

Peoria Parochial Soccer Association (PPSA)
Bylaws

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Mission

The mission of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association is to conduct a recreational soccer program open to children from its member schools, churches and parishes.

To promote Sportsmanship and Christian Attitudes. (Winning must never come at the expense of these fundamental principles.)

To conduct a soccer league starting in mid to late August and ending in late September.

To conduct a soccer tournament during late September and early October.

To provide all participants in the soccer league and tournament with an opportunity to have fun while learning and improving their playing skills.

To teach, foster and promote the sport of soccer in the Peoria area.

Membership

Membership in the Association is open only to Christian Schools, Parochial Schools or Parishes (a local church community composed of its members or constituents) in the Peoria area who support the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association's mission and abide by its Bylaws.

Peoria Parochial Soccer Association member Schools or Parishes and assigned colors are:

	School or Parish	Location	Color of Shirt	Trim & Letters
1.	Concordia	Peoria	Maroon	Gold
2.	St. Joseph	Pekin	Orange	Black
4.	Holy Family	Peoria	Kelly Green	White
5.	Peoria Christian	Peoria	Bright Yellow	Purple
7.	St. Edward	Peoria	Teal	Black
8.	St. Jude	Peoria	Purple	White
9.	St. Mark	Peoria	Royal Blue	Gold
10.	St. Mary	Kickapoo	Light Blue	Dark Blue
11.	St. Philomena	Peoria	Gold	Maroon
12.	St. Thomas	Peoria	White	Maroon
13.	St. Vincent	Peoria	Navy Blue	White
14.	PPSA Strikers	Various	Light Gray	Green

Board of Directors

Each Peoria Parochial Soccer Association member School or Parish must appoint one representative that will serve as the member School or Parish soccer coordinator and as a director of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association.

Directors who do not support the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association's objectives and abide by its Bylaws may be removed as a Director by a three-fourths majority vote of the Board of Directors at a scheduled meeting where a majority of the directors are present. The Peoria Parochial Soccer Association member School or Parish will be asked to appoint a replacement representative. Failure to appoint a replacement representative will result in the Director's school being excluded from the tournament.

Directors who do not regularly participate in the activities required of a Director (including assigned tasks and field support during games) may be removed through the following process:

1st offense: e-mail warning from the PPSA President to the offending Director
2nd offense: e-mail warning from the PPSA President to the offending Director and the Priest/Pastor (or designated leader) of the Director's School or Parish
3rd offense: Director will be removed. The Peoria Parochial Soccer Association member School or Parish will be asked to appoint a replacement representative. Failure to appoint a replacement representative will result in the Director's school being excluded from the tournament.

Exceptions to the process identified above may only be made by a three-fourths majority vote of the board of Directors at a scheduled meeting where a majority of the Directors are present.

The governing body of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association shall be its Board of Directors comprised of the directors appointed by the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association member Schools or Parishes.

Officers of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association Board of Directors shall be as a minimum: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and shall be elected annually in that order.

Officers, or their designates, have the responsibility to conduct the business of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association.

Officers of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association Board of Directors shall be directors and shall be elected by directors during a meeting with a majority of the directors present. Nominations can be made by any director prior to election balloting. A director may be nominated for more than one office but can only be elected to one.

Elections will be conducted by the President and shall be by secret ballot with one candidate eliminated at each vote until only one remains. The candidate with the least number of votes is eliminated from the race. The President will only vote to break ties. Ballots will be available for inspection on demand by any director.

Terms for Officers will run from November 1st of the current year to October 31st of the following year.

PPSA board members may not serve as officers if they are currently a board member or officer of a travel soccer club such as but not limited to SFC or Peoria Soccer Club.

Bylaws

The Bylaws of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association are the Rules adopted by the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association chiefly for the government of its members and the regulation of its affairs.

The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the directors at a scheduled Peoria Parochial Soccer Association Board of Directors meeting where a majority of the directors are present.

Major Fees and Payments

The fee for member participation is as follows:

Fee per Player.

