



THE BRONX IRISH SOCCER LEAGUE

2016 By-Laws, Rules & Regulations

I. **Administrative**

- A. Executive Committee:
- B. President
- C. Vice President
- D. Secretary
- E. Treasurer
- F. Scheduler
- G. Public Relations Officer

The Executive Committee has the power to make decisions on Bronx Irish Soccer League (BISL) matters, which are not covered by these rules. Any such decisions must be reviewed and approved by majority at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

H. Duties:

1. **President** – The President shall preside at all meetings of the BISL. She shall have the power to take emergency steps as necessary when the interests of the BISL appear endangered. In her absence the Vice-President shall succeed to the power of the President. She shall cast the deciding vote in case of a tie vote at the AGM only. If possible, she shall seek advice from available members of the Committee. The President shall attend to all correspondence; have charge of the League property, with the exception of the finances. The President shall also represent the BISL at Parks Department Meetings and assist with lining of the fields.
2. **Vice President** – The Vice President shall succeed the powers of the President in her absence. She shall function as an advisor to the President on all league matters. In addition, the Vice President shall oversee the website content and operations. The Vice President shall also represent the BISL at Parks Department Meetings and assist with lining of the fields.
3. **Secretary** – The Secretary will record minutes for all league meetings. These minutes shall be presented for approval at the following meeting, which, if accepted, shall be signed by the President. The Secretary will assist in organizing the AGM. The Secretary shall also be responsible for all registration duties including collection of official league rosters with final scores and liability waiver forms and shall be responsible for forwarding new player information, obtained from the website, to all captains. The Secretary shall also represent the BISL at Parks Department Meetings and assist with lining of the fields.
4. **Treasurer** – The Treasurer shall have charge of BISL finances. She shall be responsible for keeping accurate financial records and present a detailed report of the financial standing of the season at the AGM. All disbursements from the funds of the league must be approved. The treasurer applies for all VCP permits and attends Parks Department meetings to represent the interests of the BISL. The Treasurer will also assist with the lining of the fields.

5. **Scheduler** – The Scheduler shall set the schedule each season for regular season games as well as the playoffs. She shall be the liaison between the BISL and the Westchester Soccer Referee Organization (WSRO) and will receive weekly correspondence from the referee assigner regarding game reports or any disciplinary action taken and/or problems that arise in the weekly games. She will notify the WSRO in the event that games are cancelled due to weather or forfeiture. The Scheduler shall also represent the BISL at Parks Department Meetings and assist with lining of the fields.
6. **Public Relations Officer (PRO)** – The PRO shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to public relations, including but not limited to updating and maintaining the website and Facebook page as well as player recruitment. The PRO will work closely with the Vice President on matters pertaining to public relations. The PRO shall be responsible for the collection of game results and standings on a weekly basis from team captains and shall keep the information accurate and updated. The PRO shall also represent the BISL at Parks Department Meetings and assist with lining of the fields.
7. **Assistant Public Relations Officer (Assistant PRO)** – The Assistant PRO shall be responsible for sharing in all of the duties of the PRO.

II. **Annual General Meeting**

- A. The AGM shall be held each year between January 1st and March 1st.
- B. The Executive Committee consisting of the elected Executive Committee and one delegate or alternate delegate of each team of the league shall transact the business of the BISL.
- C. The Executive Committee and each team delegate shall have one vote.
- D. Team delegates also serving as Executive Committee shall have only one vote.
- E. No team delegate or alternate delegate shall be permitted to vote at the AGM unless all of its debts are paid.
- F. Visitors may be granted the privilege of being present at the AGM but shall have no vote.
- G. Order of Business
 1. Roll call
 2. Minutes of previous AGM
 3. Communications
 4. Unfinished business
 5. Report of the Officers (Treasurer last)
 6. Election of Officers (at AGM only)
 7. New Business
 8. Rule changes (at AGM only)
 9. Adjournment

III. **By-Laws**

- A. The League cannot dissolve while there are ten active members.
- B. Liability insurance is mandatory for the BISL.
- C. Each team will have at least one representative present at the AGM and will sign the attendance sheet. Teams with no representative in attendance will be fined \$50.00.

