

PELZER UNITED SOCCER CLUB

Pelzer United Adult Soccer League Rules

1. League Policies

A. Registration: Register online at PelzerUnited.com. Please contact Martin Okereke at mokereke@pelzerunited.com or pelzerunited@gmail.com for information on registering for Soccer.

B. Forfeits: Forfeits are unavoidable sometimes, but communication with the Adult Soccer League Director (Martin Okereke) is critical when these situations arise.

1. Official starting game time is forfeit time. Teams must have the minimum four (4) eligible players to play a game. Teams cannot play with less than four (4) players. If there are less than four (4) eligible players prior or during the game, the game will be ruled a forfeit.

2. Notice to the Adult Soccer League Director that the team will forfeit should occur by the end of Friday: The game will be rescheduled to the following Sunday or a weekday.

- a. Notice to the Adult Soccer League Director that the team will forfeit after Friday: Team loses automatically by 3 goals.

- b. NOTE: If a game is forfeited by Friday or before then, all other teams should be prepared to have their game schedule adjusted and game times/days shifted for that day's games and subsequent games.

3. Any team that forfeits two games during the season will not be eligible for the playoffs.

4. A forfeited adult soccer game will be scored as 3-0.

C. Weather Cancellations:

1. All Sunday games will be decided by 12:00 noon on the day of the game or at the field.
2. You can receive weather and game status updates on Pelzer United Soccer Club Facebook page. Players will be sent an email for game cancellations.
3. Some cancellations may be made at the field at the discretion of the officials and field supervisors.
4. Rained out games will only be rescheduled one (1) time for make-up, or as deemed necessary by the Adult Soccer League Director due to the standings. Make-up games may be played on any day of the week, at any field location, and at any time, as needed.

2. Team Composition

- A. There are no boundaries from which teams may draw players.
- B. Guest Players: Only in the event a team is short the minimum number of players in the COED divisions to play a game, the team may pick up no more than two (2) maximum players. These must be on another team's roster. Guest players are only permitted for regular season games; they are NOT allowed for playoff games.
- C. Once a person is dropped from the roster, he/she is dropped permanently and cannot play again on that team or any team within the league for the remainder of the season.
- D. Players cannot be added to teams past the date rosters are frozen for the playoffs.
- E. All players must check-in prior to each game with the field supervisor/referee against their photo/name on their team's photo roster.

3. Playing Rules

All games will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game issued by FIFA through USSF. Modifications made in these rules supersede and/or supplement the Laws of the Game.

- A. COED, Men's and Women's 7v7

1. Substitutions shall be unlimited, and may be made with the consent of the referee at the following times:
 - Prior to a throw-in, in your favor
 - Prior to a goal kick, by either team
 - After a goal, by either team
 - After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play
 - At half time
2. A full playing team is seven (7). It is permissible to start and finish a match with four (4) players.
3. No Off-sides will be called
4. All goalkeeper throws, punts and goal kicks must touch the ground or be touched by a player on their half before crossing midfield. A restart from a goal kick (by a Goalkeeper or Field Player) must not cross the half way line on the full. If the ball lands in the opposition half, a free kick will be awarded to the opposing team from the half way line.
5. For fouls inside the penalty box, penalty kicks will be awarded to the opposing team at the top of the box. For all other fouls, indirect kicks will be awarded. All free kicks are indirect.
6. All defending players must stand 5 yards from the ball for any restart of play.
7. No slide tackling allowed. Any other slide deemed dangerous play by the referee will be whistled. 1st slide tackle will be a yellow card then a 2nd slide tackle by the same player will warrant a 2nd yellow card, thus a red card.
8. The keeper is the only player allowed to slide to get the ball, but only in the penalty box and provided that the slide is legal.
9. Throw-ins may also be kicked in.
10. Substitutions are unlimited, and may be made on any dead ball. No substitutions on the fly.

4. Uniforms and Equipment

- A. The required player uniform and equipment includes: jersey, shorts, stockings, shin guards and soccer-type shoes. All players from the same team are required to have similar color jerseys or shirts
- B. All players must wear shin guards.
- C. Fitness and step tracking devices are allowed as long as they are deemed safe by the referee. Examples of these device: Fitbit; Kora Tract; Fit Tech; Apple Watch, etc.

5. Game Duration

- A. Coed & Men's 7v7 25 min. halves. 5 minutes half time and a size 5 ball
- B. Clock will run continuously, exception: serious injury delaying of game, time will be added at the end of the game. The league or teams can provide game ball.
- C. Pelzer United Adult Soccer League will supply corner flags.