Special Assessments

Major payments of the program include:

Fee per player.

Referee payments.

- C. Fees per player are due prior to the start of tournament play. Failure to pay the fee will result in the School or Parish forfeiting all tournament games until the payment is received.

Players

Any child in grades 1 through 8 registered and active in the member Schools, Churches or Parishes of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association may participate.

A child may play only on one team, the team on whose roster they appear. Coaches may not “borrow” players from other teams from their school, church or Parish.

Each player must have submitted a completed and signed waiver to be eligible to play (waivers for the current season are to be retained by the School or Parish coordinator).

Each rostered and dressed player attending a game must play the equivalent of at least two full quarters (in every regular season and tournament game) unless under disciplinary action or where illness, injury or physical limitations prevent the player from participating the equivalent of two full quarters. Players scheduled for less than two full quarters must be declared to the referee and opposing coach prior to the start of the game.

Divisions

Players will compete in league divisions according to the grade the player is attending during the current school year as follows:

Grade 1 & 2 Coed
Grade 3 & 4 Girls
Grade 3 & 4 Boys
Grade 5 & 6 Girls
Grade 5 & 6 Boys
Grade 7 & 8 Girls

Grade 7 & 8 Boys

Players may play up but not down. This may be desirable if, in the opinion of the coordinator, the player's skill level is advanced for his/her age. It may also be done for the purpose of meeting the minimum number of players required per team. Any movement of a player to a higher division requires the approval of the School or Parish Coordinator.

If a player is older than the maximum age for their division, as of August 1, they will be required to play in the next division. If the player in question is in 7th or 8th grade, the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association Board of Directors will render a decision on the player's eligibility.

Maximum ages by Division:

1st/2nd Coed – Maximum age: 9
3rd/4th Grades – Maximum age: 11
5th/6th Grades – Maximum age: 13
7th/8th Grades – Maximum age: 15

Equipment

The preferred field size is 55 yards wide and 100 yards long. Larger fields should be scheduled for play by upper grades.

Soccer Balls

The number 3 ball is to be used for Grades 1 and 2

The number 4 ball is to be used for Grades 3 through 6

The number 5 ball is to be used for Grades 7 and 8

Nets and corner flags will be provided for all fields per the requirements of the Laws of the Game.

Uniforms & Dress Code

It is the intent of the league that uniforms do not extend beyond colored T-shirts with team identification and numbers.

Numbers eight inches or larger will be on the back of all players' shirts. In a trade-off between economics and duplication of numbers, shirts will be continuously consecutively numbered 1-99 within each division or each School or Parish, i.e. year one requires 10 new shirts – use numbers 1-10, year two requires 15 new shirts – use 11-25. Continue with this logic until 99 is reached then restart the series with 1.

Soccer or other athletic shoes may be worn but no shoes with “baseball” or “track type” spikes will be allowed.

Shin guards totally covered by “socks over” are mandatory.

Shirts must be tucked into the shorts.

No jewelry or any object can be worn during the game that would endanger any player.

At no time will a player be permitted on the field of a game in dress that is not in the best interest of the game. The team uniform shall not be defaced.

Goalkeeper shirts shall be black or a color contrasting to shirts of both teams in a game.

Mouthguards and eye goggles are recommended for all players.

Street glasses are not recommended for practices or games. Street glasses are any glasses (with or without safety lenses) which have frames other than Rec-spec™ or similar frames specifically designed for use in contact sports.

Teams

Teams are to be formed using all children that register to play.

Teams must carry a minimum of 11 registered players and may have a maximum of 22 registered players. Exceptions can occur if approved by the Board of Directors. The maximum number of players allowed on a team and the cutoff date for enrollment is at the discretion of the coordinator from each member school, church or Parish.

Each Member-School or Parish is allowed to participate with more than one team in each division.

If a school enters more than one team in a division, the teams will be of substantially equal strength with talent being equally distributed between the teams. The board shall have the authority to require a coordinator to make changes to team rosters to make teams substantially equal. Failure to comply to the satisfaction of the board will result in the team being excluded from the year-end tournament.