- D. Each team representative shall be responsible for relating all communications from the Executive Committee and meetings to their respective teams.
- E. Season: The season shall run from the first game of the spring season until the final playoff game at the end of the fall season.
- F. Teams:
 - 1. Each team can register up to 25 players.
 - 2. The minimum age for a player is 18.
 - 3. Registration is “rolling” meaning that players can be added or subtracted at any point during the season.
 - 4. Each team must have a current roster at each game. Players must have with them ID cards for identification.
 - 5. To play in the league play-offs, a player must have played in one regular season games.
 - 6. Players may transfer between teams over the summer or winter, but not during the scheduled games in the Spring or Fall.
 - 7. Players are not permitted to wear jewelry during a game. Any jewelry that cannot be removed must be taped or covered.
 - 8. Each player is required to sign a liability waiver form, which serves to waive liability claims from her team, all other teams in the League and the Executive Committee. The waiver will be held in perpetuity, which means as long as the player is in the league, the waiver is valid. A player who wishes to revoke her waiver must provide a written revocation notice to the BISL.
 - 9. Teams may be added or subtracted at the beginning or midpoint of each season as decided upon by the Executive Committee.
 - 10. New teams entering the league shall prepay the registration fee for both spring and fall seasons for the first year.
 - 11. Teams leaving the league must ask for the return of their bond (minus any fines) within 1 year of official notice or the bond is forfeited.
 - 12. Each team shall designate two captains who will be responsible for communicating with the Executive Committee and the referees.
- G. The fiscal year of the League shall begin and end with the AGM. All rules and by-laws are in effect during the twelve months of the fiscal year.
- H. Rule changes will be voted on and approved by the League at the AGM only.

IV. LEAGUE RULES

- A. Laws of the Game:
 - 1. All games within the BISL shall be conducted under FIFA Rules. Also the following rules apply:
 - 2. At the end of the season if two or more teams hold the same number of points, total goals against and head to head game result, then the teams will tie for League Winner. A coin flip will determine which team is placed in 1st and 2nd for purpose of standings for playoffs.
 - 3. Games are 80 minutes, two 40-minute halves with a 5-minute halftime.
 - 4. If a playoff match ends in a tie, two ten minute overtime periods are followed by penalty kicks.

B. Field of Play:

1. The designated home team is responsible for retrieving and returning game equipment for both fields from the storage location; equipment to be at the field at least 15 minutes prior to the game start time.
2. Each home team is responsible for setting up corner flags 15 minutes prior to the game start time.

C. Number of Players:

1. Substitutions are unlimited
2. All games must start once the team has a minimum of seven players. If a team does not have seven players on the field within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time, the game will start once the “late team” has 7 players. The “late team” will be penalized by allowing the opposing team to be granted 1 goal & the match will be reduced to 30 minutes a side. If the “late team” does not have seven players within 20 minutes of the scheduled start time, the game will be a forfeit. Captains can decide to play a friendly match or scrimmage if they choose.

D. Uniforms:

1. Numbered and alike color uniforms for players are mandatory for all games.
2. The Executive Committee must approve team colors in advance of registration.
3. During official League or Cup games, if there is a conflict in uniform color, it is the responsibility of the home team to change.

E. Postponement and Cancellations:

1. All games must be played on schedule. Teams must play or forfeit. If both teams cannot field a team then both teams forfeit and no points are awarded.
2. If the heat index is forecast to be above 100 degrees, the games will be canceled.
3. Once the referee arrives at the field, only the referee can decide if a game is to be cancelled or postponed due to weather or field conditions. At any time, if the captains of both teams agree, a game may be cancelled or shortened.
4. If the referee ends a game prior to its completion, the game will be re-scheduled and replayed in its entirety.
5. If a game is abandoned as a result of misconduct, the game will be subject to the procedures set by the Executive Committee.
6. If a referee fails to appear for a game, the game will be rescheduled, unless both teams agree to a substitute referee.
7. In the event of bad weather, the Executive Committee will determine play conditions. Referees and teams will be given fair cancellation notice.
8. At any time, if there is a goal difference of seven goals, a mercy rule will be instituted and the game shall be ended. Captains can decide to finish the game as a friendly match or scrimmage if they choose, but the official score of the game will not change.

