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THJSL **Points of Emphasis** **For Coaches and Parents**

Coaches' Expectations

- Coaches will be a role model and leader for his/her team members. Coaches will at all times exhibit respect for game officials and team members.
- Coaches will establish expectations for parents' sideline behavior prior to the beginning of the season.
- Coaches will be ultimately responsible for the behavior of team members, parents and spectators on the sidelines, by enforcing the rules and setting the tone for sideline behavior.
- Coaches will not berate abuse, question or otherwise disrespect the referees.
- Coaches will treat all youth referee exactly as they would have others treat that referee if s/he were the coach's child.
- Coaches will have their players thank the referee after each game.
- Coaches will follow the league Blow out Policy rules (see pg. 17) to prevent games from becoming extremely one sided in the score, to keep within the recreational nature of our league and make the game more even.

Parents' and Spectators' Expectations

- Parents will be a role model and leader for the team members.
 - Parents will at all times provide positive verbal support for the players. Parents will not criticize or try to coach from the sidelines during a game.
 - Parents will at all times encourage other parents and spectators that berate or otherwise abuse or disrespect the referees, coaches or players, to refrain from this behavior.
 - Parents will not berate abuse, question or otherwise disrespect the referees, coach or other players.
 - Parents will treat all youth referee exactly as they would have others treat that referee if s/he were the parent's child.
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Jewelry

Every year the question about players and their jewelry comes up. Here is the THJSL rule on jewelry:

No earrings, watches, rings, necklaces, bracelets, or wristbands may be worn during game play or practice. Hair bands, if used, must be elastic. Other articles that may be considered by the referee to endanger either the wearer or other players must also be removed. Religious and medical bracelets and necklaces are not considered “jewelry” but must be taped to the body to the satisfaction of the referee. Failure to obey the referee will automatically disqualify the player from participation until the referee determines the hazard has been resolved.

Any items – including medical and/or religious items – which utilize a “stud” to fasten them to the body are strictly prohibited. If the offending item cannot be removed then the player is not allowed to participate in the game or the practice. This is an absolute and unchallengeable rule. Do not request any “special waiver” because it will not be granted. Do not berate the referee for insisting on compliance with this rule.

Casts

Every year the question about Casts on Players comes up. Here is the THJSL rule on Casts:

No player is permitted to participate while wearing any casts made of rigid material. This is regardless of the padding that may be applied. There is sometimes some confusion on this point because some organizations (e.g., high school and some competitive leagues) do allow players with casts if padded to the satisfaction of the referee. That is NOT the case in THJSL games.

**PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW THESE POINTS OF
EMPHASIS TO HELP ENSURE ALL PLAYERS,
COACHES, PARENTS, AND REFEREES HAVE A SAFE
AND POSITIVE EXPERIENCE WHEN PARTICIPATING
IN THJSL SOCCER!**

THJSL Soccer Summary Charts

Soccer Age Bracket	Calendar Age as of July 31st	Typical School Grade	Recommended Max. Number of Players per Roster	Typical Field Size
U8	7	2nd	10	35 x 25 yd.
U9	8	3rd	14	45-50 x 30-35 yd.
U10	9	4th	14	50-60 x 35-45 yd.
U11	10	5th	16	70-80 x 45-55 yd.
U12	11	6th	16	70-80 x 45-55 yd.
U13	12	7th	18	95-110 x 60-70 yd.
U14	13	8th	18	95-110 x 60-70 yd.
U19	14-18	9th-12th	22	100-120 x 60-75 yd.