A roster of players for each team must be submitted to and approved by the Board of Directors, along with the league fee per player, prior to the start of tournament play. Failure to do so will result in that member School or Parish forfeiting all tournament games until the rosters are submitted and approved and the fee is paid. After the Rosters are frozen, a player can only transfer to another team with Board Approval.

Small Schools or Parishes will be allowed to form combined teams with other small Schools or Parishes. All children from both organizations will be allowed to participate. The following combined teams have been authorized by the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association:

St Jude Church and Northminster Presbyterian

St. Edwards and St. Mary (Henry)

St. Mary (Kickapoo), St. Joseph (Brimfield), St. Patrick (Elmwood) and St. Sharbel (Peoria)

St. Bernard and St. Mary's Cathedral

In addition, the board may approve the assignment of players from one School or Parish to another when a School or Parish has too few players to form a team.

Coaches

Each coach, prior to the start of the game, and at the discretion of the referee, will have his players line up for inspection by the referee. To participate, players must be in conformance with the uniform and dress code rules in Section IX.

Players not playing due to disciplinary action, illness or injury must be declared to the referee and opposing team's coach prior to the start of the game. Disciplinary action, or other reasons, must not be used as an excuse for not utilizing players of lesser soccer skills. Referee decisions on this point are final.

The coach of the home team is responsible for providing the game ball.

Coaches are representatives of their team and school, church or parish and are responsible for the behavior of their players and spectators as well as themselves. Dissent or disruption of the game by a player, coach or spectator will be, at the discretion of the referee, sanctioned with 1) warnings and dismissals for coaches and spectators, and 2) cautions (yellow card) or dismissal (red card) for players. The referee has the authority to request a coach to control or remove a dissenting or disruptive spectator and to dismiss the coach for failure to do so. Players, coaches or spectators who are dismissed from a game are not allowed to participate in the next game. Repeated violations may result in suspension from the league. Coordinators have the authority to impose additional sanctions on their own member players, coaches or spectators in addition to any league sanctions.

Coordinators at the field have the authority to sanction coaches or spectators with warnings or dismissals for dissent or disruption before during or after games anywhere in the Detweiller park area. This includes any activity deemed to be unsporting or in violation of the Christian spirit of the league.

Coaches are reminded that they are expected to know the laws of the game, and to abide by the referee's decisions. The referee has no responsibility to explain the laws of the game or to answer questions regarding his rulings, fouls or punishment. The referee is likely to consider questions to be a challenge to his/her authority and assume the coach is dissenting his/her call.

Any coach that does not demonstrate good sportsmanship and Christian attitudes may be suspended from coaching in the league for a period specified by the Board of Directors. Passage requires a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors at a scheduled meeting where a majority of the Directors are present.

At the end of games, it is the coaches' responsibility to ensure that his/her players line up on the halfway line and exchange handshakes with the opposing team and coaches.

Coaches are limited to three in number and are required to remain on the half of the field on which they started the game and no closer than 10 yards of the halfway line.

Substitute players shall remain on the same side of the field as coaches, and at least 3 feet off of the sideline. Coaches may NOT change this rule by mutual consent.

Coaches must play "one short" while their team has a lead of 4 goals or more during league games (does not apply to tournament). Teams are only required to remove 1 player when they have a lead of 4 or more goals. Coaches are expected to take steps to avoid running up the score on opposing teams. The leading team cannot return to full strength until the leading team has a 2-goal advantage.

One coach for the 1st/2nd grade division may be “on the field” for the duration of the season. Coaches are required to remain on the defensive half of the field and may not touch the ball or interfere with play. The referee may require the coach to move off the field of play if they violate these requirements. Coaches may NOT change this rule by mutual consent.

Referees

Referees are independent contractors employed by the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association to officiate league and tournament games. Wherever possible, referees will be used that hold a current U.S. Soccer Federation referee license.

