Referee Guidelines 2026-2027

I.	Rules of Competition	1
II.	Technical Framework	5
III.	Risk Management	15
IV.	Equipment	20
V.	Match Day Protocols & Minimum Standards	21
VI.	Guidelines for Reschedules, Postponements, and Game Forfeits	25

II. Technical

OVERVIEW

PURPOSE OF THE GIRLS ACADEMY

THE GIRLS ACADEMY IS A COMPETITIVE YOUTH SOCCER PLATFORM DEVELOPED TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF ITS MEMBERSHIP BY PROVIDING ELITE QUALITY TRAINING AND COMPETITION ENVIRONMENTS, ACCESS AND EXPOSURE TO COLLEGE AND YOUTH NATIONAL TEAM SCOUTS, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THEIR PLAYING AND PERSONAL PATHWAYS.

AGE GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE GIRLS ACADEMY LEAGUE

Mandatory Age Groups: U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U19

MISSION

The Girls Academy's mission is to honor a true commitment, in the pursuit of excellence, to the player above all things: the athlete and the person.

VISION

Derived from Core Values:

We believe through collaboration dreams can come true. We will lead the most dynamic development platform imaginable for our athletes, with integrity and respect, showcasing their passion, grit and dedication in a fun and competitive environment.

CORE VALUES

League Driven

Integrity – Decisions made with sound moral and ethical principles.

Leadership – To lead and mentor our athletes to achieve greatness.

Respect – Afforded to all stakeholders in the pursuit of excellence.

Development – A standards-based approach to optimal development of the athlete and the person.

Dedication – To expose our athletes to all possibilities.

Fun – Creating long lasting memories with teammates, coaches and competitors.

Player Driven**Sportsmanship** – Fair and generous behavior towards all.

Ownership – Take responsibility for our place in our pathway.

Confidence – Feeling self-assurance of one's appreciation of one's own abilities and qualities.

Grit – To demonstrate courage and resolve in all we do.

Passion – To engage, train and compete with abundant enthusiasm for the game.**COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**

a. b. Girls Academy coaches must, at all times, treat players with respect and dignity.

Girls Academy coaches must treat referees and match officials, at all times, with respect and dignity.

c. d. e. Girls Academy coaches must treat the opposing coaches, at all times, with respect and dignity.

Girls Academy coaches must treat spectators, at all times, with respect and dignity.

Girls Academy coaches are expected to dress professionally, in proper athletic apparel and shoes, at all competitions.

f. Girls Academy coaches must not discriminate against players based upon race, nationality, religion or sexual orientation.

MARKETING AND BRANDING

a. Use of the Girls Academy logo for branding purposes is only allowed with **PRIOR APPROVAL** from the League National Office.

b. Each club in the Girls Academy and Aspire should be well-versed in the Girls Academy Style Guide & Licensing using the link below. Girls Academy Style Guide and Licensing

III. League OverviewA. LEAGUE FEES

a. Club Annual Fee: $1,250 per team for the 25-26 season

b. Club Performance Bond: $5,000.00

i. *Refundable upon club departure from GA when deemed in good financial standing.*

ii. League Fees will be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors

c. d. e. f. g. h. i. j. ***Travel Costs:*** All costs associated with travel to a league game are the responsibility of the individual member club.

***Training/Coaching Costs*:** All costs associated with training and coaching are the responsibility of the individual member club.

Administrative Costs: All costs associated with operating a team are the responsibility of the individual member club.

Registration: All players and coaches must register with the Girls Academy and/or Aspire to participate, which will be further approved by the Girls Academy as the sanctioning body.

Equipment Costs: All costs associated with equipment are the responsibility of the individual member club.

Facility Costs: All costs associated with securing a facility for league games are the home member club's responsibility. Neutral site fixture costs are determined by participating clubs and must be confirmed and approved by the GA Director of League Competitions. Designated home team for the fixture must provide COI for neutral site competitions.

Referees: All costs of referees and referee assignors are the responsibility of the home club. Payment of appointed referees is up to the discretion of the home club. At Conference/National Events, referee fees are included in the events fees.

Other: Unless otherwise indicated in these regulations, all expenses related to a team shall be paid by the participating club.

B. MINIMUM TEAM REQUIREMENT

Minimum Team Requirement

All Girls Academy and GA Aspire member clubs are required to field competitive teams in all six (6) age groups (U13–U19). Each team must meet the minimum roster, registration, and match-fulfillment requirements in this Framework and consist of primary registered players from within the member club.

Failure to Field a Required Age Group

Failure to field a team in any required age group for any portion of the season constitutes non-compliance with membership standards and will result in League disciplinary action, including but not limited to:

• Immediate sanctions as determined by the Girls Academy National Office and approved through applicable League governance

• Ineligibility for postseason play—including Champions Cup, Playoffs, or other competitive events—for all teams within the club during the affected season

• Ineligibility for Champions Cup club qualification the following season

• Financial penalties determined by the Girls Academy, including fines for each forfeited match• Formal review of membership status, up to and including probation or removal from the League

C. TECHNICAL FRAMEWORK

a. Game Length

i. All U13, U14 and U15 games will be two (2) 40-minute halves with 10-minute halftime

ii. U16, U17 and U19 games will be two (2) 45-minute halves with a 10-minute halftime

b. Player Eligibility & Registration

i. Registration: All registration will be completed via GotSport. The Director of Member Services will distribute instructions to each member annually.

1. Proof of age for a player in the form of a passport or birth certificate uploaded to the club depository in GotSport under player profile.

2. 3. 4. 5. Signed GA waiver for each player in GotSport.

GA Photo and Video Consent Form in GotSport.

Registration fee via credit card for pre-billing.

ITC's are required due to US Soccer membership for

foreign players.

a. Must complete the clearance process outlined in

section VI. B. 1 of the U.S. Soccer Federation

Bylaws and Policies

6. Soccer photo headshot uploaded in GotSport under

the player profile.

7. 8. Jersey number must be included.

Safe Soccer Phase 1 is required for all players who turn 18

during the calendar year. Safe Soccer must be synced to the

player dashboard.

9. Player(s) must be registered/approved to the roster

and listed on the match card before the game.

a. There are no write ins.

Note: League staff shall have the authority to establish additional procedures,

including deadlines, for the registration of players.

ii. All coaches, managers, ATCs and any other staff involved must

be registered and approved to the roster at the start of the

season or as soon as they are hired or begin working in the GA

in GotSport including US Soccer Safe Soccer Phases 1, 2 and

3.