Soccer Age Bracket	Ball Size	Game Length (a)	Game Format	Minimum Required Players (b)	Games per Season (c)
U8	#3	40 min	5 v 5	3	8
U9	#4	50 min	7 v 7	5	8
U10	#4	50 min	7 v 7	5	8
U11	#4	60 min	9 v 9	6	8
U12	#4	60 min	9 v 9	6	8
U13	#5	70 min	11 v 11	7	8
U14	#5	70 min	11 v 11	7	8
U19	#5	80 min	11 v 11	7	10

- a) Game time is divided into two equal halves, with a 5-minute halftime break between. The clock runs continuously during each half, and is **not** stopped for breaks in the action (no time outs may be called or requested).
- b) If a team is unable to field the minimum required number of players within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time that team will forfeit the game. If a team is playing with the minimum number and a player is injured and cannot continue the referee will suspend the game to determine if the injured player is able to return. If s/he is not able to return then the game will be terminated. If mutually agreed, a team with sufficient players can loan some to the short-handed team so that the game can be played.
- c) This is the nominal number of games scheduled by THJSL, per team, per season. The actual number of games per team may vary depending upon the number of teams within an age group, tournament participation and special requests.

Welcome to the Tualatin Hills Junior Soccer League

We sincerely hope you and your family enjoy the upcoming fall soccer season. This Parents' Guide has been prepared to help familiarize you with the game of soccer and THJSL recreational soccer guidelines and rules.

A Call for Volunteers!

The correlation between participation in youth athletics and success later in life is well documented. Youth athletes do better in school, are more likely to attend college, and excel in today's team-oriented society. But youth soccer does not happen by accident. Instead, youth soccer is made to happen through the efforts of many, many, volunteers ... volunteers just like you!

During our youth, each of us was positively influenced by a number of coaches, youth leaders, and other volunteers. Do you wish you could say, "thank you?" Well you can! By becoming a youth soccer volunteer, you can contribute to your community while providing an invaluable service to today's youth.

So how can you help? Our needs span a variety of areas of expertise, levels of commitment, and degrees of familiarity with soccer. For example, at the team level, you can help by being a coach, an assistant coach, or team Mom or Dad. At the club level, positions include president, treasurer, secretary, head coach, registrar, as well as special functions such as organizing team pictures, uniforms, and equipment. There are similar opportunities at the league and even state level. Ask your club leadership how you can help us make it happen!

Once again, welcome. We encourage you to become a part of the action and make soccer a family affair!

Game and Practice Checklist

The list provided is only a guideline. Please check with your team's coach to confirm how a player should be equipped for practice and games.

Equipment	At Game?	At Practice?
Soccer shoes	Yes	Yes
Shin guards	Yes	Yes
Water bottle	Yes	Yes
Uniform	Yes	No
Soccer ball	Ask Coach	Yes
Jewelry, casts, etc.	No	No

Fields and Games

- 1. Restrooms** - Many fields don't have them, so prepare accordingly.
- 2. Field Locations** – All THJSL fields have links to on-line maps are available with the game schedules posted on-line.
- 3. Arrive on Time** - Check with your coach. Typically, they like players to arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of a game, and on time for practices. Notify the coach well in advance whenever your child can't attend a game or practice. After practice or games, please pick up your player on time. Please do not make the coach wait for you.
- 4. Post the Game and Practice Schedules** on your refrigerator or bulletin board. Your coach should notify you about the practice times and fields 1 to 2 weeks prior to the first game, and should provide you with the link to your game schedule 1 to 2 weeks prior to the first game.

**** Be sure to check the schedules every week as changes may have been made to your games.**

- 5. Remember to Leave the Playing Fields Clean** - Field use is a privilege given to us by the local parks and school committees, and can be revoked. Please respect our playing fields.
- 6. Spectator Locations** - Game participants (players, coaches) are to stand on one side of the field and spectators on the other.
- 7. No tobacco or alcohol is permitted.**
- 8. Parking** - Please remember that parking on public streets is shared with local residents. It is important to be courteous and not block driveways, mailboxes, or any access to a private residence. THJSL is granted the use of many of the school fields as part of an agreement with the local school board. Should the residents around a field or school determine that the children's use of the field results in a negative impact on the neighborhood, they may ask the school board to revoke our field privileges.

