



**THE BASICS**

1. Only players registered in the DCASL will be allowed to be play in DCASL games:
  - i. There will be no drop-in players allowed on the field and there will be no exceptions given to this rule,
  - ii. There will be an automatic forfeit of all games started with unregistered players, forfeits will be issued as stated in item 11,
  - iii. Teams may add players after the initial sign-up period but only by contacting the DCASL Board, paying the required fee and providing a signed registration form for the new player,
2. For DCASL games, all players must be wearing appropriate shin guards and appropriate footwear; the referee has the right to refuse players entry to the pitch if those players are not adequately equipped.
3. All players must wear an official team shirt adorned with a number unique within their team.
4. No jewellery of any kind is permitted, including earrings, piercings, watches and rings.
5. Game play is 7 on 7 with each team fielding a maximum of 7 players. Of these 7 players one player must be the designated goalkeeper. A minimum of 5 players must be fielded from each team to start the game. Referees will make all reasonable efforts to start games at the designated scheduled times but a referee may delay the start of the game by no more than 10 minutes to allow a team the ability to field the minimum 5 players; failure by a team to field a minimum of 5 players after 10 minutes past the designated scheduled game start time will result in a forfeit as stated in Item 11 being issued to the offending team.
6. **“2 Girl Rule”** - In keeping with the coed spirit of the DCASL, each team must field a minimum of 2 female players and a maximum of 5 male players at all times during play. Failure by a team to field any female players after 10 minutes past the designated game start time will result in a forfeit as stated in Item 11 being issued to the offending team. A team that fields only one female player will not be issued a forfeit but must still only field a maximum of 5 male players. Such a team has the ability to borrow a female player from another team as stipulated in Item 7 - the **“Female Acquisition Rule”**

***Interpretations of the Rule***

This simple chart below has been produced to simplify the **“2 Girl Rule”**

No. of Females	Effect on Gameplay
0	Forfeit of game if 10 minutes past designated game start time.
1	No forfeit issued but maximum of 6 players allowed on field (5 males and 1 female). May use FAR Rule to acquire one female.
2 or more	Regular rules apply.

7. **“Female Acquisition Rule (FAR)”** - Teams can borrow 1 registered female from another team in the same or a lower tier if they find that they are unable to meet the 2 Girl Rule requirements as stipulated within point 6 above.



## Dawson Creek Adult Soccer League

### *Official Rules*

8. Each game will consist of two 35 minutes halves with a 5 minute half time break in between.
9. Actual game play rules generally follow the FIFA rules for small sided games as stipulated within the official FIFA rulebook "Laws of the Game". See [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com) for an updated copy of "Laws of the Game".
10. Points will be awarded to teams after game play as follows;
  - 3 points for a regulation time win,
  - 0 points for a regulation time loss,
  - 2 points for a shootout win,
  - 1 point for a shootout loss.
11. Forfeited games will be scored 3-0 for the winning team. Three (3) points will be awarded to the winning team and zero (0) points to the losing/offending team.
12. Referees will record all game scores, record the names of players who receive yellow or red cards and will collect the team roster of each team for each and every game.
13. **FIGHTING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN THE DCASL.** Any fighting or other form of physical attempt to injure another player, member, referee, or bystander of DCASL, before, during or after game play, will result in a 1-year suspension. The registration fee for offending players will be forfeited. Attempts to injure will be judged equally as harshly as actual incidents of injury.
14. Being shown a red card during regular season play will result in:
  - i. When a red card is received by any player from a referee, the player will receive an automatic one game suspension and the matter could be submitted to the Disciplinary Committee if the Committee deems the infraction to be serious enough. All game suspensions are effective as at the time the red card is shown and relate to those games immediately following the issuance of the card regardless of regular season or tournament,
  - ii. A 2 game suspension for the second red card shown in the same season; to be fulfilled by missing the next 2 scheduled team games,
  - iii. And for the 3<sup>rd</sup> red card shown in the same season a conduct review will be performed by the Disciplinary Committee of Dawson Creek Adult Soccer and/or its Board Committee to determine the sanction, penalty or rejection of the offending player from the league.
15. Any player can be put in front of the Disciplinary Committee by the referee without a red or yellow card given. Also, team captains can submit letters to the Board for the Disciplinary Committee's review.
16. At the end of the relegation period as established in the adopted and published 7v7 Schedule for the given year, the re-tiering process will be conducted. The team with the least amount of points in the top tier of the league will be relegated to the next lowest tier. Concurrently, the team with the most amount of points in the lowest tier of the league will be promoted to the next highest tier.



### THE SPECIFICS

1. Field of play is approximately 80m x 50m, which will be lined prior to games and marked with corner flags.
2. Only DCASL provided game balls will be used.
3. A coin toss will decide which team starts the game; performed at the center of the pitch by the referee with the two team captains or designated players attending. Winning the coin toss will result in a choice of first possession or first side of play for the winning representative.
4. DCASL will attempt to have referees for every game. In the unforeseen event that there is no referee available, teams are asked to play using the honour system for all infractions, penalties and goals. If there is a controversy, the two team captains are asked to decide the final call. Players are reminded that this is intended to be a friendly league and we encourage decisions made to be civil and fair.
5. Slide tackling performed by a defender anywhere in the field of play or by a goalie outside their own penalty area, with intent to remove, displace or gain possession of the ball is not allowed and is a card-able offense.