1. GA Waiver

2. Coaching license3. Paid membership

iii. Athletic Trainers Certified (ATCs) who work with your teams,

whether employed by or contracted by your club, should have

proof of background checks and Safe Soccer Certification. This

is the responsibility of each club.

c. **Coach Licensing Requirements**: To ensure a high standard of coaching

and player development, all coaches and directors within Girls Academy
and Aspire programs must meet the following licensing requirements:

i. Girls Academy Clubs

1. GA Member clubs must have a Director overseeing the GA
teams that holds a minimum of a USSF B License or
equivalent. Recognized equivalents: UEFA A or B License,
United Soccer Coaches Advanced National Diploma

a. All Directors overseeing the GA program must have a
documented plan to attain the USSF A-Youth License
(or equivalent) within 18 months of their appointment or
by the start of the 2027 season, whichever is sooner.
Recognized equivalents: UEFA A License, United
Soccer Coaches Premier Diploma

2. Head & Assistant Coaches of GA Teams must hold a
minimum of a USSF C License or equivalent. Recognized
equivalents: UEFA B License, United Soccer Coaches
Advanced National Diploma

a. All GA coaches must have a documented plan to attain
the USSF B License (or equivalent) within 18 months of
their appointment or by the start of the 2027 season,
whichever is sooner. Recognized equivalents: UEFA A
or B License,
United Soccer Coaches Advanced National Diploma

ii. Aspire Program Staff

1. Directors working with GA Aspire teams must hold a
minimum of a USSF C License or equivalent. Recognized
equivalents: UEFA B License, United Soccer Coaches
Advanced National Diploma

a. All Directors overseeing the Aspire program just
have a documented plan to attain the USSF B
License (or equivalent) within 18 months of their
appointment or by the start of the 2027 season,
whichever is sooner. Recognized equivalents:
UEFA A or B License, United Soccer Coaches
Advanced National Diploma2. All Aspire Coaches must hold a minimum of a USSF
D License or equivalent. Recognized Equivalents:
UEFA C License, United Soccer Coaches National
Diploma

a. All Aspire coaches must have a documented plan

to attain the USSF C License (or equivalent) within
18 months of their appointment or by the start of
the 2027 season, whichever is sooner.
Recognized equivalents: UEFA B License, United
Soccer Coaches Advanced National Diploma

Notes: Clubs are expected to track and support coaching development in alignment with these standards. Coaches who are newly hired or transitioning from other systems (e.g., international coaches) must provide documentation of equivalency or be enrolled in the USSF pathway.

Failure to meet licensing standards may impact club standing or eligibility for future GA programming.

d. Rosters

i. General

1. 2. 3. Each member is required to ensure their roster is submitted by August 1 of each seasonal year. All players on any GA roster must be GA registered players.

Rosters will remain open until June 5, 2026, 5pm CT in which rosters will freeze for any team that has qualified for playoffs.

Up to two age eligible current college players who were members of your Girls Academy team the previous season may be added to your roster for the summer playoffs ONLY. If they are added and approved prior to playoffs, they may train with your team but may not play in league matches.

a. If a player attends college but does not play college soccer, they are eligible to play GA conference league games and events if they fall into the birth year age group for U19.

b. If a player has graduated high school, but is not

entering college yet, i.e. taking a GAP year, they

are eligible to play GA conference league games

and events if they fall into the birth year age groupfor U19.

ii. Player status

1. Primary/P:

a. A minimum of 14 Primary (P) players submitted by the

initial roster deadline of August 1.

2. Club Player Pass/CP:

a. b. c. d. e. Any player registered in your club for another GA or

Aspire team – if they are age eligible. They may only

play one game per fixture. MUST BE REGISTERED

WITH GIRLS ACADEMY.

For a player to show up in your CP player pool, they

must be approved as Primary/P on an existing GA or

Aspire roster within your club. CP players are

automatically approved.

THIS IS A GOTSPORT FUNCTION WE CANNOT

CHANGE.

Roster rules, such as age and roster size, will still

apply to the addition of CP players. CP players may be

removed to exchange for other CP players but will

count within your roster limits.

NO WRITE-INS ALLOWED (a jersey number may be

written in if necessary, but not a player).

Aspire is permitted **2** Girls Academy CP players per

league game or event. The CP player is fixture tied per

the rules above and only one game per day.

Girls Academy permits unlimited CP players from

Aspire teams to Girls Academy teams per league

game or event. The CP player is fixture tied per the

rules above and one game per day.3. Identification Player/ID

a. Non-GA or Aspire players

i. Must be approved by the Senior Director of

Member Services prior to being added to the

roster U13-U17 -max 3 ID, U19 -max 5 ID

ii. Once you hit your max, clubs

cannot release/remove additional

ID players.

iii. No training required

iv. If violated there will be a $500 fine, match

forfeiture and loss of playoff eligibility.

v. ID players may not CP to other teams; they are

tied to the age group they register with.

4. Guest/G:

a. U15-U17: Only available for summer showcase events

when approved by the Senior Director of Member

Services. Max of 2 when approved.

b. U-19: Available for all showcases, age group eligible,

(this does not include Champions Cup and Summer

Playoffs) when approved by league, Senior Director of

Member Services. Max of 2 when approved.

c. GK Guest Player Amendment for Playoffs:

i. The amendment allows for an age eligible GK

to be a guest player if any injury occurs.

ii. Requests must be made in advance of first

match being played in playoffs.

iii. Must be approved by sending the medical

report to the Director of Member Services.

5. Player Registration P, CP, ID, or G:

All players on a GA Roster must be GA registered Primary

(P) players or Club player pass (CP) or Identification

play (ID) or Guest (G) with the league approval and

registered with the Girls Academy.

6. Trapped Player Expectations

a. U19 Age Group

i. A Girls Academy player that is in 11th grade,

but who is age appropriate for the U19 age

group is defined as a Trapped Player.

ii. A maximum of three U19 Trapped Players are7. eligible to participate in games at U17 GA

National Events.

1. Note: A U19 Trapped Player is not

eligible to compete in Champions Cup

and the GA Summer Playoffs.

b. U15 Age Group

i. A Girls Academy Player that is in the 8th grade,

but who is age appropriate for the U15 age

group is defined as a Trapped Player.

ii. A U15 Trapped Player is eligible to participate in games at one (1) U14 GA Regional Event while her teammates compete in high school. There will be a maximum of 3 trapped players per event.