The referee, above all else, has the duty to use good sense in controlling a game, so that the players and spectators enjoy a fairly played game.

The referee has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final.

The referee is granted Powers and Duties under Law 5 of the United States Soccer Federation "Laws of the Game".

It is the referee's responsibility to be aware of situations where his/her judgement could be suspected of being biased. As an example, referees should avoid refereeing games when teams from their own School or Parish are playing. As a minimum, they should ask the affected coach, prior to the start of the game, if the situation is acceptable to him. If not, referees should be prepared to exchange fields. In tournament games it is especially important that referees remain "above suspicion".

Referees should remind coaches to remove one player from the field during league play when a 4 goal spread develops between the opposing teams. Coaches must play "one short" while their team has a lead of 4 goals or more during league games (does not apply to tournament). Teams are only required to remove 1 player when they have a lead of 4 or more goals. Coaches are expected to take steps to avoid running up the score on opposing teams. The leading team cannot return to full strength until the leading team has a 2-goal advantage.

XIII. Games

- A. League games will be scheduled on Saturdays, and weekday evenings. All league games will be played at Detweiller Park.
- B. Tournament games will be scheduled immediately after completion of the league games. Tournament games will be scheduled within a two week period that includes weekday evenings, Saturdays, and Sunday afternoons.

All games shall be played in four quarters. The following times may be modified at the discretion of the referee to maintain the schedule, assure completion before dark, etc.

For 1st through 4th Grades – 46 minutes

10 minute quarters.

2 minute time-out after first and third quarters.

2 minute time-out after the second quarter.

For 5th through 8th Grades – 57 minutes

12 minute quarters.

2 minute time-out after first and third quarters

5 minute time-out after the second quarter.

Number of players required for games

1st – 2nd Grades and 3rd – 4th grades

8 players per team on the field for all games

7 field players

1 goalie

At the start of all scheduled games, there shall be a minimum of six players per team. A team with less than six players will forfeit; however play is encouraged by sharing players between teams on an equal strength basis.

When the minimum number of players is available, but less than the full roster, the opposing team will not be required to reduce the number of players to make equal teams, however making equal teams is encouraged if all players would continue to play the minimum of two quarters.

5th - 8th Grades

11 players per team on the field for all games

10 field players

1 goalie

At the start of all scheduled games, there shall be a minimum of seven players per team. A team with less than seven players will forfeit; however play is encouraged by sharing players between teams on an equal strength basis.

When the minimum number of players is available, but less than the full roster, the opposing team will not be required to reduce the number of players to make equal teams, however making equal teams is encouraged if all players would continue to play the minimum of two quarters.

Prior to the scheduled day of play, the Board of Directors and the Park District may make the decision to cancel scheduled games. This decision will be communicated to a coach by his School or Parish soccer coordinator, assistant soccer coordinator, or athletic director.

Individual games may be delayed, suspended, terminated or cancelled (usually due to inclement weather and especially if there is danger of lightning). This shall only be done by one of the following:

Coordinators may notify their coaches of game cancellations at the direction of an Officer of the Association.

The referee, on the field of play, just prior to the scheduled start of the game or during the game. The referee may act on his own or be directed to do so by Officers of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association and/or the Park District.

Mutually agreeing opposing coaches, at the field, just prior to or during the game.

The Peoria Parochial Soccer Association will not reschedule cancelled or incomplete league games.

The Peoria Parochial Soccer Association will only re-schedule regular season or tournament games around conflicts for mandatory church and school events.

General Rules of Play

The Peoria Parochial Soccer Association will generally follow the U.S. Soccer Federation Laws of the Game. The Board may make changes as appropriate for the program, including special rules for tournament play.

Coaches and parents should encourage sportsmanship and support the objectives of the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association.

Each rostered dressed player attending a game must play the equivalent of at least two full quarters (in every regular season & tournament game) unless under disciplinary action or where illness, injury or physical limitations prevent the player from participating the equivalent of two full quarters. Players not playing due to disciplinary action, or other reasons, must be declared to the referee and opposing team's coach prior to the start of the game. Disciplinary action, or other reasons, must not be used as an excuse for not utilizing players of lesser soccer skills.

