



SAAS Messenger 1st XI Soccer League

<https://www.saas1stxisoccerleague.com/>

Competition Rules

With approval from



Rules and Regulations

1. Rules of Play

- a. FIFA rules apply unless amended as specified in this document.
- b. Competition Code of Conduct will be applied to players, coaches and spectators.

2. Fixtures

- a. Wednesday nights, with games commencing between 4:00 and 4:15. A full fixture list will be provided to all competing schools. Fixtures are accessible by everyone through the SAAS 1st XI Soccer League Website.
- b. For any unforeseen circumstances, please see following sections: Alternate Match Scheduling and Inclement Weather or Unexpected Termination of Play.

3. Fields

- a. Fields are located in the North, East, South and West of Adelaide, with travel time being considered, where possible, in the fixturing process.
- b. For unforeseen circumstances regarding match rescheduling or weather cancellation, an alternate venue for the match to be played is allowed – with consent from both teams and permission from the league coordinator.

4. Round Information

- a. Please refer to the website for all fixtures.
- b. An email will be sent to both schools if there is an ineligible player for that match.

5. Coaching Expectations

- a. Coaches are required to abide by FIFA rules and set an example for their team.
- b. Coaches/ Sports coordinators are required to confirm the match report to the league coordinator via email by Friday 12.00pm.
- c. Coaches/ Sports coordinators are required to maintain contact with the league coordinator via email to ensure all updates are received.

6. Referees

- a) FFSA licensed referees will be responsible for officiating the league matches.

7. Duration of Matches

- a. The SAAS Messenger 1st XI Soccer League matches will be:
 - i. Two (2) halves of 40 minutes each
 - ii. Halftime break length will be 5 minutes
 - iii. Additional/Amended time is at the referees discretion.
- b. It is understood that travel constraints may affect kick off time. Should this happen, the referee will have permission to shorten break time or the duration of halves as required.

8. Score Reporting

- a. Three (3) points will be awarded for a win.
- b. One (1) point will be awarded for a draw.
- c. Zero (0) point will be awarded for a loss.
- d. *One (1) point will be awarded to teams scheduled to play in a round that is scratched due to weather – with no goals for/goals against (team allocated the bye receives no points).
- e. The full name(s) of the goal scorer(s) must be recorded in addition to player number to ensure player database accuracy.
- f. Coaches are required to record match score and their teams goal scorer(s) as a backup to referee match report (In addition, coaches are required to record yellow and red card(s) to ensure player database accuracy).
- g. A member from each team is required to take a photo of each team sheet once completed by the referee. This must be submitted to the league coordinator via email; saas1stxisoccerleague@gmail.com, by Friday 12.00pm.

9. League Structure

- a. The league will consist of two conferences; North/ East (8 teams), and South/ West (9 teams).
- b. Each team will play against each other once.
- c. Once all the games have been played in each conference, teams will be separated into a 'Division 1' finals series and a 'Division 2' finals series.
- d. The top 4 from each conference will make up Division 1, and the next 4 from each conference will make up Division 2. The team who finishes in 9th place will not play finals.
- e. Finals will be 'cross-over' – 'knock-out' format. (e.g. 1st N/E vs 4th S/W, 2nd

N/E vs 3rd S/W with winners commencing to the semifinals).

- f. The two winning semi finalists from each division will play off in the Grand Final to decide the winner of Division 1 and Division 2.
- g. If a knockout round (or inter-col, inter-school) coincides with a twilight league fixture of the same two teams, the twilight league match can also be used as host to that competition match in order to provide continued access to players.

10. Tie Breaking in League Placings

- a. Should there be multiple teams on equal points, the following steps will be enacted:
 - b. positions will be determined by points, should two, or more, teams occupy the same number of points then,
 - c. the first tie break will be the best goal difference; if equal goal difference then,
 - d. the second tie break will be most goals scored; if equal goals scored then,
 - e. the third tie break will be least red cards; if equal red cards then,
 - f. the fourth tie break will be least yellow cards; if equal yellow cards then,
 - g. the fifth tie break will be five (5) penalty kicks between the teams until a winner is determined.