Clubs holding two spots within the Girls Academy between 2 teams for league play.

a. The understanding of clubs provided with two spots in the league is that the top-level players in the club are required to be rostered with the first team. This includes YNT, IDC, and any players in youth national team pools. Outside the USYNT, player roster placement will be reviewed by the league for approval.

b. Clubs may designate up to two (2) players per age group from their second GA team roster as eligible as a CP player for temporary call-up to their GA first team roster. These players must be registered on the second team to be eligible prior to participation. This controlled exception is designed to support short-term roster relief without compromising the independent competitive integrity of each team.

i. Match Limitations

1. Each designated CP player may participate in no more than (4) regular season matches for the GA first team.

ii. Use Restrictions

1. Clubs must provide a clear rationale (e.g., YNT call-up, injury list, college visit) when requesting call-up approval.

2. Goalkeepers are subject to the same rules and limits unless otherwisec. specified by league staff.

3. All player movement must be approved by the Senior Director of Member Services and properly documented prior to match participation.

4. Violations of these provisions may result in disciplinary action, including

match forfeiture.

a. Each designated CP player must

fall within the roster limits rules:

U13- U17, 30 max. players and

U19, 40 max. players

Players may be transferred to the first team on a

permanent basis with league approval.

iii. Roster Size

1. The maximum roster size for the U13-U17 age groups is 30 on

the team roster at one time with 18 designated on game day.

2. The maximum roster size for the U19 age group is 40 on the

team roster at one time with 18 designated on game day.

3. Once a player is added to a GA or Aspire teams' roster, the

player will count against roster max even if released.

Exception: CP players may be removed.

iv. Game Roster Size

1. For U13 through U19 games, only 18 players from the roster

will be eligible to participate in each game, and these players

must be placed on the game day roster/match card (showing

players that will start and players eligible for substitution). **NO**

WRITE INS ALLOWED

2. The bench and technical area are reserved for players and a

maximum of four (4) registered club staff members, not

including an Athletic Trainer Certified (ATC).

e. Substitutions

i. The Girls Academy Substitution Sheet must be used for all Girls

Academy matches and submitted with the completed match card.

ii. The home team is responsible for providing the official

Substitution Sheet to the match officials prior to kickoff. Match

officials or a designated club official are responsible for trackingall substitutions. Both coaches sign the substitution sheet after

the match for verification.

iii. iv. v. vi. vii. viii. Teams are permitted a maximum of (5) substitution moments during

regulation, with no more than three (3) substitution moments per

half.

Players may re-enter once in the second half. A player who has been substituted

may re-enter within the allotted substitution moments. Once that player is

substituted a second time, the player is no longer eligible to re-enter the match.

Halftime does not count as a substitution moment.

Substitutions may be made at any stoppage of play.

Overtime (Playoff and Champions Cup U13-U19 Advancement Games)

1. Once a player is substituted in any period of overtime of any GA Advancement Game, then such player may not re-enter the game.

2. Advancement Games shall permit a maximum of three (3) moments across both halves of overtime with a maximum of two (2) moments per half.

a. The stoppage between each period of overtime does not count as a moment.

All substitution procedures shall be administered in accordance with the Girls Academy Rules of Competition Framework issued for the applicable seasonal year.

ix. Substitution Violations

1. If a team exceeds the allowed number of substitutions during a match, regardless of intent, the match may be subject to disciplinary review.

2. Violations will be reviewed by league staff, and consequences may include:

a. Formal warning (for first-time, non-impactful violations).

b. Match forfeiture (if the violation is deemed to have affected competitive fairness).

c. Fines or other sanctions, particularly in cases of repeated or intentional abuse.

x. Temporary Substitutions - Head Injury (Concussion) and Blood Injury

1. A player who suffers a potential head Injury may be temporarily substituted to be evaluated by a Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC).

2. A player with a blood injury may be temporarily substituted to receive treatment, stop the bleeding, clean any blood from their person or equipment, and replace any blood-soiled uniform or equipment before3. 4. returning to play.

The Temporary Substitute may be any player who has not previously been substituted for in that half. If all players have been substituted in that half, then a player may re-enter the match as the Temporary Substitute.

This process will utilize a traffic light system.

a. **Green Light**: If the injured player is cleared to return,

and returns to the match, she must replace the
Temporary Substitute. The team will NOT be charged a
Substitution or Moment.

b. **Red Light**: If the injured player is not cleared to return,
or is cleared, and opts not to return for her safety, the
Temporary Substitution shall become permanent. Only
a Substitution shall be charged. No moment shall be
charged for a temporary substitution.

xi. No Remaining Substitutions

1. If the team does not have any remaining Substitutions, the
Temporary Substitute will be permitted to remain in the
match.

xii. Delays in Evaluation

1. If the injured player is delayed a clearance beyond the
half/match, or the half / match ends during evaluation, the
Temporary Substitute shall remain in the match and shall be a
recorded Substitution for that half.

xiii. Case Examples (All cases relate to presumed head injuries. All
circumstances are independent of each other. Presume all
occur in different matches.)

1. Team A #1 is removed to be evaluated in the 8th minute of the
match. She is cleared to return in the 15'.

a. A Temporary Substitution may occur in the 8th. Upon
her clearance, she returns to the match, so there is
no substitution charged.

2. 3. 4. Team A #2 is removed in 19' to be evaluated. #3 enters the
match as a Temporary Substitution. She is not cleared
pending further evaluation later in the day.

a. #3 becomes a permanent Substitution in the first
half, a Substitution is charged.

Team B #1 is removed in the 38th minute to be evaluated.
#2 enters as a Temporary Substitution. At halftime, #1 is
cleared. / Not cleared.

a. In both circumstances, Team B is charged the first
half Substitution as #2 ended the period in #1s
absence.

Team A #4 is removed in the 30th minute. Team A used all its
7 Substitutions in this half. #5 enters as a Temporary
Substitution. 5' later, #4 is not cleared to return.

a. #5 may remain in the match.f. Game Disciplinary

i. Players – Yellow Cards

1. Upon receiving a sixth (6th) yellow card during the same GA/Aspire season, a player must serve a one-game suspension in the next scheduled GA or Aspire match played by the player's primary rostered team.

2. Until the suspension has been served, the player is ineligible to participate in any GA or Aspire match, including matches with another age group or team within the player's club.