Soccer Season Description

The THJSL recreational soccer season is limited to the fall. Ages 7 through 13/14 (U08 – U14) play 8 and High School Coed 10 games per scheduled season. If participating in a tournament, more game matches are allowed. The first game occurs shortly after school starts and the last game occurs in late October or early November.

Responsibilities

Each member of a team has a responsibility to his/her teammates. In youth soccer, the team is extended to include the coach and parents of the players. The coach and parents are the role models and leaders of the team. A team will pattern its behavior and growth after its leaders. Establish expectations for sideline behavior at the beginning of the season.

Coaches' Role

Coaching children in soccer is a privilege, not a right. A coach is a teacher, a friend, and a role model. The following is expected of all coaches:

1. Coaches will strive to develop a good sense of self-esteem in each team member.
2. Coaches will strive to teach skills and team play to each team member.
3. Coaches will strive to instill a strong sense of fair play, sporting conduct, and respect.
4. Coaches will consider the physical and emotional well being of team members.
5. Coaches will at all times exhibit respect for game officials and team members.
6. Coaches will only allow players who are registered with OYSA to participate in games and in practices.
7. During games, coaches must remain off the field of play at all times unless and until called onto the field by the referee. Coaches are to remain at least two yards outside the touchline, 5 yards from midline, and may never be closer to the end line than a point even with the penalty area ("18 yard box"). Coaches are specifically prohibited from crossing beyond the midline and onto the opponent's end of the sideline.
8. Coaches and referees will assess the safety of the playing fields for games and practices. Referees have the final decision as to the playability of game fields.

Parents' Role

1. Be positive and nurturing. Provide verbal and emotional support in both good times and bad. Never criticize or try to coach during a game. Leave the coaching to the coach and the officiating to the officials.
2. The parent peer group is responsible for exhibiting positive parent behavior during games. It is the responsibility of the parents to encourage other parents and spectators who berate or otherwise abuse or disrespect the officials, coaches, or players to refrain from this behavior.
3. Parents must remain off the field at all times and are to stay on the sidelines, never behind the goal line.
4. Youth referees especially must be afforded the same nurturing and positive behavior given the players.
5. **ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO BE A CHILD!**
6. Avoid material rewards. Build an attitude of "*the rewards lie in the fun of playing and doing one's best.*"
7. Provide transportation to and from all practices and games. Respect your coach's time. Be punctual in arrival and pickup of your child.
8. When possible, stay and watch practices as well as games and lend the players your support in a positive manner. Do not point out mistakes or criticize. Leave team and player management up to the coach. Support players' efforts as well as accomplishments.
9. If unable to attend a practice or game, teach children not to talk with or leave practices or games with strangers. Let the coach know if your child is riding with someone else.
10. Ensure your child brings equipment to and from all soccer games and practices when appropriate. Be sure to identify equipment with a pen or permanent marker.
11. Kick the ball around with your child - it's a memory he or she will carry for a lifetime.
12. Parents are expected to abide by the rules set forth in the THJSL Judicial Procedures.

Players' Rights

1. The right to participate in soccer.
2. The right to play in every game. In recreational soccer, all players on a team shall be allowed to play approximately equal time, except when there are disciplinary issues.
3. The right to participate at a level that corresponds to their maturity and ability.
4. The right to be taught the fundamentals of soccer.
5. The right to participate in a safe and healthy environment.
6. The right to play as a child and enjoy participation in the sport.

THJSL Rules Summary

1. **Playing Time** All players are entitled to play a minimum of one-half of each game for which they suit up. The THJSL understands that failure to practice, disciplinary action, sickness, or injury might be cause for a coach to play an individual for less than one-half of a game.
2. **Equipment** All players on the field must wear shin guards and legal soccer shoes (usually with rounded, molded plastic cleats). All players on the field must be attired in club issued matching jerseys, except goalkeepers, who must wear colors that distinguish them from all other players on the field. In case of similar jersey colors the home team must change. Teams are not allowed to wear non-club issued jerseys or uniforms. Jerseys are not to have the player's name on them.
3. **Jewelry** No earrings, watches, rings, necklaces, bracelets, or wristbands may be worn during game play or practice. Hair bands, if used, must be elastic. Other articles that may be considered by the referee to endanger either the wearer or other players must also be removed. Religious and medical bracelets and necklaces are not considered "jewelry" but must be taped to the body to the satisfaction of the referee. Failure to obey the referee will automatically disqualify the player from participation until the referee determines the hazard has been resolved.

