedure;

Referees must report discipline, abandonment, injury and other incidents (to their club) within the timeline outlined by Ontario Soccer.

UNIFORM, EQUIPMENT & GAME BALLS

All players must wear regulation soccer shoes: cleats;

Shin guards (pads) are MANDATORY for all players in games and training sessions. Referees will not allow players to play if are not wearing them. NO EXCEPTIONS;

The goalkeeper must wear a shirt that is a distinctly different colour from the players on either team;

Where uniform colours conflict, the home team must change colours either new shirts and/or pinnies;

Hard casts are not permitted while playing soccer; soft casts that are wrapped in a protective foam or cloth are permitted;

The home team is responsible for providing an acceptable game ball;

Coaches and referees are instructed to follow FIFA Law 4 (The Player's Equipment) and interpretations of it by the Ontario Soccer (OS) and the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA). These cover such items as jewellery, headgear and other equipment.

NO JEWELLERY IS PERMITTED TO BE WORN.

SCORES, STANDINGS & FAIR PLAY

Scores and standings will be recorded and published in the Power Up system;

Coaches must act to preserve fair play in a one-sided game. Adjustments may include changing positions, emphasizing possession/build-up or reducing pressure;

The referee may record concerns about team conduct, fair play or excessive behaviour on the game sheet or report it to their Club Head Referee and/or District Head Referee.

DISCIPLINE & MISCONDUCT

Misconduct is governed by the Laws of the Game, Ontario Soccer discipline policies;

Referees must submit discipline reports for cautions, dismissals, team official misconduct, abandonment, threats, abuse, discriminatory comments and any serious incident;

Clubs will be held responsible for the conduct of their players, team officials and spectators;

Referee abuse, threats, intimidation or discriminatory language must be reported to the District and my lead to discipline, fines and/or game abandonment.

PROTESTS & APPEALS

Game protests must follow written process, fee and timeline published by Ontario Soccer;

No protest concerning a referee's decision on facts connected with a play will be accepted;

END OF SEASON TOURNAMENT

Each age group shall participate in an end of season tournament; which can be hosted by an club;

The hosting club shall provide an event schedule that will also outline any related costs (referees, awards, field costs, etc);

Costs shall be equally shared by the clubs participating in each age group in proportion to the number of teams registered;

Medals shall be presented at the final game to the champions (gold) and finalists (silver); a bronze medal shall be awarded to the winner of consolation final.

Each club shall provide the host of the end of season tournament confirmation of each team participating in the tournament, no less than 7 days prior to the opening day of the tournament.

REFEREE QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR INTER CLUB GAMES

TOPIC	**REFERE INSTRUCTIONS**
Rule Set	Host club rules control
Game Duration	U13/U14 – 2 x 40min; U15-U19 – 2 x 45 min
Grace Period	15 minutes if a team has fewer than 7 players
Referee No-Show	No official game after grace period ends
Call-Ups	Same club, younger rec players only, within league limits, marked on game sheet
Reports	Submit game sheet and discipline/incident reports to host club and/or District
Fair Play	Record serious fair play concerns and report to the host Club Head Referee

To view the IFAB Laws of the game, go to the following website:

laws-of-the-game-202627-double-pages