

ESSEX OPTIMIST RECREATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE  
YEAR 2012  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The U10 division will consist of 8 teams, U13 and U18 divisions consist of 6 teams each and will play a regular schedule of 9 games, scores and standings will be kept, followed by 3 weeks of playoffs. The U7 division will consist of 10 teams and will play 12 regular season games, scores and standings will not be kept and there will not be a playoff format – all U7 players are champions.
2. Regular season standings are based on 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, 1 point for a shut-out and 0 points for a loss. Ties in the league standings at the end of the regular season will be as follows in order:
  1. Head to head competition
  2. Number of wins
  3. Goal differential head to head – goals for minus goals against
  4. Goal differential in league play
  5. Goals for in league play
  6. Goals against in league play
  7. Coin toss
3. U18 games are 40-minute halves, U13 games are 35-minute halves, U10 games are 25-minute halves and U7 games are 20-minute halves.
4. U18 and U13 use sizes 5 balls; U10 use size 4 and U7 use size 3.
5. Teams must have a minimum of 7 players to start a game or the game will be declared a 1-0 forfeit, and declared a win with 3 points for the other team, no additional points for a shut-out will be awarded. If neither team has the appropriate number to field a game, 7 players, each will be awarded 0 points. If one team does not have the minimum players to start at the time the ref declares the game started and official, he declares the forfeit, then a player arrives, the game cannot be reversed from the forfeit. It will be decided by the convener of the age group and the coaches to see if they can split teams up and play a game that does not count for any points since that game has already been declared the forfeit and the appropriate points have been awarded.

At any time, no team can use another player or players from another team to play if the team requesting is short players or to use as additional subs. Same rule applies if the team requesting the added player or players to be brought up from another division. For example, you cannot use a U7 player to play a game in the U10 division and cannot use a U10 player to play a game in the U13 division. Same rule applies with the U18's. You cannot use a U13 player to play in the U18 division for a game.

6. U7 and U10 will play a maximum of 9 players per team on the field. (8 players plus the goalie).
7. U13 and U18 will play a maximum of 11 players per team on the field. (10 players plus the goalie).
8. The referee is in charge of the game and the referee's decision is final. Coaches will support the referee and abide by their decisions. Coaches will sign the game sheet at the end of each game. The coach's signature confirms the accuracy of the score.
9. Coaches and referees will ensure all watches; jewelry and the like are removed prior to the game in accordance with the FIFA Laws that state that covering the items with tape is not permitted. All hard casts, splints and the like will be completely covered with a soft material such as foam to the satisfaction of the convener.
10. The playoff format will be followed with the appropriate times per game as noted above in Rule # 3. Playoff games will result in overtime if tied at the end of regular season. For full detail, see playoff format.
11. In order to play for an EORSL travel soccer team in the Sun County League, you must be a registered player for EORSL house league and have played 50% of games in EORSL house league divisions. Tryouts will be held and you must participate in (3) in order to qualify and be considered by the coaching staff of that age group. If a situation arises and you cannot make a tryout, you must discuss the happening with the coaching staff. They must be aware you will not be there. Board Members will discuss with the coaches how many tryouts they are having. We ask for (2) for sure, one more for confirmations to look at certain players and a (4) if needed for all age groups.
12. If desired to play for another center in the Travel League (Sun County), you have to be released from EORSL by the President or VP of the League with a reasonable request. If this does not happen and you play for someone else not notifying EORSL, Sun County Travel will be notified and disqualifications of games by the center may apply and also brought to the board of Sun County to see if disqualifications to players and coaches are also required.
13. At any time, you cannot address any community service hours and play for an EORSL travel soccer team. This means if you are not enrolled in the EORSL league,

you cannot address the community hours and tryout our for the travel team. This applies to all age groups.

14. EORSL executives will confirm teams and make adjustments if needed prior to the first day of soccer.
15. If bad weather happens to occur during a game, it is the ref's decision to call the game. An executive from the board could also tell the ref to call the game for a short while until the bad weather passes. All coaches / players must leave the field along with the parents until further notice. If this happens in the first half of the game and seems to be lasting for some time, the game will be cancelled and played at a later date. No points are given to any team, scores will not be counted and once resumed at another date, game starts at 0-0. The game must be decided to be played and agreed upon by both coaches within a week's time if possible.
16. If a game is resumed from the 1<sup>st</sup> half on that same day, scores are kept from the start and the game continues. If the game is 20 minutes within the second half and bad weather has occurred the game is stopped, considered complete and final by the ref. A board member may also rule the game stopped, complete and points awarded where applicable. If stopped, the team winning will acquire the appropriate points. Extra points for a shutout will be given if applicable when cancelled. If the game is tied, the appropriate points are given as well.
17. Once a game is stopped for bad weather and then resumed, please place the same players back on the field. If some players decide to leave the game and return home, coaches have to make the necessary adjustments to field the proper players per age group back on the field. Do the best you can in the situation that has occurred and let's be fair. Please make sure if you are told to leave the field, this does not mean to go home and the game is cancelled. We will wait the weather out and a decision made then. Make sure your players know that as well and relate all information properly to them and the parents. If all players go home and the other team stays and the game continues, the other team forfeits. The point system will apply and proper points will be given to the winning team. The team that leaves, 0 points are given.
18. Any time during the regular season and playoffs, you must notify the ref that you are changing goalies, taking the starter out and replacing with another player. See playoff format for rules during penalty kicks and goalie changes.
19. At any time during a game, start or finish, if an issue occurs with a parent from either team or the opposing coach, please discuss with the ref and or find the convener of that age group to discuss the situation. **DO NOT TAKE MATTERS IN YOUR OWN HANDS.** If an issue has been turned to an emergency, please see a board member immediately or have someone contact a board member. There are many to be found on game day walking around or completing duties at the soccer trailer or pavilion.

