

**MARYVILLE-ALCOA-BLOUNT COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
SOCCER LEAGUE RULES**

The purpose of the soccer program is to provide a wholesome, fun activity for the youth of Blount County. This will be achieved by the following objectives:

1. The teaching of fundamentals.
2. The opportunity for everyone to play in each game.
3. Courtesy to opponents and officials by both players and coaches.
4. Fun for participants.

RULES:

1. Age groups for boys and girls are 5 to 16. If players will be 5 or will attain the age of 16 before September 1, they are eligible to participate.
2. Registration is through the Parks and Recreation Commission.
3. Small-sided leagues are available for boys and girls Ages 5-6. A separate set of rules is available for these leagues. Field size for ages 7-9 is 75x40 yds.
4. Each player is placed on a team according to their age and school, however, there is no assurance players will be on the same team as the previous year.
5. A game shall not be started with less than 8 players per team and shall not be continued with less than 7 players. Both coaches must agree to play short or one team play at a disadvantage.
6. Each player is required to participate in one-half of the game. Failure to follow this rule will result in 1 warning, then forfeiture of the game for the second incident.
7. Teams should assign a team captain for each game to call the pre-game coin toss to determine possession and goal.
8. Dress code is shorts, tennis shoes, or molded cleats with no toe cleat. The Parks and Recreation Commission will provide team shirts. Players are allowed to keep the shirts, which was included in their registration fee. (Black shorts are recommended.)
9. Each team may not exceed more than 2 practices per week after the season starts. No more than 4 practices per week prior to the first game.
10. Schedules will be mailed to the coaches. Games will be played on Saturday mornings and Thursday nights.
11. Playing times: Boys and Girls "A" Divisions: Four 8-minute quarters; Boys "B" and Girls "B" Divisions: Four 10-minute quarters; Boys and Girls "C" Division: Four 12-minute quarters; and "Co-ed" Division: Four 15-minute quarters. Two minutes between quarters, half-time minutes may vary.
12. Officials will be assigned by the Parks and Recreation Commission.
13. Any player removed from a game for disciplinary action will be suspended for the following game. This applies to coaches also.
14. Substitutions may be made between periods or for injuries.
15. Incoming substitutions for injuries should report directly to the nearest referee.
16. Rules for play shall be in reference with the current Soccer Rulebook. (National Federation of State High School Association)
17. Coaches are prohibited from smoking during all soccer games or while on the field.
18. Age divisions will be divided depending on the number of participants in each age group.
19. Standings will be based on a point system; 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss.
20. **Each participant is required to wear shin guards.**
21. **For safety purposes, no participant may wear earrings of any kind! Male or female!**
22. **Ages 5-6 use size 3 soccer ball. Ages 7-9 use size 4 soccer ball. Ages 10 & Up use size 5 soccer ball.**