In particular, any items – including medical and/or religious items – which utilize a "stud" to fasten them to the body are strictly prohibited. If an offending item cannot be removed then the player is not allowed to participate. This is an absolute and unchallengeable rule of competition. Do not request a "special waiver" because it will not be granted. Do not berate the referee for insisting on compliance with this rule.

4. **Casts** No player is permitted to participate while wearing any cast made of rigid material. This is regardless of the padding that may be applied. There is sometimes some confusion on this point because some organizations (e.g., high school and some competitive leagues) do allow players with casts if padded to the satisfaction of the referee. That is NOT the case in THJSL games.

5. **Age** A player should play on a team of peers that are the same approximate age, not to his or her grade in school. Younger children may play on an older team (play up), but this is discouraged and normally only 1 year. A child with special requirements needing to play on a team younger than his or her age must receive approval from the club's registrar.
6. **Code of Conduct** THJSL considers proper conduct by coaches, parents and players to be an extremely important part of soccer. The referee calls the game, while the coach is responsible for the behavior of team members, parents, and spectators. Neither the referee nor the players should be subjected to negative comments from anyone. Please remember that most of our referees are learning as they go and with the right support will continue to expand their knowledge of the game of soccer and support it for years to come. **Remember: This is a recreational league, not competitive. The objective is to learn the game and to have fun!**
7. **Comments to Coaches and Players** Spectators must refrain from yelling anything other than positive comments at players (or others participating or in attendance). Coaches have the ultimate responsibility for enforcing these rules and setting the tone for sideline behavior.
8. **Blow out Policy** In keeping with the recreational nature of our league, coaches are expected to prevent games from becoming extremely one sided. In any game in which one team leads another by 5 goals, **the coach of the team with the five-goal advantage must take steps to make the game more even!** This is known as "pulling back." These steps should be taken in consultation with the opposing coach and must include one or more of the following.
 - a. The team trailing by five or more goals is allowed to field additional players. This can be in addition to or instead of the leading team removing players.
 - b. Exchange defensive lines, or other players, with the opposing team
 - c. Play short.
 - d. Play players out of their normal positions.
 - e. Require a minimum number of consecutive passes before a shot is taken or require that all shots be taken from outside of the penalty area.
 - f. In U8 games, the size(s) of the goal mouth(s) can be altered as appropriate.

- 9. Officials** The referee is assigned complete control over the soccer game. The safety of the players is his or her main concern. The referee is responsible for keeping time, enforcing the Laws of Soccer, stopping and restarting the game for fouls and injuries, cautioning or sending off offenders (including coaches or spectators), issuing yellow and red cards, and prematurely ending a game, if necessary. **All decisions by the referee are final once play restarts.** For U8 through U12 games, which are officiated by a single referee, the referee may recruit two linespersons as off-the-field assistants (normally one parent volunteer from each team). A linesperson's sole responsibility is to signal when the ball has left the field of play. When you serve as a linesperson you have committed yourself to being an impartial game official, and you must avoid coaching or directing the players on your team. The referee has both the right and duty to overrule the linesperson's call if he or she disagrees. The referee will typically choose to discuss disputes or requests with the team captain *only*.
- 10. Comments to Officials** Spectators, coaches, and players are not allowed to berate abuse, question or otherwise disrespect the referees. Remember that the referee is often a young high school student/player trying to do his or her best, and that it is impossible to see everything when you are on the field doing the job. At the end of each game, coaches and players should thank the referee and shake her/his hand. Please keep in mind that the referee's participation in the game is just as important as that of any player.
- 11. The Impact of Misconduct** The use of cards by the referee is based upon her/his judgment with regard to the Laws of the Game. This list does not cover all of the potential situations that may result in a 'yellow' or 'red' card. Treat that youth referee as you would want your child treated if s/he were the official in this game.
- a. **Yellow Card (Caution)**
 - Enters or leaves the field of play during the game without the referee's permission
 - Persistently infringes upon the laws of the game
 - Shows by words or actions dissent from any decision by the referee
 - Displays un-sporting conduct
 - b. **Red Card (Send off)**
 - Violent or threatening conduct
 - Serious foul play
 - Uses foul or abusive language
 - Persists in misconduct after receiving a caution

