

## SAGINAW TOWNSHIP SOCCER ASSOCIATION (STSA)

### STSA COACHES INFORMATION AND RULES

#### Introduction

The Saginaw Township Soccer Association Board of Directors would like to thank you for volunteering to coach. We hope that you find this to be a most enjoyable and rewarding experience. As parents and coaches we know that you recognize it is most important for the players to have fun, learn about the game of soccer, and to continue development of their soccer skills. Please stress having fun and good sportsmanship.

If you have a conflict with a parent, player, another coach, or the referee, please try to settle it calmly and preferably after the game with a board member or coordinator present. Please contact your coordinator (see list below) if you have any questions or comments.

#### STSA Division Coordinators

Below is the list of age specific division coordinators. If you have any questions or issues related to your division, please contact your coordinator.

Age Division	Coordinator Name	Phone Number
League Coordinator	Tim Jacques	(989) 245-1659
U-5/6 Boys/Girls	Raji Mondol & John Ayala	(989) 790-0259 Raji (989) 860-3939 John
U8 Boys	Bob Vitu	(989) 797-2423
U8 Girls (Assistant League Coordinator)	Heather Patterson	(989) 891-7420
U10 Boys	Witold Rybinski	(989) 791-9076
U10 Girls	Teresa Miller	(989) 327-0301
U10 Developmental (Majors)	Jamie Dole	(989) 781-5143
U12 Boys and Girls	Christopher Lewis	(989) 450-6529
U15 Boys and Girls	Arik Bry	(989) 737-1393
U19 Boys/Girls	Nigel Roberts	(989) 225-1272
<b>SAGINAW TOWNSHIP SOCCER ASSOCIATION INFORMATION</b>		
STSA Complex Phone Number:	(989) 792-9600	
STSA Website	<a href="http://www.saginawsoccer.org">www.saginawsoccer.org</a>	

#### STSA Volunteer Opportunities

STSA is a volunteer organization with non-paid board members. To be successful and to maintain the quality of our programs and facilities we rely on the participation of parents and families.

Please be a advocate for STSA and encourage your parents to give back to the program by volunteering time at STSA. Areas we always looking for help with are:

- Player Registrations and Sign up
- Concessions
- Tournament organizing, setup, clean up, registration, and field marshalling

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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### Season and Schedule

The season starts on Saturday April 30th. **Please contact your players as soon as possible.** If you cannot make contact with a player or there is a problem, call your coordinator. Schedules will be available online a week prior to opening day.

Please check your schedules;

- Eight games on the schedule for U8 and above. Participation in the Recreational tournament is considered part of the season. June 4th = 3 games.
- Ten (10) games for U5 and U6. No participation in the Recreational tournament

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### Practices

Teams can start practicing anytime. Teams can meet a total of three times per week, i.e.: 1 practice + 2 games (does not apply to U-10 travel developmental league). Practices can be held at most township schools and parks.

#### **PRACTICING AT THE STSA COMPLEX IS PROHIBITED.**

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### Soccer Goal 2012

In lieu of a fundraiser we are asking that all teams contribute to the Soccer Goal 2012 field and complex expansion. The addition of new fields is the future of soccer in Saginaw and your support is needed. Log into the STSA website for more information.

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### Assistants and Volunteers

Coaches will need to find volunteers for assistant coaches and team parent. See team roster for more information. There can be **no more than TWO** coaches on the same sideline for each team.

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### Risk Management

All Coaches (including assistant coaches) must complete a risk management application in order to coach. This is a requirement of MSYSA and is for the safety of the players. Additional information will be available at the coaches meeting.

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### Equipment

Each team will be provided a bag of balls to be used for practices and games. Turn in the balls at the end of the season to your division's coordinator or at the concession stand. Put a piece of paper with your team number on it in the bag before you turn it in. (Does not apply U5-U6)

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### Uniforms

All players must wear a STSA jersey. Jerseys can be purchased at the STSA store next to the concession stand for a cost of \$15.00 each. Socks and sweatshirts can also be purchased. The store will be open the week prior to the start season. Please call the complex or refer to the web site for exact dates and times.

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### Refreshments

Players should bring water to all games and practices. If you wish, end of the game treats can be scheduled through the coach or team parent.

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### Pictures

Photos will be taken by Hick's studio at complex. Information will be provided at the coaches meeting. Team and individual in the Fall, Individual only in the Spring.

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### Pro Training

Training sessions will be available to all recreation players. Information on the training sessions will be handed out and posted at a later date.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION, Continued

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### Referees

A referee will be assigned to each game by STSA except in the U-5/U-6 division. In the case where it appears a referee is absent contact the board member in charge at the concession stand. Extra referees are generally assigned on each game day.

The STSA Board has a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** with regards to the treatment of referees and expects all referees to be treated with respect by all coaches, parents, and players. Be patient and positive with all referees, especially the club referees that do most of the younger age group games and are generally still learning how to referee a game. If you have a problem with a referee please bring it to the attention of the referee coordinator or the board member in charge after the game so the problem can be addressed.