3. If the sixth (6th) yellow card is received in the team's final match of the season or postseason, the suspension will carry over to the player's next scheduled GA or Aspire match in the following season.

ii. Players – Red Cards

1. Regular Season

a. Any player receiving a red card in a Non-Event GA Competition will be suspended for the remainder of that match. The player will also be suspended for the next day on which a Non-Event GA match is played by their club for their specific age group and/or any other age group.

i. Note: Additional suspensions or sanctions may be imposed by the disciplinary committee.

Players with an accumulation of two (2) or more red cards during the GA season will be subject to review by the league.

b. c. Third red card: one (1) additional game suspension.

d. Fourth red card: two (2) additional game suspensions.

e. Fifth red card: comprehensive review by the GA National Office and Disciplinary Committee; additional disciplinary action may be imposed.

2. Events (National and Regional)

a. Any player receiving a red card in a GA Event Competition (Regional, Champions Cup, Showcase, Playoffs) will be suspended for the remainder of that match. The player will also be suspended for the next match day played by their club for their specific age group and any other age group in a GA Event Competition. If the red card was received in the last

game of the GA Event, the player will serve that
suspension in their next scheduled GA match day.

i. Note: Additional suspension or sanctions
may be imposed by the Disciplinary
Committee.

ii. Coaches – Yellow Cards

1. Upon receiving a fourth (4th) yellow card during the same GA/Aspireseason, a coach must serve a one-match-day suspension on the next scheduled GA or Aspire match day on which any team coached by that individual competes. Until served, the coach may not participate in any GA or Aspire match in any coaching, staff, or technical-area capacity. Unserved suspensions carry over to the following season.

2. Cards will accumulate for an individual coach across all GA and GA Aspire teams, age groups, conference matches, and events during the same season.

iii. Coaches – Red Cards

1. Every coach red card is subject to Disciplinary Committee review, and longer sanctions may be imposed based on the incident. Two yellow cards in the same match resulting in dismissal count as one red card and do not separately count toward yellow-card accumulation. Unserved suspensions carry over to the following season.

2. Regular Season

a. Any approved GA coach receiving a red card in a Conference GA Competition will be suspended for the rest of that match and all other age groups competing that day. The coach will also be suspended for the next day on which that specific age group plays a Conference GA Competition.

i. Note: Additional suspension or sanctions
may be imposed by the Disciplinary
Committee.

b. Second red card: minimum (2) match-day
suspensions.

c. Third red card: comprehensive review by the GA National Office and Disciplinary Committee, with additional sanctions as appropriate.

3. Events (National and Regional)

a. Any approved GA coach receiving a red card in a GA Event Competition (Regional, Champions Cup, Showcase, Playoffs) will be suspended for the remainder

of that match and for all other age groups competing that
day. The coach will also be suspended for the next
match day on which that specific age group plays in ai. GA conference or event competition.
Note: Additional suspension or sanctions
may be imposed by the Disciplinary
Committee.
b. Any coach receiving multiple red cards within the same
event shall be reviewed for additional suspension or
sanction by the Disciplinary committee.
4. Yellow Card Accumulation
a. There shall be no yellow card accumulation policy for
players or coaches in the GA.
iv. Red Card Carryover
1. Red card suspensions, for the player and/or coach, carry over
into the first league game of the next GA season, if the red
card is received on the final league game of the current
season.
2. Red card suspensions, for the player and/or coach, carry over
into the first league game of the next GA season, if the red
card is received on the final game of the team's last event in
the current season.
3. If a player and/or coach transfers to a different GA club, the
red card will stay with the player and/or coach and carry over
to the next season's first league game.
4. If the player and/or coach is no longer in the GA, then the red
card is wiped clean as there is no way to enforce.
v. Reporting
1. Referees will complete the SEND OFF RED CARD
REPORT at the end of a game in which any dismissal has
taken place. Dismissals include:
a. Player and/or coach red cards.
b. Any non-coaching staff member told to leave the
technical area and/or field.
c. Any spectator told to leave the field.
2. Both member club directors - home and away- must independently notify
the Girls Academy Director of League Competitions or the GA Aspire
League Administrator immediately in writing following any significant
disciplinary incident.
3. Both member clubs must ensure that all red-card incidents and any

additional significant disciplinary incidents, including required supportingdocumentation, are reported to the National Office within forty-eight (48) hours after the match.

4. This is including but not limited to:

a. Player and/or coach red card send-off for violent conduct, abusive language, and/or abusive behavior.

b. Non-coaching staff member send-off for violent conduct, abusive language, and/or abusive behavior.

c. Spectator send-off for violent conduct, abusive language, and/or abusive behavior.

d. Violent conduct, abusive language, and/or abusive behavior by any of the above parties prior to or after the match.

5. Failure to report within forty-eight (48) hours may result in disciplinary action against the club, including fines and/or additional sanctions.

6. Failure to report does not relieve any player, coach, club official, or spectator from an automatic suspension or other required disciplinary action.

g. Game Limits

i. Any GA Registered Player may only play on one (1) GA or Aspire Team per day and may only play in one (1) GA/Aspire Competition per day or scheduled GA/Aspire match.

h. Fixture Ties

i. Once players play in a scheduled club fixture, they are unable to play in a rescheduled fixture in any other age group.

ii. A fixture includes the games from U13-U19 when one club plays another club. When the fixture is on different days (whether split on purpose or rescheduled), the fixture is still considered to be “one fixture”.

i. Recruiting

i. Member clubs may recruit non-GA players for participation on GA teams at any time

ii. Member Clubs may not recruit current GA players – (Depending on tryout timeline for each market).

iii. Direct outreach to current GA players is prohibited outside of market tryout windows.

j. Tryouts

i. The GA does not mandate when a club can and cannot have tryouts

for its teams. Thus, tryouts for Girls Academy teams may be held at any time of the year.

ii. In shared markets, clubs should communicate tryout timelines and avoid conflict through mutual respect and professionalism.

k. GA/Aspire Player Transfers

i. May occur with the approval of both club directors and leagueapproval by Senior Director of Member Services. Players transferring from one club to another shall not compete against their former club for that GA/Aspire competition year. (Aug 1 ending with summer national finals). GA and Aspire transfers from within the league will not be approved after April 1st to participate in playoffs.

ii. For a player to leave another GA club to join another GA club, that player must be in good financial standing with the club they are leaving. That is for the clubs to administer and monitor, not the league.