After a player is cautioned or sent off, play is resumed by awarding the opposing team with an indirect free kick from where the infringement occurred, unless the offense itself would normally result in a direct free kick or a penalty kick, in which case the appropriate kick is taken.

For THJSL sponsored events, the referee may caution coaches and/or spectators, or send them off the field site. Coaches can also be cautioned for not controlling their spectators or players. Any player, coach or spectator receiving a red card is, at a minimum, suspended from appearing at the next game and may receive a longer suspension depending on the offense or history of misbehavior. Any player receiving a red card; a coach or spectator dismissed from the area of play is, at a minimum, suspended from the next game. In the case of players, they must attend the next game but are not allowed to participate; failure to attend will mean that the suspension has not been served and will carry over to the next game. Coaches, other bench personnel and parents who have been dismissed are not allowed to be in attendance at the next game and must stay out of sight or sound of the field during that game. Players sent off from the game will remain in the team area under the supervision of the coaching staff and/or other bench personnel. Coaches or other bench personnel and any parent dismissed from the game must vacate the field area so as to be out of both sight and sound of the field. The referee may abandon the game if the coach, bench personnel or parent refuses to leave the field site. No substitutions are permitted for players who are sent off.

- 12. Coach and Spectator Location** Except when authorized by the referee, spectators and coaches are not allowed on the playing field at any time during regular play or at half time. They must remain on their side of the field, and coaches at least 18 yards away from the goal line for U10 and above games. The coaches, players, and spectators must stay at least 2 yards back from the touchline.
- 13. The Game** The game is played for the allotted time. At the end of that time, the team with the higher score wins. There is neither overtime nor a shootout to determine the winner of a tie game.
- 14. The Team** At the U13/14 and U19 age levels, 11 players per team may be on the field at one time. U11/12 teams field 9 players. U9/10 field 7 players. U8 field 5 players
- 15. Captains** Each team will assign one or more captains. The captain is the only person permitted to talk to the referee during a game.

- 16. Player Substitution** Any number of players may be substituted at one time in a THJSL game, with the prior consent of the referee, and only at a dead ball situation (throw-in, free-kick, goal kick, etc.). The referee may refuse to allow the team not taking the kick or throw-in to substitute if the team taking the kick or throw-in is clearly interested in restarting the game quickly, and there is an advantage in doing so. Remember that the designated team captain is the only person allowed to speak to the referee.

The U8/U9 Rule Modifications

Method of Scoring A goal is scored when the entire ball, having been legally propelled, passes between the cones (U8) or goalposts (U9) and over the goal line, and below the crossbar (U9), or below an "imaginary crossbar" about three feet high between the two cones (U8) that form the goal. The referee will have the sole determination as to whether the ball crossed under the "imaginary crossbar." Moreover, if one of the cones is struck by the ball and displaced any significant distance then a goal will be determined to have been scored. It does not matter if the ball struck the "inside" of the cone or the "outside" of the cone. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kickoff, throw-in, free kick, or throw by the opposing goalkeeper. In contrast to the U10-U14 and HS Rec games, a goal cannot be scored directly from a corner kick.

Offside Offside is not enforced in U8 and U9 games, but referees should instruct players and prevent flagrant "cherry-picking." The referee is the sole judge of whether a player is seeking to gain advantage through "cherry-picking."