F. Conduct of Managers, Coaches, Players & Fans:

1. Managers, Coaches, Players and Fans must show respect to the referees and the Executive Committee.
2. Teams are responsible for the conduct of their Players and Fans and must control their sideline. Managers, Coaches, Players and Fans cannot interfere with or interrupt the game

in any way. A restraining line will be added to both fields approximately 4 feet off the sideline. No Fans, Players, Managers or Coaches are permitted to cross the restraining line during the game. Failure to control the sideline, insulting referee's, challenging calls, taunting opposing players, using noisemaking devices and foul language directed at the players or referees are all offenses that may result in cards, ejections or forfeiture of the game at the referee's discretion.

3. Every team is required to take precautions necessary to prevent threatening or assaulting of referees, officials and players either prior to, during or at the conclusion of games.
4. Every team is required to observe and strictly enforce these rules.

G. Misconduct:

1. It shall be compulsory for any referee, player, or team to report cases of misconduct. Such cases shall be investigated and punished as may be deemed proper by the Executive Committee.
2. In the event of any Manager, Coach, Player or Fan being proven guilty of any violation of the "Laws of the Game", BISL rules and regulations, or of any misconduct, the Executive Committee shall have the power to remove the offending party or suspend such party for a stated period. Any team or player, who shall play after such removal or during such time of suspension, shall also be dealt with as the Executive Committee may see fit.
3. Procedures:
 - a. Anyone attacking or assaulting a referee, in a game, shall be subject to action by the Executive Committee. The referee must notify the Executive Committee immediately and a written report of the incident must follow.
 - b. Within 24 hours of the receipt of the referee's report, the Executive Committee will decide, based upon the referee's report, all suspensions, fines, bonds and all matters relating to the game in which the assault occurred.
 - c. The responsible Managers, Coaches and/or Players will be automatically suspended until such time as the Executive Committee decides the case. The Executive Committee will notify the team and/or players involved of their decision.
 - d. All decisions of the Executive Committee may be appealed within seven days.
 - e. Any suspension will stand until the final disposition of the case.
 - f. Any suspension in league games will be carried over into playoff or cup games.
 - g. The decision of the Executive Committee will stand as final, without the right of appeal, in all playoff and cup games. The Executive Committee will notify the team and/or player of their decision within 24 hours.
 - h. Members of the Executive Committee whose team is the subject of the decision must abstain from voting.

H. Protests:

1. Protest is the procedure for challenging the validity of a game for a violation of a League or FIFA Rule.
2. All protests must be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee and the opposing team Captains within 48 hours of the complained-of event.
3. The Executive Committee will obtain a copy of the referee's report of the game that is under protest.
4. The decision of the Executive Committee will stand as final, without the right of appeal, in all playoff and cup games.

5. Members of the Executive Committee whose team is the subject of the decision must abstain from voting.

I. Appeals:

1. The appeals procedure applies to the decision of the Executive Committee both in regards to a protest or a suspension.
2. Appeals must be submitted in writing within 48 hours of receiving notification of the Executive Committee's decision.
3. The appeal must state the reason the decision is being appealed.
4. Members of the Executive Committee whose team is the subject of the decision must abstain from voting.

J. Penalties:

1. Yellow Cards:

One yellow card in a game	Caution
Two yellow cards in one game	Automatic Red Card
Three yellow cards in a season	One to Three Game Suspension

2. Red Cards:

Rough play	One Game Suspension
Professional foul	One Game Suspension
Insulting an opponent	One Game Suspension
Assaulting an opponent	One to Four Game Suspension
Insulting a referee	Two Game Suspension
Assaulting a referee	Two to Five Game Suspension

3. Second Instance - The Executive Committee has the power to impose greater penalties than listed above.

K. Fines:

Failure to send a team delegate to a meeting	\$50.00
Playing a non-registered player	forfeit game points & pay \$100.00
Failure* to field a team for a regular season game	\$80.00
Abandoning a game	forfeit game points & pay \$80.00
Failure* to field a team twice in one season	forfeit bond
Failure* to field a team for playoff game	suspension for following season or \$500.00
Failure to submit team roster by noon Monday	\$25.00
Failure to return equipment to storage bins	Cost of replacing the lost equipment

*Failure is defined as insufficient notice to notify the opposition and cancel the referee.