l. Match Cards

i. The official game day roster must be provided on the non-photo standard match cards and shall be presented to the referee by both teams prior to the game and should also include team staff. All teams are responsible for verifying the accuracy of rosters provided on all match cards and signing a completed copy from the referee crew after the game.

ii. It is the home club's responsibility to report scores and any disciplinary actions for each fixture. This must be submitted within 24 hours of the match's completion or subject to a fine and/or penalties.

m. Eligible Player

i. Players listed on the roster must meet the age requirement for their team, have paid the registration fee and have supplied proof of their age to the club staff in the form of a birth certificate or passport, and must be properly registered and not be subject to suspension.

ii. All players must be registered to the club in the league system and approved in GotSport.

n. Ineligible Player

i. Players not listed on the roster, or any player listed on the roster but not eligible to play, due to reasons such as missing registration forms, awaiting international clearance, serving a league suspension or not on the official game day roster/match card shall be considered an ineligible player. **A written in player is considered ineligible player.**

ii. Any member club using an ineligible player during any competition may be subject to a $1000 fine per infraction as determined by the Director of League Competitions and/or a forfeit (by a 0-3 margin) of any game(s) in which the ineligible player participated.

iii. An ineligible player can also be considered a player that has played multiple games in one day without league approval.

o. GK Amendment to the Loan Player Rule

i. The Amendment allows for an age-eligible GK to be loaned to another team within the same member club, in the event of an illness/injury (only with documentation from a medical professional) OR in the event of a USYNT call-up (only with documentation from U.S. Soccer)

ii. A loaned GK can play two games in a day and would need pre-approval from the league when the injury/illness to the otheriii. goalkeeper occurs by email to the Senior Director of Member Services.

Once approved, clubs must inform their opponent of the approval via email.

D. RISK MANAGEMENT

a. Overview

i. The Girls Academy is committed to providing a safe environment for its members and participants, and to preventing abusive conduct in any form. Every member club and its personnel are responsible for protecting participants and ensuring their safety and well-being while involved in sponsored activities. The following guidelines of behavior and procedures have been adopted for member clubs, staff, volunteers and participants. All clubs, parents, spectators and other invitees, are expected to observe and adhere to these guidelines. Violation of these guidelines may be used as a basis for a club or its staff's suspension or other disciplinary action, or a staff's disqualification from registration.

1. Abuse of any kind is not permitted within the Girls Academy. Physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse or misconduct from players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents or spectators shall not be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to such forms of abuse as: insulting, threatening, mocking, demeaning behavior or making abusive statements regarding a person's race, gender, religion, physical or mental disability, nationality/ethnicity, sex or age.

2. Physical and/or sexual abuse, including, but not limited to: striking, hitting, kicking, biting, indecent or wanton gesturing, lewd remarks, indecent exposure and any form of sexual contact or inappropriate touching, are strictly prohibited within the Girls Academy.

3. In addition, every member is responsible for reporting any cases of questionable conduct or alleged mistreatment toward our members by any coach, official, volunteer, player, parent, sibling or spectator.

4. The Girls Academy will respond quickly to all allegations of abuse within this organization. The alleged offender will be notified of such allegations promptly.

b. Conduct

i. The Girls Academy promotes respect and good sportsmanship throughout the league and encourages qualities of mutual respect, courtesy and tolerance in all participants, coaches, officials and volunteers.ii. To protect youth participants, as well as coaches, officials and volunteers, it is strongly recommended that no adult person allow themselves to be alone with an individual child (unless their own child) or with any group of children during sponsored activities. It is recommended that coaches or other adult members of the club:

1. Do not drive alone with an individual child participant in the car

2. Do not take an individual child alone to the locker room, bathrooms or any other private room

3. Private conversations with youth participants should occur within the view of others, in the gym or on the field, instead of a private office or hotel room.

4. Coaches and other adults of member clubs should not socialize individually with participants outside of sponsored activities [in the absence of participant's parents]

iii. Supervision/Chaperone Ratio

1. It is recommended that for any sponsored activity, the ratio of adults to youth participants be at least 1:9 (1 adult for every 9 children) with a minimum of 2 adults for every activity

2. When traveling overnight with youth participants, children should be paired up with other children of the same gender and similar age group, and with chaperones in separate, but

nearby rooms

3. No child should be left alone at a training session or at any other time until they are picked up by their parent, older sibling or other designated adult. It is recommended that the last adult in addition to the coach or trainer wait at the site until the child is picked up.

4. We want to empower our children to trust their feelings and let them know that their concerns, fears and hopes are important by listening to them. Open communication between children and parents, or between children and other adults in the organization may help early warning signs of abuse to surface.

iv. Risk Management

1. 2. All coaches and administrators required to register with the Girls Academy must complete US Soccer Safe Soccer Phase 1, 2, and 3.

Players 18 years of age or older must complete Safe Soccer Phase 1.3. Failure to complete or falsification of the application can result in immediate disqualification or suspension.

v. Disqualification of Individuals

1. The Girls Academy may deny registration to and disqualify any individual, or deny membership to or otherwise discipline any club which employs or utilizes any individual who either fails to comply with the registration procedures, falsified information, or as a result of such procedures is determined by the league commissioner and/or board of directors to be unfit to continue in their current position.

c. Goal Safety

i. Home clubs are responsible for inspecting the goals and ensuring the safety of the goals.

ii. However, should the visiting club become aware of a goal safety issue, they should immediately inform the home club and the game official about the issue.

iii. The home Clubs should do the following:

1. Pre-Game

a. Make sure that the goal is firmly secured to the ground with anchors

b. Make sure that all connecting hardware (nuts, bolts,

etc.) is properly attached

c. Make sure that the structural integrity of the goal has

not been compromised (cracks in welds or posts,

etc.)

d. Make sure that the goal is on a level (flat) surface

e. check the net attachment system to make sure that

it is secure and that there are no sharp edges.