The clock does not stop unless a player on the field is seriously injured. If a penalty kick is awarded at the end of any quarter, the quarter will be extended to allow the penalty kick to be completed.

A player sent off (shown a red card) during a game shall not be replaced (team plays short) and will not be allowed to participate in the next game.

A coach dismissed from a game will not be allowed to coach in the next game.

Fighting is a mandatory red card accompanied by a 2 game suspension and possible 4 game suspension pending review by the Board of Directors. Repeat offenders may be suspended from the league.

Foul language will not be tolerated. The referee, at his/her discretion, will award as a minimum:

1st Occurrence – yellow card

2nd occurrence – red card

Substitutions

Always require the permission of the referee. The referee may decide to not allow a substitution at his/her discretion if time wasting by a team is suspected or if a quarter is about to end.

May be made in any number and by either team after a goal is scored, on a goal kick, on a throw in, between quarters, but not on a corner kick.

When play is stopped and an injured player(s) is attended to on the field, that player(s) shall be replaced. The opposing team may substitute a player if desired when the injured player is replaced.

Those players wanting to substitute must wait on the sideline at the center of the field.

When acknowledged by the referee, the substitute player(s) will enter the field.

Substituted players should exit the field at the nearest point.

Spectators will not be allowed on the same side as the "players bench" or behind the goal or near the end of the field.

There are no pets allowed in the park area including the soccer fields and the adjacent grassy areas.

As a general rule, no offside will be called for the 1st/2nd grade division. However, referees will be instructed to prevent "poaching" (e.g., an offensive player remaining in the opposing team's penalty area to gain an advantage), and if necessary, call offside to prevent an obvious advantage from occurring.

All free kicks for the 1st/2nd grade division will be “indirect”. There will be no penalty kicks in the 1st/2nd grade division.

Coaches must play “one short” while their team has a lead of 4 goals or more during league games (does not apply to tournament). Teams are only required to remove 1 player when they have a lead of 4 or more goals. Coaches are expected to take steps to avoid running up the score on opposing teams. The leading team cannot return to full strength until the leading team has a 2-goal advantage.

Supplemental Rules for Tournament Play

Tournament Committee

The tournament committee shall consist of the coordinators present at the fields for any given tournament session. In a case where the committee cannot reach a majority decision (tie vote), the Association President will cast the tie-breaking vote. The tournament committee has the responsibility to interpret and enforce the tournament rules at the playing site, including the handling of appeals.

Tournament Schedule Setup

The tournament committee has the responsibility of setting up the tournament schedules for the 3-4th, 5-6th and 7-8th grade levels. The tournament schedule will be determined and published by the third Sunday of September on the PPSA website and to all league coordinators. Each level's schedule will be determined with good discretion based on team strengths, number of parish/school teams in that level and other pertinent factors so that the schedule reflects an honest and appropriate process. The tournament schedule for each level will begin as soon as possible at the end of the regular season to take advantage of time of day and weather issues in late-September and early-October.

Appeals

A referee's call during any game is final and under no circumstances can be appealed. The following items may be presented to the tournament appeals committee for review and possible action:

Ineligible players participating in a tournament game.

A player, not playing the equivalent of two full quarters, and not declared prior to the start of the game.

Any other action that adversely affected the protesting team except a referee's decision. Appeals may be made to the committee by a coach or assistant coach.

Appeals should be made as soon as possible after the conclusion of the game being protested and must be made reasonably prior to any game that could possibly be affected by the outcome of the protest.

The committee will either decide to let the game in question stand as is or to declare a forfeit and proclaim the protesting team as the winner of the game.

Sportsmanship

In the spirit of Christian behavior and good sportsmanship, a tournament game should never have to be forfeited. To insure this, the following must be adhered to:

Only players whose name appears on the team roster may play during the tournament.