Throw-In When the ball completely crosses the touchline, a throw-in is awarded to the team that did not last touch the ball. Any player on this team may take the throw-in. When taking a throw-in, both feet must stay in contact with the ground and both feet must be behind or on the touchline. The thrower must face the direction of the throw, use both hands, and deliver the ball from behind the head in one continuous movement. After the ball has been thrown onto the field, another player must touch the ball before the thrower can play it again. If a throw-in is taken improperly, the referee may briefly explain the proper technique to the player and give them a second chance or award a throw-in to the other team.

Free Kick/Penalty Kick Free kicks are taken from the spot where a foul occurred except when the infraction occurs within the goal area in which case the kick is taken from the closest point outside the goal area. All free U8/U9 kicks are indirect, meaning that the ball must touch at least one other player (either a teammate or opponent) before a goal can be

scored. All opponents must be at least 6 yards away from the ball at the time the kick is taken. The player taking the kick may not touch the ball again until another player touches it.

Goal Kick A goal kick is taken to restart play after the attacking team last touches the ball before it travels over the defender's goal line without scoring a goal. The ball is placed anywhere in the goal area. The defending team takes the kick.

Corner Kick A corner kick is taken by the attacking team to restart play after the defending team has touched the ball over before it travels out over its own goal line without a goal being scored. The kick is taken in the field of play within one yard of the corner of the field closest to where the ball went out of play. Contrary to U10-U14, a goal cannot be scored directly from a corner kick (all free kicks are indirect).

Fouls and Misconduct The following types of fouls may be called by the referee.

- Pushing, holding, tripping, spitting, or jumping at an opponent
- Intentionally playing the ball with the hand, except for goalkeepers in their own goal areas
- Dangerous play
- Impeding the progress of another player
- Running into a goalkeeper anytime he/she is in his/her goal area, regardless of whether the keeper has possession of the ball.
- Punts by the goalkeeper that travel past the center line in the air
- Dangerous play or arguing with the referee's calls
- Foul or abusive language
- Hitting or attempting to hit
- Slide-tackling

All fouls are punished by awarding an indirect free kick to the opponents.

Any player sent off the field for repeated dangerous play, or arguing with the referee's decision will not be allowed to play the remainder of the game. The referee will report the violation and the name of the player. The League will determine the eligibility of that player for subsequent games.

Judicial Procedures

The following are highlights of the THJSL Judicial Procedures.

These apply to all games scheduled by THJSL (U8 through U19 High School Co-ed.)

1. It is the intention of the THJSL to operate a recreational youth soccer league as a joint program of its six recreational soccer clubs. Its emphasis on both "youth" and "recreational" means that the League intends to maintain high levels of sporting conduct. Sporting conduct means that participants seek to gain only the advantage obtained by superior skill, within the letter and spirit of the Laws of the Game. Participants will behave in a courteous manner towards opponents, officials and each other. **"Participants" include not only players, but also coaches and spectators.**
2. Incidents are reported to the League in referee game reports, in letters and calls from concerned parents, and by coaches. "Incidents" at THJSL games are classified as follows.
 - a. **Inappropriate Behavior** This includes overaggressive play or the encouragement of such play, refusal to participate in post game handshakes, allowing pets to run loose on the field, etc. This specifically does not include any behavior falling into one of the categories below.
 - b. **Unsporting Behavior** This includes any behavior that would normally receive a caution (yellow card) for unsporting conduct, but which, for some reason, did not. This covers incidental foul language, loud arguments with opposing parents or coaches, refusal to cooperate with game officials, etc. This classification also includes violations of THJSL policy that each player receives a minimum of 50% playing time per game.
 - c. **Misconduct** This includes any cautions or send offs (red cards) received during the game by players or coaches. The rare and special cases include cautions or send offs given after the departure of participants from the game site.
 - d. **Repeated Misconduct** This includes a pattern of misconduct by a coach or player, and will be handled as described below.
 - e. **Administrative Problem** This includes players registered with their club with the wrong age and/or gender, use of unregistered players, etc.