2. Post-Game

a. If goals remain in the up-right position, make sure they

are secured with ground anchors

b. If anchored with portable style anchors, goals should be

stored by being chained together face-to-face, or placed

in a face down position

c. d. Remove the net when the goal is not in use

Make sure that all connecting hardware (nuts, bolts, etc.)

are in place and securee. f. g. h. Check the structural integrity of the goal

Never allow anyone to climb on the goals

If goals are moved, exercise extreme caution and

allow adequate manpower to move the goals

Make sure that warning labels are visible and in

good condition.

d. Field Inspection

i. Home clubs are responsible for inspecting the field and ensuring the

safety of the facility. However, should the visiting club become aware

of a safety issue at the facility, they should immediately inform the

home club and the game official about the issue.

ii. The home club should do the following:

1. Inspect for foreign objects

2. Check for holes, hills or ruts

3. Inspect sprinkler heads to make sure that they are seated

and properly covered

4. Ensure there is a restraining line for spectators at least five

(5) feet beyond the touch line and outside of the Inspect

bleachers and seating areas

5. Inspect the field and surrounding areas for any possible

“attractive nuisances”

e. Referee Responsibility for Safety

i. All determinations as to the safety of the field, the goals, the balls, player equipment are the responsibility of the referee assigned to the game.

ii. Any field, equipment or ball conditions deemed by the referee to be unsafe must be corrected by the home club before play can begin or resume.

f. Club Liability

i. To the extent that clubs are not covered by the general liability insurance provided by the league sanctioning body.

ii. Member clubs assume all risks, responsibilities and liabilities for loss, damage, injury or death while using property and facilities during games,whether such loss, damage, injury or death be occasioned by the team or by the league, its officers, agents or otherwise.

g. Player Liability

i. Players shall assume all risks, responsibilities and liabilities for loss, damage, injury or death to themselves while engaged as a player for a club or as a player on a representative team of the league subject to applicable state laws and regulations.

h. i. Liability Waiver & Indemnification Form

i. All coaches, administrators, players and their parents or guardians must sign a liability waiver when they submit their registration.

Weather Related Guidelines and Expectations

E. EQUIPMENT

a. Uniforms

i. ii. iii. iv. Players, coaches and club officials are not allowed to display political, religious or personal messages in any language or form on their playing or team uniforms, equipment (including bags, beverage containers, medical bags, etc.) or body for the duration of official league games.

Member clubs are required to have one light colored uniform and one dark uniform. Jersey and socks should be all dark or all light.

Home teams will be required to wear light colored uniforms, and away teams will be required to wear dark colored uniforms.

Home teams will be responsible for changing in the event of a conflict and will choose their uniforms and visiting teams will be required to

wear their contrasting uniforms.

v. For the 2026-2027 season, clubs are strongly encouraged not to require white shorts as part of either their dark or light kits. Beginning with the 2027-2028 season, clubs may not require players to wear white shorts as part of either kit.

vi. vii. Jerseys and socks should match in their color and/or shade (i.e. dark/dark or light/light).

On a double fixture weekend, it is required for teams to coordinate uniform colors ahead of time for the entire weekend to avoid conflicts.

b. Girls Academy Patches

i. Member clubs must apply a GA patch on the left sleeve or under the number of their game uniform.c. Goals, Nets, Corner Flags and Benches

i. ii. All goals must be properly anchored.

A game will not start without proper equipment, including secured goals, properly lined fields, and corner flags.

F. COMPETITIONS STRUCTURE

a. Overview

i. League schedules are organized with the Director of League Competition and the conference scheduling liaisons.

ii. The Commissioner and Sporting Director reserves the right to adjust game scheduling or conference alignment.

b. Conference Structure

i. The Director of League Competitions in collaboration with Conference scheduling liaisons creates the conference competition structure.

ii. iii. Teams must participate in at least one National Event for playoff eligibility, which consists of at least 3 games within the event. If circumstances occur that prevent this from happening, the league will work with the club to create other ways to satisfy this standard or make a determination for an exception.

iv. The minimum number of conference league matches per season required for playoff eligibility is thirteen (13). Exceptions may apply in GA Aspire when approved by the National Office.

1. Cross-conference matches do not count as conference league matches. (unless mandated by the league).

Regional/National Event matches do not count as conference league matches.

Only the first 3 Champions Cup matches count in the
National Standings.
The conference schedule must be completed to be
eligible for playoffs unless otherwise approved by the
board due to extenuating circumstances.
Outside of National Events, **a maximum of 4 approved**
Cross- Conference matches will count towards the National
Standings, but not in the conference league standings. Any
other cross- conference matches are strictly considered
friendlies unless they are pre-approved by the league due to
extenuating circumstances.
Clubs with two spots in the Girls Academy that are competing in the
same conference must schedule their fixtures between the two teams
prior to 75% of the game schedule being completed.
2. 3. 4. 5. v. vi. All regular season conference matches must be completed by the
end of day of May 30, 2027, to ensure proper determination of
postseason qualifiers for the Girls Academy and Aspire National
Playoffs/Showcase.
In cases of game forfeiture, the score shall be 3-0 in favor of the
non- forfeiting team. Teams forfeiting games are at risk of being
fined and denied participation in the national playoffs, however the
final determination of eligibility will be made by a recommendation
by the competitions committee and final approval from the Board of
Directors.
1. Clubs must notify the opponent and the GA Director of
League Competitions or GA Aspire League Administrator
of any regular-season forfeit at least forty-eight (48) hours
before the scheduled match. Failure to provide at least
forty-eight (48) hours' notice will result in a fine of up to
$5,000.
vii. Cancellations of games not impacting the National Playoffs
must be approved by and are at the discretion of the national
office staff.
c. Venue/Kick-off Times
i. The home team must submit the **MATCH DAY DETAILS** 5 days
prior to the match.
ii. The venues and specific kick-off times of the games shall be
proposed by the home team and agreed upon by the visiting team.
d. iii. When multiple facilities are approved, they must be located within ten

(10) miles of each other, unless otherwise approved by the Director of League Competitions. Coach conflicts created by the use of multiple facilities must be incurred by the host club (not the visitors).

iv. Double fixture weekends may be played; however, eighteen hours is needed between both kick-off times to allow for necessary travel and recovery.

1. Example: If a Saturday fixture kick-off is 6 pm local time, the Sunday fixture may not kick-off earlier than 12 pm local time unless permitted by the Director of League Competitions or agreed upon by both the home and away teams.

The sequence of games must conform to the following guidelines:

i. The Girls Academy requires all age groups to play in the same facility on the same day, unless **agreed upon by the home and away clubs and approved by the Director of League Competitions.**

ii. Game schedules require at least 30 minutes of warm up timeiii. between each kickoff. Less than 30 minutes between games is permitted if there is adequate warm-up space in an adjacent area.

e. Facility Set-Up

i. Two fields should be available for Girls Academy and Aspire fixtures.

ii. The home team shall be responsible for setting up its venue to include the appropriate lines, goals, nets, corner flags, benches, tents, and water.

f. Standings

i. All match cards must be submitted within 24 hours of the game's finish by the club designated as the home team.