6. Rules of Conduct

- A. Any player or any other person connected with the team caught cheating or misrepresenting any records and proven guilty shall be suspended from the league indefinitely.
- B. Any player whose conduct is unbecoming, who curses, is unsportsmanlike or in any way is ungentlemanly, will be subject to the Laws of the Game with respect to cautions (yellow cards) and/or ejections (red cards). Additionally, if such behavior as cursing or unsportsmanlike activity occurs, the referee may issue a verbal warning followed by ending the game with a forfeit to the offending team, or a double forfeit if both teams are involved and the inappropriate behavior is not corrected.
- C. Any player who is ejected (red card) from a game is suspended for the remainder of the match, and his/her team must play down one player for the remainder of the game. A red card will result in a player suspension. This suspension will be a minimum of one full game. The suspension may be any length from one game to permanent, depending on the circumstances and severity of the situation. The ejected player or coach must leave the field to the point that

the individual, in the opinion of the referee, shall not be a disruptive influence on the further progress of the game. Failure to comply will result in the game being forfeited. Reinstatement following any multi-game suspension will be probationary.

D. At the discretion of Adult Soccer League Director, more serve infractions will result in the player's suspension from all teams that they are on the roster for.

E. Any infractions that involve unsportsmanlike conduct or abusive behavior towards the referee will be for reviewed for discipline by the Adult Soccer League Director.

F. Any team that totals three (3) red cards or more in the regular season will not be eligible for the playoffs. Any player who totals two (2) red cards during the season will be suspended for the remainder of that season, ineligible for playoffs that season and suspended for the entire next season. Any team or individual found guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended for a period of up to and including a permanent suspension. See list below for rules regarding unsportsmanlike conduct.

Suspensions for Specific Violations

Offense Suspension

1. Abusive and/or Vulgar Language used toward another player, referee or staff person. 1st Offense/2nd Offense in a season - 1 Game/3 Games
2. Excessive Abusive and/or Vulgar Language used toward another player, referee or staff person - 3 Games
3. Drinking, or participating under the influence of alcohol/drugs - One full Season
4. Fighting, and/or wrestling with another player, including on the ground. This includes retaliation - Three Full Seasons
5. Striking, attempting to strike, or otherwise harm another player - Three Full Seasons
6. Threatening an official or another player – Permanent
7. Hitting an official – Permanent
8. Second offense for #3, #4, and/or #5 - Permanent

7. Unsportsmanlike Conduct

- A. Makes degrading remarks about officials, coaches or players, during or after a game, on either the field of play, from the bench or from the stands.
- B. Argues with officials, coaches or players or goes through motions indicating dislike for a decision.
- C. Protests the decisions and actions of officials pertaining to the game, during or after the contest. Issues related to referees should be shared with the adult Soccer league Director.
- D. Unsportsmanlike conduct, poor attitude, disrespect, vulgarity, or profanity will not be tolerated at any time, and will result in an immediate yellow or red card and/or suspension.
- E. Only the team Captain may enter into a discussion with an official. To maintain the proper flow of the game and schedules, these discussions should be limited to before the game, at halftime, or after the game.
- F. Spectators must stay back away from the field.
- G. In the event a team fails to respect the official's authority or decisions, the officials have been instructed to abandon the game after one (1) warning has been given that such action will be taken.
The official will file a report with the Adult League Soccer Director. If a game is abandoned in any situation where both teams are exhibiting unsportsmanlike behavior, the match will be recorded as a double forfeit.
- H. The Adult Soccer League Director, after reviewing the report of the officials, will take the appropriate and necessary action to uphold the above rules.

8. Rainouts and Scheduling

- A. The Adult Soccer League Director, along with the officials, shall make the decision as to whether a match should be called on account of unsafe conditions before the start of the game. Once the game starts, the officials and the Adult Soccer League Director will work together on whether to abandon the game due to inclement weather or unsafe conditions. Games completed to half time or beyond will be considered complete.

Games that have not reached half time will be replayed starting from the beginning with a 0-0 score.

B. Both teams and officials shall be present for a scheduled match unless the teams have been informed by the Adult Soccer League Director that the game has been cancelled. Notice of rained out games will be emailed or posted on the club's Facebook page.

C. Regular season games not played because of inclement weather will be rescheduled only once, unless there are playoff implications. Make-up games may be played on any day of the week, at any park location, and at any time, as needed.

D. Game Scheduling: Regular season, make-up, and playoff games could potentially be scheduled as double headers. Regular season will be played on Sunday unless there is a field conflict. Make-up, and playoff games may be played on any day of the week, at any park location, and at any time, as needed.

9. League Champions and Playoffs

A. Information about Playoffs will be sent once we know how many teams register for the league