3. Reports of inappropriate behavior will be referred to and dealt with by the individual clubs. A pattern of inappropriate behavior will be treated as unsporting behavior.
4. Unsporting Behavior and Misconduct will be handled at the League level, and if sufficiently serious, may result in formation of a judicial committee to take the actions described under the THJSL Judicial Procedures. Possible penalties include player, coach, and team suspension for up to five years.
5. Referee reports shall be accepted as factual, without requiring further investigation. Spectators are the responsibility of the coach of each team. In the event of misbehavior by spectators, all judicial proceedings will be carried out against the coach.
6. On occasion youth referees are intimidated by adult coaches. If a youth referee (under the age of 19) determines after a game that a coach should have been cautioned or dismissed, the referee may report it on the game report. Such game report shall state a cause for the disciplinary violation, as found in the Laws of the Game, and the related conduct. The League Vice President shall inform the coach by phone upon receipt of the game report. For all judicial purposes, the card will be considered to have been given on the field.
7. Yellow cards, red cards, and other misconduct results in penalty points that are accumulated at player, coach and team levels. Depending on the number of points accumulated, the penalty for a player could be a letter of reprimand, suspension for a single game, or suspension for the remainder of the season. Team penalties range from a letter of reprimand to suspension of the entire team.
8. Any coach or player receiving a caution (yellow card) shall receive one penalty point. Any player sent off or any coach dismissed shall receive three penalty points. When a coach or player accumulates a total of three penalty points (3 yellow cards or 1 red card), he or she shall receive a letter of reprimand from THJSL and will be suspended from the next THJSL game. A copy of the reprimand will be sent to the president of the participant's club.
9. Any participant who assaults a referee (e.g., by pushing, bumping, verbally berating, etc.) or his/her equipment (e.g., kicking the referee's bag or breaking the flags) shall be suspended for one year. Violent assault against the referee (e.g., hitting, spitting on, etc.) shall result in expulsion from THJSL **and likely from USSF** for life.

10. Taunting of an opponent or official of a religious, racial, ethnic, gender, or gender preference nature are considered to be “offensive language” and the offender will receive a red card. A second offense by the same team in the same contest will result in the game’s termination.
11. Disciplinary action will be initiated against any coach believed to have violated the provisions of THJSL and OYSA Judicial Procedures.1
12. Any participant engaging in fighting shall be suspended for the remainder of the season.

How It Happens

The youth soccer programs in our area range from recreational soccer where playing time is equal and full participation is the norm, to high-end "classic" programs where the most dedicated athletes achieve elite skill levels in a highly-competitive environment. A variety of organizations cooperate to make all this happen, as explained below.

Tualatin Hills Junior Soccer League. THJSL is an umbrella organization comprised of the six recreational clubs, and High School Recreational soccer. THJSL takes the second grade through High School Co-ed teams provided by the recreational clubs and places them into leagues. THJSL schedules the league games and assigns referees for the matches. THJSL is affiliated with the Oregon Youth Soccer Association (OYSA) and the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA). These organizations provide the state and national rules and guidelines used by THJSL.

Recreational Clubs. The six recreational clubs in our area are Aloha United, Oak Hills, Milltown United, Somerset West, West Hills, and Westside (Rec). They serve over 7,000 athletes. Players register with these clubs and the clubs form teams of roughly equal skill level. The clubs place the older players (2nd grade through High School) into single-gender/Co-ed teams and submit these to THJSL for league formation. For the younger kids in kindergarten (U6) and first grade (U7), each club runs its own league for these games.

Expanded League Play:

THJSL has expanded play for U10 through High School Co-ed teams in the Tualatin / Sherwood Recreational Soccer area. The intent of the expansion is to build relationships, minimize the frequency of playing the same team and expose THJSL players to a greater diversity of team and player skills. Games with these clubs require 50% of their games played in their area to meet THPRD requirements.

Spring Recreational Soccer. One of our member clubs, the Westside Soccer Club runs a spring league, which is open to all players regardless of club affiliation. Many fall teams choose to participate in this league, though kids can also register individually.

