



2026 MEN'S RECREATIONAL LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES

P.O BOX 857, 11151 Keele St., Maple, ON L6A 1S8

T. 905.832.0911 F. 905.832.0624

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www.vaughansoccer.com

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE BELOW LISTED RULES AND GUIDELINES

Any rules/guidelines not covered within this document will be covered within the 'FIFA Laws of the Game' and the OS Policies and Procedures. The Vaughan Soccer Men's League operates under the 'FIFA Laws of the Game', unless these policies and procedures state otherwise.

PRE-GAME CEREMONIES

- The teams (all players and coaching staff present who are officially listed on the roster) will line up on the touch line in front of their respective benches
- The player's equipment will be checked at this time
- **NEW:** All players must present player identification
- When this is complete, the teams will then shake hands with the referee and opposing team
- There will be no formal handshake after the game

POST GAME PROCEDURE

- Each team captain will email the league the final score of the game and include the number of officials present. For example, 3 officials include 1 referee and 2 linesmen. 2 officials includes 1 referee and 1 linesman

SCHEDULES

- The league has the authority to make field changes, cancel and/or reschedule a game at any time
- It is the responsibility of the team captain to check their email for any changes
- All teams must abide by the schedule; postponement of games will not be permitted under any circumstance unless otherwise approved by the league
- Games will not be rescheduled at the request of any team unless approved by the league

TEAM CAPTAINS

- For the purpose of the league, the team captain will be considered the individual who registered the team and is the main team official
- The team captain will be the main point of contact for the team and is responsible for maintaining team records and league administration
- The team captain shall have sole authority over their team and is responsible for maintaining orderly conduct of their team, family and spectators

PLAYERS

- A player must register on a registration form provided by the league and pay the required fee prior to participating in any league program
- In order to be eligible to play in a game, the completed player registration form and waivers must be completed online by Wednesday at 5pm of the week of the game
- All eligible players must be listed on the official team roster provided by the league
- Additional players above the 18th player on the roster will be at a cost of \$50.00
- A player may play for only one team in a division
- A player will be permitted to join the team no later than July 31, 2026



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- Player's must bring valid photo identification to all games

REFEREE

- Shall have sole authority on the field, and sole time keeper, in accordance law V of F.I.F.A
- In the event of a player, or official being ordered off the field, a complete detailed report of the incident which made this action necessary is to be written by the referee and will be forwarded to the league within 48 hours
- The referee may be called before the disciplinary committee to explain their report

PROTESTS

- Game protests must be made to the league, in writing, within 24 hours of the completion of the game in question
- All protests have a fee of \$100.00
- No protest dealing with a decision of the referee will be accepted

ROSTER

- Official roster provided by the league must be present at each game
- The team roster(which includes registered player names) and photo identification (i.e driver's license or health card with a photo – a photo of the identification is acceptable) must be present at all games.
- If a Team is not able to provide the official roster (digital copy is acceptable), they will not be able to play and the team will forfeit.
- If a player is not able to provide photo identification, they will not be able to play and will be deemed ineligible for that match.
- A player is only permitted to play for 1 team in each division/tier
- League representatives have the right to check team rosters, game sheets or player identification at any time to prove the validity and identity of players. When asked by the league representative, players must present their Photo ID.
- **NEW:** All players must provide photo identification prior to the start of every game. If a player arrives after the game has started, they must show their identification to the opposing team.
- Any illegal player (unregistered with the League, or registered with a professional League) the team will forfeit the game and will be fined \$ 500.00

MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS

- A player will be permitted to join the team no later than July 31, 2026
- Only the goalie can be replaced at any time (prior to the start of playoffs), if his injury is at least four weeks in duration (a medical note will be required). The new goalie will be permitted to stay with the team only as a goalie until the original goalie returns at which point they will no longer be eligible to play.



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GAMESHEET

- NO GAME SHEET = NO PLAY. All teams are required to completely fill out the official Vaughan Soccer Club game sheet with player's names, corresponding jersey numbers, date, time and location of the game
- The game sheet must be provided to the referee prior to each game
- If a team does not have a game sheet, the team will forfeit the game and will be fined \$100
- In the event that both teams do not provide game sheets, both teams will forfeit (receive a loss) and will be fined \$100 each
- Maximum 18 dressed players allowed on the bench and 2 coaching staff. Only those on the roster are allowed to sit on the bench, all other individuals must sit on the spectators side of the field

DURATION

- Games shall be 90 minutes (2 x 45 halves)
- Regular season games can end in a tie
- For playoffs, if a winner is needed: Five penalty shots and then one shot each, until a winner is declared
- Any team to which does not field a full team (Minimum 7 players, F.I.F.A. Rules) will forfeit the game and will also be fined \$100.00 for not showing up
- A grace period of (15) fifteen minutes will be allowed in the event that a team has less than seven players at the appointed kick-off time
- In the event that a game is stopped for any reason, as long as 50% has been completed, the game will be deemed as completed
- Any team that defaults three (3) times during a season will be disqualified from the League