11. Match Day Requirements and Pre-Match Check in

- a. At venues where ground set up is required: Each team is responsible for set up and take down of their half for net and corner flags. The nets and flags will be stored in the club rooms.
- b. A team list needs to be handed to the referee at least 15 minutes prior to kickoff.
- c. The home team is responsible for supplying 2 official league match balls.
- d. Each team is responsible for ensuring players are correctly numbered according to their jersey number. This is required for record keeping (disciplinary, goals scored, Best on Ground votes).
- e. Each team must be correctly outfitted with the appropriate football equipment (boots, correct coloured socks, correct coloured shorts, correct coloured and

numbered shirt where possible, appropriate shin guards).

- f. Each team is required to nominate 1 Ground Steward to ensure their sideline acts within respect to the school and football code.
- g. Each team must also provide a linesperson for their defensive half.
- h. Each team is responsible for cleaning their sideline when match has concluded.

12. Forfeitures

- a. For the integrity of the competition, forfeits are strongly discouraged. It is expected that schools will field a team no matter the quality of players they have available for match day.
- b. If a forfeit does occur, then the opposition team will be awarded a 3-0 win.
- c. A monetary fine will also be incurred by the forfeiting team.

13. Substitutions

- a. The substitutions rule is unlimited substitutions or 'interchange'. All substitutions must be made at half way and at referee permission.
- b. At match commencement, all substitutions must be wearing a 'bib' to distinguish from field players.

14. Injury

- a. The match will be stopped at the referees discretion.
- b. Each school is required to have someone present who holds a current first aid certificate, i.e. teacher/ coach, to attend to player injuries.
- c. The referee has permission to add-on any additional time required as per FIFA rules.

15. Ejections / Disciplinary Actions

- a. A red card results in the team removing that player from the field without replacement.
- b. The player may remain on sideline (due to duty of care by coach). The Ground Steward must ensure the player(s) remain supervised.
- c. A straight red card results in a 1 match automatic ban.

- d. A straight red card as a result of serious violent physical contact (striking another player) will result in an incident report to the school and a review of the incident for suspension length.
- e. A red card as a result of 2 yellow cards results in a 1 match automatic ban.
- f. If 4 yellow cards are accumulated, the player is ineligible for next league match.
- g. Yellow card accumulation is not applicable in the finals series.
- h. Should a round be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, including inclement weather, any player suspended for that round will be considered to have served their suspension.
- i. A weekly email detailing accumulated cards will be issued to the schools following each round.
- j. Suspensions from other FFSA or other School Boy competitions are not applicable to the SAAS Messenger 1st XI Soccer League.

16. Alternative Match Scheduling

- a. The alternative scheduling of matches is discouraged, except in the event of knock-out fixtures and Inter-col events.
- b. If a match is rescheduled and the pitch is deemed unplayable, the home team is considered to have forfeited.
- c. If teams wish to renegotiate a match day, they must do so with the consultation and approval of the league coordinator.
- d. The same match day process will apply at an alternate venue (complete with a proper sized field, line markings, nets and corner flags) agreed by both teams and approved by the league coordinator.
- e. The match report card is also required to be completed as normal.

17. Inclement Weather or Unexpected Termination of Play

- a. The school code of weather will be applied in all applicable situations.
- b. If the weather is deemed extreme, the decision will be made by the league coordinator and ground facilitator to cancel that round – for all teams.
- c. The round will be cancelled and will not be replayed – 1 point (with no goals for/goals against) will be allocated to all teams scheduled to play, with the team allocated the bye remaining unaffected.
- d. Should a round be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, any player

suspended for that round will be considered to have served their suspension.

- e. The final decision will be made on the Wednesday approximately by 1.30pm, unless the weather becomes more extreme after this time.
- f. Please view the website for updates regarding cancellations, an email will also be sent to all schools.

18. Disputes

- a. Any match disputes should be reported to the league coordinator at the conclusion of the match. The league coordinator will take a statement from both parties concerned, and will review the case.
- b. Any record keeping mistakes (player data: goals scored, yellow cards, red cards) must be presented with evidence to the league coordinator for review.
- c. Decision of the review panel is final and cannot be disputed

19. Awards

- a. The Grand Final match is encouraged to be supported by all teams involved in the competition.
- b. At the completion of the Grand Final match each team will be presented with their respective awards.
- c. An awards ceremony will take place after the completion of the tournament. This will include: the Golden Boot Award, League Best and Fairest, Grand Final Best on Ground, and the Team of the Year.

The League Committee is the final authority in all matters.