1. Points

a. Three points for a win

b. One point for a tie

c. Zero points for a loss

d. Forfeit = 0-3 loss

ii. Conference Tiebreakers

1. The ranking of each team in the conference will be determined as follows:

a. greatest points per game obtained in all conference league games (ppg)

2. If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria, rankings will be determined as follows:

a. total points earned head-to-head (NA if more

than 2 teams are tied)

b. greatest goal difference per game in all

conference league games (gd)

c. greatest number of goals scored per game

in all conference league games (gf)

d. least number of goals allowed per game in all

conference league games (ga)

e. total number of wins in conference league play3. If the tie is reduced from three teams to two teams, the tiebreaker will

reset and the head-to-head criteria will be reapplied before moving to the

next tiebreaker.

iii. National Tiebreakers

1. The ranking of each team in the National Standings,

which determines Wildcard selection, will be determined

as follows:

2. a. greatest points per game obtained in all

conference league and event games (ppg)

i. with the exception of games played as part of

the Champions Cup Finals

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above

criteria, rankings will be determined as follows:

a. total points earned head-to-head (NA if more

than 2 teams are tied)

b. greatest goal difference per game in all

conference league and event games (gd)

c. greatest number of goals scored per game

in all conference league and event games

(gf)

d. least number of goals allowed per game in all

conference league and event games (ga)

e. total number of wins in conference league and event play

3. If the tie is reduced from three teams to two teams, the tiebreaker will

reset and the head-to-head criteria will be reapplied before moving to the

next tiebreaker.

G. MATCH DAY PROTOCOLS & MINIMUM STANDARDS

As a Girls Academy member, all clubs must provide a professional match-

day environment. In order to ensure all member clubs maintain a consistent,

professional environment for the players and spectators, the Match Day

Protocols and Minimum Standards for the Girls Academy season are listed below.

Emergency Match Day concerns or questions should be directed to the GA phone line at **317-401-6335.** All other protocols and standards will be submitted post-fixture as outlined below.

a. MATCH DAY PROTOCOLS & MINIMUM STANDARDS CHECKLIST

The home club representative is to be at the field an hour prior to game time. When arriving, each club needs to identify a club representative to be the sole point of contact for the fixture. Each club representative is to verify information provided in the match day protocols. Match day protocols and standards feedback must be communicated by the visiting club contact with the Director of League Competitions within 48 hours following the fixture. Responses will be collected by the league and addressed as needed via the Post-Game Report.

i. MATCH CARDS

1. Both home and away teams must provide the “standard” non photo match card for each match. Match cards must list all rostered players, coaching staff and club/team managers. Any players not participating in a match, due to injury or suspension or not dressing, must be crossed off the match card. Referees need to check in players on the roster. Any player checked in, regardless of if they play, will count as a rostered player and is an ineligible player for any other match in the fixture.

2. The home team must enter the score, goal-scorers, red and/or yellow cards as well as upload the game card within 24 hours in GotSport.

ii. POST-GAME REPORTING

1. 2. Both the **home and away club** are required to complete the **Post- Game Match Day Report** within **48 hours** of the fixture.

This report should include:

a. Any relevant match feedback or incidents

b. Confirmation of minimum standards being met

c. Any concerns related to officiating, field setup, or protocol compliance

Failure to submit the Post-Game Match Day Report may result in a fine or further review by the Director of League Competitions.

Note: Once entered into GotSport, any player who receives a red card will automatically be suspended for the next game in GotSport with a red line through their name on the roster.

The Director of League Competitions will confirm red cards with the match card and the referees reporting form.

b. COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

i. The host club is required to provide the visiting club with all match day details at least five (5) days prior to the competition. Match day details would include, but are not limited to the following:1. 2. 3. 4. 5. Facility address, directions, weather forecast, fixture schedule, field numbers, etc.

No matches shall be scheduled prior to 9:00 AM, unless both clubs agree in writing.

All matches must be scheduled to end at least 30 minutes prior to sunset, unless lights are provided, and the visiting club agrees to a later start time in writing.

All clubs are expected to schedule matches with professionalism and goodwill, meaning not to place any club at a competitive advantage or disadvantage.

All matches played on the same day are expected to be played at the same facility, unless the visiting club agrees to multiple facilities being utilized in writing and approved by the Director of League Competitions.

a. When multiple facilities are approved, they must be located within ten (10) miles of each other, unless otherwise approved by the Director of League Competitions.

b. Coach conflicts created by the use of multiple facilities must be incurred by the host club (not the visitors).

6. If two facilities are being used, both facilities must meet all game day standards.

7. Clubs must agree on the fixture time schedule to avoid coaching conflicts.

8. The Girl's Academy phone number is **317-401-6335** and should be used if any game day questions or concerns arise.

9. *A SAMPLE MATCH DAY DETAILS FORM*

c. MINIMUM STANDARDS

i. The following are the minimum standards expected for all matches.

The host club is responsible for meeting the following standards at all matches. If any hosting club cannot meet any of the minimum standards, it must receive approval from the Director of League Competitions no later than 48 hours prior to an event or face a financial penalty.

ii. Match Field

1. The match field provided for matches must be of the highest quality in the geographic area. Turf or natural surface areboth acceptable. A minimum match field size of 70 yards (W) x 110 yards (L) is expected. Natural grass surfaces should be mowed to a length that allows for high quality ball movement; 1.5-2.5”, depending on grass species, is the typical height range for mowing.

Note: If the field quality requirement is not met, there will be one warning and the next incident will result in a fine of $500 for not meeting minimum match standards.

Note: If inclement weather is expected during a match weekend, then it is expected for member clubs to have a turf field back-up.

iii. Field Setup

1. Team sideline requires both the home and away team to have (2) benches or (1) bench large enough for team and staff.

2. Team sideline requires both the home and away team to have matching team tents available for weather (excessive heat/rain) and where space in the technical area permits.

3. Team sideline requires a minimum of (1) trashcan.

4. 5. 6. Team sideline requires water for both teams.

All match fields are marked properly in accordance with FIFA rules.

All match fields must have (4) matching corner flags.