Players must play the equivalent of two full quarters during each tournament game unless under disciplinary action or where illness, injury or physical limitations prevent the player from participating the equivalent of two full quarters.

Players scheduled for less than two full quarters, for any reason, must be declared to the referee and opposing coach prior to the start of the game. Disciplinary action, or other reasons, must not be used as an excuse for not utilizing players of lesser soccer skills.

USSF Laws of the Game apply except as noted in the PPSA Bylaws.
Number of Players

Teams are required to have a minimum of seven rostered players to begin a tournament game. Players arriving after the start of play may enter the game, with the referee's permission, at the next stoppage of play.

If fewer than seven rostered players are available at the scheduled start of play, teams will be given the equivalent of one quarter (10 or 12 minutes) to reach the seven-player minimum, after which they will forfeit the game. The referee is the official timekeeper for making this determination.

If both teams have fewer than seven rostered players after the time allowed after the scheduled start of the game, the outcome will be determined by a coin toss.

Suspension/Delay, Termination or Cancellation of Games due to Inclement Weather or Darkness

Every reasonable effort should be made to complete games as scheduled. The following rules apply:

Teams must show at the soccer field even if the weather is threatening.

An air horn will sound to postpone game play.

Players take shelter in cars and wait at soccer fields.

If the weather does not clear, another air horn will sound.

If the weather clears, games will resume.

If the weather does not clear, the rules below will apply.

The final score for any game that is started and terminated is the score at the time of termination.

Games may be suspended/delayed and restarted at the discretion of the referee. It is also at the referee's discretion to reduce the play time to maintain schedules and due to darkness.

Preliminary games that are cancelled will be rescheduled prior to the next round.

Depending on field availability, they may be determined by either play or a shoot-out. If play or a shoot-out cannot occur due to field availability or weather, the outcome will be determined by a coin toss prior to the start of play of the next round.

Preliminary games that end in a tie after being started and terminated will be determined by a shoot-out on prior to the next round. If a shoot-out cannot occur due to field availability or weather, the outcome of the game will be determined by a coin toss prior to the start of the next round.

Final (championship) games terminated with a tie score or cancelled will be completed on another date if possible and will be determined by a coin toss if no other reasonable alternative exists.

Overtimes

If the score is tied after regulation play, two five minute overtimes will be played. The full overtime periods will be played. There is no sudden victory.

If the score is tied after the second overtime is played, the winner of the game will be determined by a shoot-out.

Prior to each overtime period, the teams will switch ends of the field. A two minute interval will be allowed before each overtime period. The kickoff will rotate between

each team in the same sequence that was used during the regular periods.

Shoot-out

The referee shall choose the goal at which all of the kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken.

A coin toss shall be held. The team winning the toss shall have the choice of kicking first or second.

For each set of kicks (set = five kicks per team):

Kicks will proceed in pairs where the kick alternates between the teams.

Each team will use a different kicker for each kick within a set.

No follow-up on the kick is allowed.

A goalkeeper cannot be replaced, except for injury, during a set of kicks. Different goalkeepers may be used for different sets of kicks.

Qualified players are any rostered players from either “on the field” or “off the field”, including the goalkeeper. Players disqualified from play are disqualified from kicking.

Kicks

For the first set of kicks, each coach selects five qualified players as kickers.

If the score remains tied after the first set of kicks, each coach selects five qualified players as kickers for the second set of kicks. These five players must be different from the players used in the first set of kicks. Exception: If there is less than 10 qualified players on a team, players that have kicked in the previous set may be selected to kick in the current set after all players that have not kicked in the previous set have been selected.

If the score remains tied after the second set of kicks, all remaining sets of kicks will proceed in a sudden victory situation as follows:

Each coach selects five qualified players as kickers for the current set of kicks. These five players may have kicked before but must be different from the players used in the previous set of kicks. Exception: if there is less than 10 qualified players on a team, players that have kicked in the previous set may be selected to kick in the current set after all players that have not kicked in the previous set have been selected.

The winner is declared by a pair of kicks where one team scores and the other does not.