Whereby 'Slide Tackling' is defined as "A tackle in soccer in which the defender attempts to disrupt the play, or take possession of the ball away from an opposing player by deliberately leaving his/her feet and sliding along the ground with one leg extended to block or push the ball away from the opposing player."

Slide tackling by any player with intent to injure or with disregard for other player's safety will result in a red card. A slide tackle without intent to injure that does not put other players safety at risk will result in a yellow card.

**Exception:** Goalie's may slide tackle an offensive player who has possession of the ball and is located within the penalty area. The goalie during any slide tackle must demonstrate an obvious respect for other player's safety and show no intent to injure other parties when they slide in order for it to be considered a legal slide tackle.

#### ***Interpretations of the Rule***

The slide tackling rule is not intended to remove competitive play from the game. Nor is it intended to remove the use of sliding as an activity performed by participants within a game. As such the following activities would be considered to fall outside the slide tackling rule and would be considered legal:

- Sliding to clear a ball with no contact made to any other player, with the sliding player showing no obvious intention to "slide-tackle" another player,
- In an offensive position sliding to move the ball, including shooting on net,
- Lunging forward to block and/or obstruct the movement of the ball,
- In a defensive position sliding to block and/or obstruct a pass or a shot taken on net.

The conclusion that an action is deemed to be a slide tackle is solely the responsibility of the referee, and is to be based by referee on any one of the following items being present:

- Intent to injury,
- Disregard for other players safety,
- Is an action which falls within the formal definition of 'Slide Tackling' as stated above.



## Dawson Creek Adult Soccer League

### *Official Rules*

6. Goal kicks can be taken from anywhere on the penalty box line; the opposing team must be at least 10 yards back from the point of goal kick.
7. Corner kicks are to be taken within 1 yard of the corner box; the opposing team must be at least 10 yards back from the point of corner kick.
8. Throw-ins must be within 3 steps of where the ball left the pitch; infractions will not result in a loss of possession, a re-throw will be allowed.
9. For a player substitution to occur the substituting team must have possession of the ball or be piggy-backing off the other team's substitution. There is no maximum to the amount you may sub at any one time, or to the total number of substitution's you may make during the course of a game. Exceptions will be made for injured players. If an injury on the field takes place the injured player must come off immediately and not come back on until the next substitution.
10. At the end of regulation time if both teams are tied a shootout is to take place. The shootout will start with five (5) shooters from each team.
  - i. Prior to the shootout a coin toss will be held by the referee with the captain of each team, the winner of the coin toss will elect to either shoot first or shoot second.
  - ii. During the shootout at least one female must shoot from each team, if there are no female players available for the shootout this statement becomes nullified.
  - iii. If at the end of the first five shooters the score is still tied, a sudden death format will take place where one shooter from each team will take a turn until a winner is declared.
11. There is to be absolutely no smoking or drinking alcohol at the soccer park. This rule extends to the parking lot for the soccer park and includes spectators.
12. No dogs are allowed within the Paul Loiselle Soccer Park. Dogs are allowed within the parking area. This rule is present due to a dog attack which occurred at the park. Dog owners are asked to respect the safety of others in honouring this rule.
13. Balls kicked over any perimeter fence must be retrieved by the person who kicked it out, unless another party has acknowledged that they will get the ball. If the ball has been deflected by another player in defending the play or otherwise, the player who initially kicked the ball shall still be deemed responsible to retrieve the ball. If the player who has been deemed to retrieve the ball refuses to do so a yellow card shall be awarded to that player.



### **RED CARD PENALTIES**

The following penalties will result in a red card being shown to an offender.

1. Violent conduct including INTENT to injure; ie. throwing a head-butt or punch, regardless of whether either landed the intended victim.
2. Serious foul play; ie. a dangerous slide tackle,
3. Offensive language or gestures towards the referee or other team members/participants,
4. Spitting on or toward someone,
5. Acquiring 2 yellow cards during a single game.

Red cards can be given to any player on or off the field (ie. to substitutions). The offending player's team will play 1 player short for the rest of the game for each red card shown.

### **YELLOW CARD PENALTIES**

The following penalties will result in a yellow card and warning from the referee, these can be given to any player on or off the field (ie. Infringing substitutions):

1. Slide tackling,
2. Un-sportsmanlike behaviour,
3. Arguing with the referee,
4. Persistent penalties or infringements,
5. Not respecting the required distance on free kicks,
6. Delay of game infractions, including but not limited to:
  - Kicking the ball out of play in a manner deemed excessive.
7. Denying obvious goal-scoring opportunity, including but not limited to:
  - Goalie handball outside of crease,
  - Contact from behind on a breakaway,
  - Handball to stop a breakaway pass,
  - Walking in front of ball while a direct free kick is being attempted.
8. Not retrieving a ball that was kicked out of play and resulting in the ball going over a perimeter fence.



## **DIRECT FREE KICKS**

Direct free kicks will be awarded for the following fouls or misconduct:

1. Kicking,
2. Tripping,
3. Pushing,
4. Punching,
5. Holding,
6. Handball,
7. Tackling before ball is at player's feet,
8. Charging (jumping at player).

## **INDIRECT FREE KICKS**

Indirect free kicks will be awarded for the following fouls or misconduct:

1. Goalie takes longer than 6 seconds to get rid of the ball,
2. Goalie picks up ball twice (excluding bouncing ball),
3. Goalie picks up ball on pass-back from own player,
4. Goalie plays throw-in from own player with hands,
5. Blocking goalie when he's trying to kick,
6. Dangerous play,
7. Impeding progress,
8. Any yellow/red card that does not result in a direct kick.