

**THE SPORT ZONE**  
**BASIC SOCCER LEAGUE FORMAT/RULES (2004/05)**      updated 8/24/04

The SPORT ZONE is a unique sports facility featuring the largest open indoor fields in Chicagoland. All clubs, teams, players are encouraged and welcome to rent/ train and play in our leagues.

The leagues are designed to foster the development of players and teams as a whole while playing an outdoor version of soccer under the dome. Transition time to the outdoor game (goal keepers especially) is reduced considerably. Injuries have been dramatically reduced due to the removal of our boards and the addition of the new rubber turf surface which absorbs much of the impact of a fall. Players also have the option to wear the outdoor shoes. We recommend the shorter multi cleats for the best traction and safety fir the knees and ankles. Our fields are huge and are a scaled down version of an outdoor field of 40 x 84 yds. We also have full size goals.

The rules are designed to allow maximum playing time for players and to keep the games on schedule. Rostered players on one team may play on a roster for another team.

Scores and standings will not be tracked due to our open rosters.

Teams will be placed and matched by ability according to outdoor standings and results of seeding. Our aim is to ensure all teams will be matched in skill. We are limited in some cases by the number and level of teams registering.

Please read the following information to become familiar with basic house rules.

- Outdoor USSF rules will apply with some house rule modifications.
- Check your schedule for field assignments – East Field is the furthest field from the front revolving door. The West Field is the closest door to the main entrance.
- Teams may choose either bench.
- The guest team (team listed second) on the schedule must wear the alternate jerseys in case of a color clash. Teams are responsible for alternates.
- The clock is continuous: High school divisions will play within a 50 minute block of time. This time includes turn around time between games. Teams must put the starting players on the field as soon as possible in order to maximize the field time for everyone. Youth divisions will play within a 45 minute running clock. Including turn around time. Teams should be at the assigned field side lines well ahead of the scheduled game time. Teams should warm up and stretch under the deck area prior to their game.
- The referee will indicate the game time if there is a change due to injury.( The management reserves the right to terminate and reschedule any game that has a lengthy delay due to injury). The referee will blow the half time whistle at the 25 minute mark (High school age and older) and at the 22 minute mark for (youth teams) Teams may elect to take a time out or change ends immediately at the half time whistle. Your 50 minute game time starts immediately upon the conclusion of previous game. Limit your coaching at the half time.
- An offside rule will be in effect for the open field. An imaginary line will be set at the opposing teams 18yd line extending from side line to side line. Off side will be called in this area only.
- Subbing is unlimited. A maximum of 2 players at a time may sub from each team provided the players going on and off the field are at the midfield/side line. Subbing is on the fly. The game never stops for subs.
- Open field teams play with 8 or 9 players including a goalie.
- At the conclusion of the game, teams may shake hands and then quickly vacate the bench area to allow for the incoming teams. Please use side lines to leave the field area..
- Slide tackling the ball away from an opponent is illegal. Goalkeepers may slide in their own penalty box as long as it is not in a dangerous manner.
- PLAYERS MUST SIGN A SPORT ZONE ROSTER WAIVER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR AN ACTIVITY ON THE FIELD.
- Parents/spectators are encouraged to watch the games from the upper deck for the best view.
- Parents/spectators are not allowed on the side lines due to the field constraints and safety issues.
- Games **will not** be rescheduled under any circumstances by coaches. The management will be the only party to have the authority to change games in the event of an emergency situation. All special requests in the schedule should be submitted in writing **no later than 2 weeks prior to the start of a league**. Special requests will be considered, however we may not be able to honor any or all requests.

See [Aurorasportsdome.com](http://Aurorasportsdome.com) for the updates ON SCHEDULES