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### U5/U6 Time clock

In the U5 and U6 Division STSA will provide a time clock/air horn that will keep time of each quarter in order to keep the games moving along and on time. Delayed starts to accommodate late players or coaches **WILL NOT BE ALLOWED** to assure scheduled matches begin and end on time

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### Board Member in Charge (BMIC)

On all regular scheduled game days there is at least one STSA Board Member assigned to be in charge of the complex. Please report to that person if you need assistance or have a problem. This would include problems with the fields, coaches, players, spectators or referees, and any injuries of a serious nature.

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### Cancelled games due to Weather

The following will occur if games are canceled due to bad weather:

1. An announcement will be made on the following radio stations: WIOG, WHNN, WILZ, WKQZ, WSGW and WGER. In addition any canceled games may be posted on our web site or by e-mail if time permits.
2. A yellow flag will be flown from the complex's flagpole, signifying that games have been canceled.
3. If a foghorn is sounded during a game all coaches, players, and parents are to leave the fields and find shelter. (see STSA sever weather policy)

All games are to be rescheduled. Rescheduling of games is to be done thru the coordinator for the division your team is in.

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### Coaches Conduct

All coaches are reminded that they teach good sportsmanship to players and parents through their behavior. It is your responsibility to conduct yourself in a respectable controlled manner in all situations and that you serve as a role model for the players. Remember be respectful to opponents by not running up the score or allowing taunting or behavior that would humiliate another player. As coaches we are here for the sole purpose to instruct, supervise and facilitate kids in the game of soccer but **MOST OF ALL TO HAVE FUN.**

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## LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES

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**Responsibilities of Home team** The home team is indicated on the schedule. The home team is responsible for providing the game ball along with placing and removing the corner flags. Corner flags will be available at the front of the concession stand.

**IF UNSURE WHO IS REPOSNSIBLE PLEASE RETURN THE FLAGS!!**

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**Team Colors** The **HOME** team wears **WHITE** and the **VISITING (away)** team wears **RED**.

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**Player Equipment** Shin guards are required and must be covered by socks. Soccer shoes are recommended but not mandatory. All recreational players are to wear an STSA Jersey. Goaltenders are required to wear a goalie shirt. The goalie shirt can be any color except red or white.

All jewelry will be **REMOVED** or the player will not be allowed to play. Covering or taping jewelry, including earrings, is not acceptable. This rule will be strictly enforced and is for the safety of the players.

Hats, gloves and pants may be worn in cold weather.

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**Number of Players** The number of players a team is to have on the field is indicated in the chart on the next page. The minimum number of players a team can play with is also indicated.

If a team is short players the team with more players has the option of playing with fewer players. If one team has considerably more players than the team that is short and will greatly diminish playing time for players on that team, it is suggested the team with more players loan players to the other team

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**Game Rules** All STSA games shall be conducted in accordance with the current FIFA laws of the Game and decisions of the International Football Association Board in effect at a date amended by the Saginaw Township Soccer Association.

**There is no slide tackling allowed in all divisions.**

Goalies may take unlimited number of steps when they have the ball in their hands but must remain in the penalty area and give up possession with their hands within six seconds or prior to leaving the penalty area.

Please attempt to learn the rules of the game and teach them to the Players and parents. STSA wants the referees to call the rules and fouls in all divisions. The above rules can only be modified by written notice from the League or Division coordinator.

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## LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES, Continued

	U5	U6	U8	U10	U12	U15	U19
Size of Ball	3	3	3	4	4	5	5
No. of Players	**	**	6V6*	8V8*	8V8*	11v11	11v11
Substitutions	N/A	N/A	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Injuries	Substitution for injured player only.						
Cautions	Substitution for cautioned player only.						
Game Duration	one 10 minute "game" per session**	one 10 minute "game" per session**	Two 20-minute halves	Two 25-minute halves	Two 30-minute halves	Two 35-minute halves	Two 35-minute halves
Foul Kicks	Direct	Direct	FIFA LAWS	FIFA LAWS	FIFA LAWS	FIFA LAWS	FIFA LAWS
Distance from Kicks	6 yards	6 yards	8 yards	8 yards	10 yards	10 yards	10 yards
Penalty Kicks	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Second Throw-in	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Coin Toss	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Offside Rule	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Any Laws not specifically amended or mentioned in the above chart are to be enforced using the FIFA Laws of the Game.**

\* **Note:** The STSA small sided format is designed to assure the maximum number of touches on the ball per player.

However, if enough volunteer coaches are not identified the number of players per side may need to be adjusted.

\*\* See separate pages for specific game day format !

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**Playing Time** In the U8 Divisions and above, unlimited substitutions are allowed. Coaches are responsible to assure that playing time is fairly distributed amongst the players.

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**Coaches and Spectators** Coaches are to stay on their half of the field (except for the coaches on the field in U5/U6 division). No team shall have more than two coaches. Spectators are to be on the sideline opposite the teams. No spectators or coaches are allowed behind the goals. See attached sheet.

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**Additional Game Rules** U5/U6 Divisions:

Please review the all new game day format with U5/U6 Division Coordinator – Raji Mondol.

U5 and U6 are played on a split field format. Rules specific to that division are provided on separate pages.

Coaches are allowed on the field in the U-5/U-6 Divisions. Coaches are to help direct the players but should be as inconspicuous as possible. Coaches are there to facilitate the game and shall not interfere with the play in any way.

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