UNIFORM/EQUIPMENT

- SHINPADS ARE MANDATORY
- The team will provide their own equipment to each player Jersey, Shorts (no pants, except for the goalie), Socks and Shin Pads. Players must wear matching team jerseys that must have a number on the back that corresponds to the game sheets/roster
- Players are permitted to have their name, last name or nick name on the back of their jersey as long as it is appropriate, is not vulgar and will not offend anyone in any context
- Only players who register individually (not to a specific team) with the league will be provided with a uniform (jersey, shorts, socks)
- Home teams are responsible for providing the game ball
- If both teams who are scheduled to play against each other are wearing the same jersey colour, or a similar colour, the home team is required to change their jersey colour or wear pinnies
- No jewelry, watches, fitbits, etc. may be worn. Black leggings will be permitted; however, they must be under the shorts and shin pads/socks so that the full uniform is still visible
- Any leg braces or arm casts with hard plastic/metal must get approval from the referee and must be covered with an approved wrap



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SUBSTITUTION

- Allowed at goal kicks, goal scoring, throw-ins (piggy back optional) and when there is an injury

TACKLING

- No sliding in the 35+ division (Examples: Tackling players, sliding for loose balls and prevention of balls going out)
- Rule does not apply to goalies

PENALIZED PLAYERS AND FINES

- Any player who is suspended in the league will receive an email notification from the league with the specific game details they are to miss
- Red cards (minimum 1 game suspension, additional suspension will be based on VSC Disciplinary Board Review)
- If a player is cautioned with 2 yellow cards in the same game it will result in an automatic 1 game suspension
- If a player accumulates 3+ yellow cards in a season automatic 1 game suspension, additional suspension will be based on VSC Disciplinary Board Review
- If a player accumulates 3+ red cards in a season, automatic 1 game suspension, additional suspension will be based on VSC Disciplinary Board Review
- Any game suspension will be dictated by the league
- All yellow and red cards from the regular season will carry over into playoffs
- All fines that a team accumulates will be deducted from the team bond. All fines must be paid in full within two weeks of when the league sends an updated account balance. Any and all account balances due to fines must be cleared by the start of playoffs

Accumulation of cautions by a team will be dealt with as follows:

1. 10 Cautions- Discipline Hearing plus \$100 fine
2. 20 Cautions- Discipline Hearing plus \$500 fine
3. 35 Cautions- Discipline Hearing plus \$1000 Fine and review of membership

Accumulation of dismissals by a team will be dealt with as follows:

1. 8 Dismissals- Discipline Hearing plus \$500 fine
2. 10 Dismissals- Discipline Hearing plus \$1000 fine and review of membership

Should a team reach 31 Cautions or 10 Dismissals in a year, a \$1000 performance bond will be required for that team to enter the league the following year. Should that team reach 31 Cautions or 10 Dismissals in the following year, the performance bond will be forfeited

STANDINGS

- Total point's accumulated: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie and 0 points for a loss
- In the event of a total points tie: (Two or Three way) The winner shall be decided on:
 1. Competition against each other
 2. Goals for, minus goals against difference



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3. Team most wins
 4. Team most goals
 5. Goals for, minus goals against each other
 6. Coin toss
- Any team who forfeited any game will automatically lose the decision

FIELDS

- All fields used for this league are maintained and controlled by the City of Vaughan
- When leaving the premises, please ensure that all garbage is thrown out and personal belongings are taken. Should a team be warned twice for garbage that is left after their game. The team will be fined \$100.00

FORFEITS

- Any team that forfeits a game will be recorded as a 3-0 loss, and a \$100 fine will be imposed

WEATHER CONDITION

- In the event that the City of Vaughan closes the fields, the league will communicate any closures via email no later than 3pm on Sunday's and no later than 7pm on Friday's
- Please note, that in the past the City of Vaughan has reopened fields after it had originally closed them earlier in the day. The league's email of field closure will be the official communication
- Every effort will be made by the league to reschedule un-played games cancelled due to weather, however, if un-played games do not impact the standings games will not be rescheduled
- Teams will be notified within 3 days of a rescheduled game. Rescheduled games may be played on different days and times as those of the regularly scheduled dates and times
- During the game, if there is lightening and the referee stops the game, both teams must wait up to 30 minutes before the game is officially called
- Any game played at least 50% is deemed valid, according to the referee report

MISC.

- Fighting or spectator interference will not be tolerated. The league has the right to suspend and terminate the player(s) or teams from playing in the league