20. Practice schedules will be made per coach at the Coaches Meeting prior to the start of the season. It is the coach's decision to make the day and time which is convenient for them, not the players or the parents. Once a day and time is picked, this must be followed throughout the season. If the day and time needs to be changed, check with the Schedule Convener – John Spitse to see if an open spot is available to change.

You must also follow the field # you have picked also. U7 and the U10 use Fields # 3 / # 4, the U13 and the U18 use Field # 1 / # 2. DO NOT CHANGE AND PICK A DIFFERENT FIELD WITHOUT CONSULTING THE SCHEDULE CONVENER. If everyone shows up, you will have to explain to the parents why you cannot practice. Some teams may have to split the field due to two teams on the same field because the day and time picked is convenient for both coaches and another day or time is not sufficient for them. Only two teams per field are allowed during practicing.

LET'S BE FAIR WITH PRACTICES. IF A TEAM WANTS TO CHALLENGE ANOTHER TEAM, PLAY FAIR SINCE NO REFS WILL BE IN PRESENT.

COACHES, USE THE FIELD DESIGNATED FOR YOUR AGE GROUP. IF YOU NEED TO USE ANOTHER FIELD, PROCEED IF NEEDED, BUT MAKE SURE NO ONE ELSE IS USING THAT FIELD.

21. Teams will be picked for the 2011 season by the board members using goal scorers from the previous year, placing them on separate teams, if the player has played travel before, their rankings which were addressed by board members and all coaches from last year, ages and gender.

Teams will be considered and made up with siblings only, meaning brothers and sisters placed on the same team if desired and where applicable. Other issues will be decided upon by the board members. Some siblings may not want to play together on the same team; this will be confirmed by the parents.

22. House league practices will not be cancelled if a tryout for the travel team is scheduled at the same time. Travel Coaches will see the Schedule Convener and make the adjustments where applicable to have tryouts that do not interfere with others. Use common sense and pick a time and field that is open. Discuss if needed a time which may overlap a house league and travel practice or tryout. Issues happen that may not be able to control.
23. U18 Age Group for EORSL will only consist of birth dates from 1994 / 1995 / 1996 / 1997 / 1998 only for the 2012 season. Any one born in 1993 and lower will not be able to play in the U18 Age Group in EORSL. Check website, [www.eorsl.com](http://www.eorsl.com) for more info and a contact number if needed under the Executive heading. Make note as

well, any High School students in their 5<sup>th</sup> year at High School will not be able to participate in the U18 Divisions. The birth dates apply as noted above.

24. Please note, as each year passes, new ideas are developed, do not hesitate to suggest something to a Board Member. Issues may also develop that have not seen before, we will discuss if needed with all Board Members to get a resolution.
25. At any given time, from the start of the season to the end, if you roster a player that is not suppose to be on your team, with you knowing or not, you will forfeit that game and receive 0 points. The opposing team will get the win 1-0, no matter what the score ends up to be after the game, only collect the 3 points for the win and no additional points for the shut out. If for some reason the game starts with the illegal player and then it is found out that the person should not be playing, he / she will be ejected from the game and a decision made at that time to continue or not but that game will be considered a forfeit still under this rule.

Coaches, check all rosters at the beginning of the season to verify your players. We may have added players after the start which may have been added to your roster. If you do not agree with someone that has showed up and are questioning this, do not hesitate to talk to your convener or even mention to the ref about the issue prior to the game start so you do not end up forfeiting.

26. If new refs or lines people are required for the new season, the ref co-coordinator will review and make a decision on who to call. Existing refs and lines people will be contacted first. A short ref clinic will be addressed and you must attend. You must be involved in the soccer program in order to be considered. If you are coaching a team in a particular age division, you may be considered as well for reffing and lining. You may be too old to play but considered for reffing or lining. This to be confirmed by the ref co-coordinator and other board members.
27. LET'S PLAY FAIR AND HAVE FUN, REMEMBER WE DO THIS FOR THE KIDS.