



# Thames Valley Regional Athletics

## **RULES OF PLAY: SOCCER**

**1.0** In reference to schedule 5, **Organization of Competitive Groupings, Seasons and Practice Restrictions**, league competition will be organized into the following divisions, when schools have teams competing:

### **London District**

Catholic Central  
Gabriel Dumont  
E.S. Msgr, Bruyere  
Holy Cross  
John Paul II  
LDCSS  
Mother Teresa  
Notre Dame  
Regina Mundi  
St. Andre Bessette  
St. Mary's  
St. Joseph's  
St. Thomas Aquinas

### **TVDSB Central**

A. B. Lucas  
Central  
Clarke Road  
H. B. Beal  
Medway  
Montcalm  
North Middlesex  
Oakridge  
Saunders  
Banting  
Laurier  
South  
SDCI  
Westminster

### **TVDSB South-East**

Arthur Voaden  
Central Elgin  
College Ave  
East Elgin  
Glencoe  
Glendale  
Huron Park  
Ingersoll  
Lord Dorchester  
Parkside  
West Elgin  
Woodstock

League play, playoff schedules, and advancement to WOSSAA procedures which reflect these divisions will be communicated to the Athletic Directors and coaches as soon as practical, prior to the start of each season.

- 1.1 TVDSB Central and LDA will have two (2) tiers based on the number of teams and the strength of the participating programs.  
**Promotion** (moving up a tier) and **relegation** (moving down a tier) will be based on the final standings at the end of each regular season of play in order to realign Tiers for the following season. The movement of teams will be as follows:  
\*the top team from Tier 2 will be promoted to Tier 1.  
\*the bottom team from Tier 1 will be relegated to Tier 2.
- 1.2 TVRA teams will play a maximum of 6 league games.
- 1.3 TVDSB South-East league play will take place in South and East divisions.
- 1.4 League structure will be developed and reviewed by the Soccer SAC.

## **2.0 Eligibility:** Refer to the TVRA Agreement Schedule 6 as well as the following:

- 2.1 There is no restriction of the numbers of players on the eligibility list but teams may dress a maximum of 20 players per game plus 2 identified keepers. No players may be added after the final regular season game.
- 2.2 Any player who accumulates 3 yellow cards shall automatically be suspended from the next league or playoff game. If a player receives a third yellow card in



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- the final game of the regular season, then that player is automatically suspended for the team's first game of the playoffs.
- 2.3 Any player who receives a red card shall be ejected for the remainder of that game (no substitution allowed) and shall be automatically suspended from the next league or playoff game. Red cards must be reported to the convenor within 24 hours. In the case of a **violent red card**, both coaches must submit a written report about the circumstances of the red card to the convenor (within 24 hours), who will then notify the coordinator of athletics.
  - 2.4 Any player accumulating two (2) red cards in league and playoff games will not return to play that season or until the procedures outlined in Schedule 7 or Schedule 8 of the TVRA Sports Agreement have been completed.
  - 2.5 Any act of violence shall be suspended until the procedures outlined in Schedule 7 or Schedule 8 of the TVRA Sports Agreement have been completed.
  - 2.6 Any coach ejected from a contest shall automatically be suspended until, and including the next TVRA league contest. Coach ejections should be reported by the official on the game sheet and reported to the Convenor, who will in turn report to the coordinator as per Schedule 8 – Coaching Issues of the Secondary Schools Participation in Sports Agreement.
  - 2.7 A student may only play on one team of the same sport (team or individual) during a school year.
  - 2.8 The home team coach will send all copies of the game sheet to the convenor within a 24 hour time period. Games sheets from games played on Friday need to be sent to the convenor by the end of the school day on Monday. Failure to do so may result in a team forfeiting post season play.
- 3.0 Competition**
- 3.1 The current, official rules of Soccer as they appear in the FIFA Handbook shall be used with the following exceptions:
    - a) Unlimited substitution.
    - b) Substitutions may take place on a team's own throw-in from touch.  
Note: Opposing teams may substitute when the team throwing in is substituting, provided their player is ready at half to come in at the same time.
    - c) Substitution for a yellow-carded player is compulsory. The yellow carded player is the only player who may be replaced at the time and may re-enter the game at a regular substitution period.
  - 3.2 All league and playoff games shall consist of 90 minutes of play with 5 minutes between halves.
  - 3.3 In regular season league play a win will be worth three (3) points and a tie will be worth one (1) point.
  - 3.4 Home Team duties which **apply to any field that is used as a home field whether or not it is school property**:
    - i) Ensuring fields are lined and playable as per the current OPHEA Safety Guidelines. The home team shall forfeit any game that cannot be played if these



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conditions are not met.

- ii) Provide corner flags and nets;
- iii) Ensuring contrasting uniform colours with the opponents, at the discretion of the referee;
- iv) Provide a good, quality game ball;
- v) Retain the original copy of the game sheet and distribute a copy of the game sheet to the visiting team;
- vi) Enter the game score on the tvraa.com website IMMEDIATELY following the matches. Game scores will only be recorded up to a maximum four goal differential. For example, a 7 -1 victory will be entered as 5 – 1.
- vii) Forfeits will be entered as a 4-0 score.

3.5 **Postponements** prior to the game may be due to the following:

- a) Poor weather;
- b) Dangerous field conditions;
- c) Unavailability of referee.