Classic (Competitive) Clubs. The three clubs in our area that offer competitive programs are Aloha United Soccer Club - Classic, Tualatin Hills United Soccer and the Westside Timbers. They serve about 1,500 athletes. Note that THJSL is comprised of recreational clubs only and that these classic programs form their own teams organized by age and ability level as determined by tryouts. Programs begin at U10 and run through high school. Classic soccer requires a larger time commitment by the players as the programs run year-round. There is a larger cost to participate in classic soccer than in recreational soccer. Classic programs are for players who desire to reach their maximum soccer potential and are willing to make a serious commitment to do so. Classic teams play in leagues formed by other groups. Classic teams sometimes travel further, and can play in tournaments both inside and outside the state.

Summer Camps. Most of the THJSL clubs run their own summer soccer camps. Participation is generally open to all players regardless of club affiliation.

High School Recreation THJSL supports area high schools and forms coed recreational teams spanning all four years which compete with other area teams in a recreational format. All high school age kids, from beginner to elite, are welcome to participate. Numerous player testimonials indicate why this program is so successful; the focus is on the joy of playing soccer!

Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District. THPRD is an important partner of THJSL. THPRD maintains the more than 100 area fields used by THJSL, including around 50 fields belonging to THPRD itself, 40 fields belonging to the Beaverton School District (BSD) and a handful of fields belonging to separate entities such as churches and homeowner associations made available to THJSL through usage agreements with THPRD.

THPRD maintenance includes installing goal posts, fertilizing, lining, thatching, aerating, and, in some cases, watering. THPRD carefully monitors fields to assure that they remain playable and are not over-utilized.

THPRD services include working closely with the various sports leagues to assure that field needs are met in a fair and equitable manner. Additionally, THPRD coordinates with individual sports leagues so the provided fields are sized and lined according to the requirements of the age group using the fields.

Many of our athletes live outside of the THPRD boundaries but through participation in THJSL benefit from THPRD maintenance and other services. Each out of district soccer player must register with THPRD and pay an "out of district" assessment fee, in order to participate on a THJSL team. ** Please THPRD policy on this at /www.thprd.org under "Am I in District?"

THJSL highly values its relationship with THPRD!

Oregon Youth Soccer Association. OYSA is our state organization. OYSA operates classic (competitive) leagues and sponsors several classic and recreational tournaments. OYSA also provides the player, coach, club and league insurance. OYSA serves around 58,000 youth soccer players in our state.

Additional Area Soccer Programs

Soccer is a distinctive team sport in that participation can span a lifetime. There are numerous soccer programs in our area that we encourage youth and adults alike to pursue.

Oregon Adult Soccer Association. Soccer is a sport of lifelong participation. Don't just watch your kids chase a ball around a field! Leagues form by ability level, age group, single-gender as well as coed.
<http://oregonadultsoccer.com/> 503-292-1814

Indoor Soccer. Indoor soccer is an action-packed, fast-moving game, with many more touches on the ball than is provided in outdoor. Leagues form constantly, run year-round and include youth, adult, and adult coed.
* Please search the internet for Indoor location in our area.

Portland Timbers / Portland Thorns Support your home-town professional sports team! Experience soccer first-hand played at its highest level. Games run from late- spring to fall and home games are played at Providence Park.
<http://www.timbers.com/> 503-553-5400

Visit our website at www.thjssl.org for more information

THJSL Member Soccer Clubs

Aloha United Soccer Club	www.alohaunited.com
Milltown United Soccer Club	www.milltownsoccer.org
Oak Hills Soccer Club	www.ohsoccer.com
Somerset West Soccer Club	www.somersetwestsoccer.org
Tualatin Hills United SC (classic)	www.thusc.org
West Hills Soccer Club	www.westhillssoccer.com
Westside Timbers SC (classic)	www.westsidetimbers.org
Westside Soccer Club	www.westsidewarriors.net