

REC. PLAYOFF OBJECTIVE/RULES

Tournament objective:

We treat the end of year tournament as a nice way to celebrate a champion and to get the players more games to play. Unlike travel soccer, there is a finality to our season. We don't believe in participation trophies for everyone and feel that winning and losing is part of life. We want to remind everyone that this tournament can become intense between players, coaches and fans. However, the number one thing to remember is good sportsmanship. How people react, will have a lasting impression on your players, so let's use this as a fun way to end the season and crown a champion.

Playoff game rules:

1. For both the upper and lower league, all the same rules will apply during the playoffs as your regular season rules. We must have a winner for a team to move on.
2. Overtime. Will be played if a game ends in a tie in regulation. It will consist of two- 5 minute overtimes. The higher seeded team has the choice of which goal to defend/ the lower seed kicks off. Overtime will be played in its entirety. There is no sudden death winner from a goal being scored. After the first 5 minutes, the teams will have a 1 minute break and change sides to complete the second 5 minutes.
3. Penalty kicks. If a game is still tied after the overtime, the teams will go into penalty kicks. A best of 5 will take place.
 - All the penalty kicks will take place at one goal, with the referee deciding which end of the field to use. They will take into consideration wind, quality of the penalty spot, goal mouth area, etc.
 - Both teams must stay on their own sidelines and send their 5 shooters to the center circle (coaches are also allowed at the center circle)
 - Shooters selected must have been in the game when the overtime came to an end. The goalie that is used must also have been the goalie on the field at the end of overtime.
 - The higher seeded team has the choice to shoot first or second.
 - Goalies are allowed to take penalty kicks.
 - Once a player takes his/her kick, they return to the sidelines with the rest of his/her team.
 - If tied after the 5 rounds, the coaches will send out one player each to the center circle to take the next kick. This is considered sudden death and the process will continue until we have a winner. These players must also have been on the field at the end of overtime. If you have used up all those players, then you start selecting your bench players.
 - Players cannot kick twice. However, if you end up using everyone on your team, then they may re-kick, with the players coming out in the same order.