7. All Girls Academy and GA Aspire member clubs will use Adidas soccer balls for league play. Adidas match balls will be provided by the league, and at least three (3) Adidas match balls must be available at each match.

iv. Facility

1. Each facility must have permanent or portable restrooms on site and available to players and spectators.

v. Filming of Matches

1. All member clubs will be responsible for the filming of all home games in all age groups U13-U19 and uploading matches into the league exchange provider through Veo

within **48 hours** of the last match of weekend fixtures. As per the fine structure, clubs with games not uploaded within 48hours of the last match of the weekend will incur a $250 fine per missing game.

vi. Athletic Trainer

1. An athletic trainer must be provided for all matches, at least 60 minutes before the first match and continuing until the final match's end. If there is not a trainer present, it must be reported to the league office immediately. Failure to provide an ATC will result in a league fine and formal reprimand by the national league office.

vii. Referees

1. Each member club is expected to seek the best referees in their geographic area. Regional Referees or higher are preferred when available. All Referees shall be registered with US Soccer and in good standing. Each host club is responsible for collaborating with their local referee assignor for match assignments. The host club shall be responsible for all referee-related payments. The fees schedule is listed in the referee guidelines section of the frameworks.

2. It is the expectation for all GA matches to have 3 referees for each match. If an emergency occurs and a 3rd official is rendered unavailable or cannot continue a match, the GA home club must immediately notify the visiting club and GA Director of League Competitions via email (admin@girlsacademyleague.com) of the circumstances, and a 'club linesperson' may be utilized for the match. When using a 'club linesperson' they are ONLY responsible for notifying the Center Referee when the ball goes out of bounds. They are not to indicate the direction of a throw-in. They are not to call fouls. They are to stay in line with the last defender but do not signal for offside. An approved certified referee that subs in and is in uniform will be compensated by the home club; a 'club linesperson' does not receive compensation.

viii. Referee Compensation

1. All costs of referees are the responsibility of the home club. If a neutral site is used, the designated home club shall pay unless it is pre-approved by the league that costs will be shared. Payment of appointed referees is up to the discretion

of the home club. It is suggested that the home team pays the referees prior to the game upon arrival through the arbiter system or direct deposit centrally through US Officials or other avenues. No payment for any type of post-game. At Conference/National Events, the referee fees are included in event fees.2. Age=Center/AR1/AR2/4th Official

a. b. c. U13-U15= $90/$60/$60 + $45 for a 4th**

U16-U19= $100/$70/$70 + $45 for a 4th**

****Note**: 4th Officials are not required for Girls Academy matches.

H. GUIDELINES FOR RESCHEDULES, POSTPONEMENTS AND GAME FORFEITURES

Rescheduling Policy & Limitations

Once the league schedule is finalized and published, all games are expected to be played as scheduled to protect the integrity of the season and minimize disruption to players, families, referees, and facilities.

Reschedule requests will *not* be approved for reasons such as:

- Player or coach conflicts (including tournaments, other events, or club travel)
- Non-GA competition or training conflicts
- Preferences for alternate venues or times

Acceptable reasons for reschedule/postponement include:

- Unsafe field or weather conditions
- Documented facility closures
- Major travel disruptions (e.g., flight cancellations)
- League-approved exceptional circumstances

Limitations on Reschedule Requests:

- Each team is allowed one (1) discretionary reschedule request per season, subject to league approval.
- All requests must be submitted at least 14 days before the originally scheduled match (unless weather/emergency-related).
- Changes to already confirmed reschedules require league approval.
- Repeated requests or last-minute changes may result in fines or loss of rescheduling privileges.

Final decision-making authority rests with the league, in consultation with the Competitions Committee, over scheduling issues that affect competitive balance, travel efficiency, or conflict with playoffs/national events.

a. Rescheduling Considerations

i. U13, U14 and U15 games must reach the 60:00-minute mark to

be considered a completed game.

ii. U16, U17 and U19 games must reach the 70:00-minute mark to

be considered a completed game.

b. Following the mutually agreed upon postponement of a league game,

the following mandatory items must be included in the communication

for the reschedule to be accepted by league commissioner:i. ii. iii. iv. v. vi. vii. viii. Documented communication between club directors stating the

reason for postponement and mutual agreement to the

postponement.

Documented agreement on the reschedule date, time, and

locations of postponed fixtures/games must be agreed upon by

both parties.

An email to the Director of League Competitions including

members of both clubs involved in a reschedule must be submitted

by the host club

for the rescheduled fixture and sent to the Competitions Manager

within 7 days following the initial postponement.

If a rescheduled date is not submitted within 7 days of the initial

postponement, the Director of League Competitions will choose a

date based on club availability and update the fixture in the official

schedule.

Once approved by the Competitions Manager, in writing, the host

club is required to communicate the new fixture/game times to

appropriate game day officials (referees, trainers, cameraman, etc.).

Clubs not following the proper protocol for reschedules are

subject to fines and loss of points.

Same-day weather cancellations (Acts of God, etc.) of league games

will be considered postponed and the same expectations will apply.

1. **Note**: Same-day cancellations must be communicated to

the Competitions Managers via email as soon as the

decision has been made in real time.

A game will be determined as forfeited when one team does not

show up for a mutually agreed upon fixture (date, time, and location)

without proper documented notification* (via email) an agreement

with the other club or there is an instance when a team is found to

have broken one of the league rules, policies or procedures.

1. Notification to the Director of League Competitions no later

than 48 hours prior to the match. The instances of forfeiture include, but are not limited to:

a. Use of an ineligible player (no card, DOB, etc.)

b. Lack of official roster or game cards at the start of a game

c. Re-entry of substituted player in the first half of a game (no re-entry in the first half, 1 re-entry in the second half)

2. Clubs must notify the opponent and the GA Director of League Competitions or GA Aspire League Administrator of any regular-season forfeit at least forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled match. Failure to provide at least forty-eight (48) hours' notice will result in a fine of up to $5,000.

c. If a game does not reach the designated threshold, the league shall have the authority to review all the facts in determining whether and when a game should be rescheduled, whether the game should be forfeited or canceled permanently. The determination by the league shall be final.

d. Forfeiture of all age groups:i. ii. iii. iv. Team forfeiting one (1) regular season game, subject to a $1,000 fine.

Team forfeiting second regular season game in a single season, subject to another $1,000 fine.

Team forfeiting third game in a single season:

1. subject to a $1,000 fine
2. Additional $5,000 fine
3. Team is ineligible for playoffs
4. Number of Champions Cup points earned for that team is forfeited (Zero points) in that season
5. Potential club review

Teams forfeiting four or more games in a single season will be reviewed by the Competitions Committee and Board of Directors to determine fines and additional consequences.