3.6 Notice of postponements must follow the following procedure:

- a) Home team will inform the Convenor and Athletic Director of the team(s) involved before 11:00 a.m. of the day of the game;
- b) Convenors must notify Referees of postponement.

3.7 Referees and coaches are to be aware of the **OPHEA** guidelines regarding inclement weather. Specifically, **Appendix F** outlines the safety protocol that needs to be followed when lightning is seen and/or heard. Note: Referees have the power to call a game at any time during heavy rain, lightning, or other natural interferences that may jeopardize the safety of everyone, but coaches should intervene and consult a referee if they feel that the safety of their players may be in jeopardy due to lightning and assist in the decision making process. In the event that a game is called before the 67 minute mark (less than 75% of the game played) the game will have to be replayed in its entirety. In the event that a game is called after the 67 minute mark the score at the time will stand and will count as a completed game.

3.8 Any schedule changes will follow, and be subject to the procedure outlined in Schedule 4, Sections 2 through 8 of the TVRA Participation in Sports Agreement.

## **4.0 Uniforms and Equipment**

4.1 All competitors are to dress in common school uniforms as per OFSAA regulations. Shin guards are mandatory.

4.2 As per the OPHEA Safety Guidelines, students are permitted to wear casts provided: they have provided a doctor's note AND parent/guardian signed permission indicating it is safe for him/her to participate. Casts/orthopedic devices must not present a safety concern to students or other participants, so they will have to be modified for protection. The referee will have the authority to determine whether the player will be allowed to play, or remove the player from the game should he/she determine it is necessary.



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- 4.3 Student-athletes must remain fully clothed in an appropriate team uniform in the competition area AND use designated changing rooms to change to and from competitive attire.

## **5.0 Ties in League Standings**

- 5.1 Forfeited games will be reported with a 4-0 score
- 5.2 If two (2) teams are tied at the end of the regular season:
- Team record against each other;
  - Most games won in league play;
  - Least goals scored against;
  - Goal differential (goals for - goals against);
  - Most goals scored;
  - Coin toss by Convenor in the presence of the coaches/designate.
- 5.3 If three (3) teams are tied at the end of the regular season:
- As per 5.2 a) to 5.2 e) above.
- When using the above system separates one or more teams from the other, those teams shall be ranked accordingly and any remaining ties shall be broken by reverting to step 1.
- Three-way coin toss with the odd person finishing ahead of the other two; the other two decide standings as per two-way tie in 5.1 f) above.
- 5.3 If four (4) teams are tied at the end of the regular season:
- As per 5.2 a) to 5.2 e) above;
  - Four-way coin toss with the odd person finishing ahead of the other three, repeat as in 5.3 b) above.

## **6.0 Championship Categories and Playoff Procedures**

- Playoffs will be organized within each of Competitive Groupings and lead to WOSSAA representation for each school classification within that region.
- 6.1 Playoff dates, locations and times should be announced no later than the pre-season meeting for that sport season.
- 6.2 In TVDSB Central and LDA, teams will playoff within their school classifications. League standings will be used to rank the schools within each classification, with Tier 1 teams always ranking ahead of Tier 2 teams regardless of points. The number of teams in each classification will influence the playoff format for each classification. The playoff structure will be presented to coaches at the pre-season meeting.
- 6.3 In TVDSB South-East, playoff ranking will be determined based upon divisional league play standings. The South and East divisions will cross-over for the quarter-final round. These match-ups will be dependent upon the number of teams in each classification.
- 6.4 In championship games, each team, in coordination with the host school, will provide a competent minor official for scorekeeping and game sheet information.
- 6.5 Championship venues will be determined prior to the start of regular season play.



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6.6 All games are 90 minutes in length with five (5) minutes between halves. Ties in regulation time will be followed by two (2) 10 minute overtime halves (No Golden Goal). If the teams are still tied, there will be a shootout as per FIFA rules.

## **7.0 Advancement to WOSSAA, OFSAA**

7.1 The winner of the each competitive grouping in each classification in TVRA will advance to WOSSAA in that classification.

7.2 In TVDSB South East, the WOSSAA qualifier will be the Conference Champion or the team that advances the furthest in the South East playoffs in that classification. WOSSAA qualifying Challenge matches will not take place.

## **8.0 Awards**

8.1 Girls "A" Soccer TVDSB Central Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Girls "AA" Soccer TVDSB Central Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Girls "AAA" Soccer TVDSB Central Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Girls "A" Soccer LDA Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Girls "AA" Soccer LDA Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Girls "AAA" Soccer LDA Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Girls Soccer TVDSB South East Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Girls "A" Soccer TVDSB South East Champions	(9x12 plaque)

Boys "A" Soccer TVDSB Central Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Boys "AA" Soccer TVDSB Central Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Boys "AAA" Soccer TVDSB Central Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Boys "A" Soccer LDA Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Boys "AA" Soccer LDA Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Boys "AAA" Soccer LDA Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Boys Soccer TVDSB South East Champions	(9x12 plaque)
Boys "A" Soccer TVDSB South East Champions	(9x12 plaque)

## **9.0 Convenor Responsibilities**

As outlined in the TVRA Sports Agreement section 5.6 and schedules 3 through 8.

9.1 Convenor Coverage

a) There is one (1) day of supply coverage available for convening and planning in each (boys and girls) of TVDSB Central, TVDSB South and East and LDA.