



**Murrieta Modified
8 V 8 Soccer Rules**

**GENERAL RULES FOR
CITY OF MURRIETA**

I. QUALIFICATIONS

- A. The City of Murrieta Adult Sports Leagues are open to all persons 18 years of age and over.
- B. Team managers are responsible for the enforcement of and adherence to all eligibility rules.
- C. Team fees are to be paid in full, with a single check, money order, cash, or credit card.
- D. The City of Murrieta does not carry insurance on adult sports participants; therefore, players are participating at their own risk. Should teams wish to purchase insurance for their players, they must seek that insurance on their own.
- E. A player's name on a team's roster confirms his/her full understanding of the above rules. Managers are responsible for bringing this to the attention of their players.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Resident Team: For "resident team" status, 80% or more of the team's roster must consist of Murrieta residents at registration. To qualify, each player must submit a copy of his or her driver's license or other picture I.D. as well as a copy of a mailed item (such as an utility bill) received to a Murrieta residence in their name. Checks and deposit slips will not be accepted as proof of residency.
- B. Non-Resident Team: Any team whereby 80% of their roster does not consist of Murrieta residents or returning players.
- C. The Lottery System: In the event of the number of teams registering for a league out number the spots allowed in the league, a lottery will be held to determine the allowed teams. The first lottery will be for resident teams, second for returning teams, and if there are still remaining spots non-resident teams will be taken on a first come first serve basis. Names will be placed in a container and the number of spots available will be drawn from the container.

III. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

- A. All teams interested in participating in the current season must submit, in person, all the items listed on the checklist to the California Oaks Sports Park during the appropriate registration dates. **ONLY COMPLETED PACKETS WITH THE CORRECT CORRESPONDING FEES WILL BE ACCEPTED. IF YOUR PACKET IS INCOMPLETE, IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THAT TIME. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

- B. Registration procedures will be as follows:

- a) All resident teams will submit their packets first. If there are more teams interested in a particular division than there are available spots, the lottery system will be in effect. Those teams not chosen will either receive a refund or be allowed to enter another open division.
- b) After resident team registration, there will be new team registration. New teams will submit their packets during the appropriate registration time. If more teams have submitted their packets for a division than available spots, the lottery system will be in effect. Those teams not chosen will have the option of receiving a refund or choosing another open division.

IV. LEAGUES FEES

- A. The City of Murrieta Adult Sports Program is self-supporting, and all fees are subject to adjustment every season.
- B. Each non-resident player on a team roster will pay a \$10 non-resident fee.
- C. Teams that drop out of the league once it has started will not receive a refund.

V. ROSTERS

- A.
 - (1) Women's 8v8 Soccer 20 players max. (6 to start)
 - (2) Men's 8v8 Soccer 20 players max. (6 to start)
 - (3) Coed 8v8 Soccer 20 players max. (6 to start) (5 guys max and 1 girl minimum)
- B. Only players listed on the roster may play in league games.
- C. All players must submit copies of a picture I.D.
- D. Each player must bring their player ID card with them to the field to be eligible to play.
- E. Signatures are required for all players! Any player who has not signed the roster form will automatically be dropped from the roster after the second league game.
- F. Women's teams may roster only women; Coed teams may roster a combination of men and women; and Men's teams may roster only men.
- G. In order to provide for more balanced divisions; teams may be shifted from one division to another at the end of the season's play. If a team finishes in first place and retains a majority of (60%) of their roster for the following season, they may be moved up a division. Teams may also be moved down a division if they should fill the last place in their division for two seasons.
- H. Rosters will be verified before a team is accepted into the league.

VI. ADD/DROP POLICY AND ROSTER CHANGES

- A. Once a team officially drops a player, he/she cannot play for any other team within the division for the remainder of the season.

B. The Manager or assistant manager must submit the add/drop form at least 1 business day in advance of the next scheduled game along with a picture I.D. and any non-resident fees.

C. Penalty for using a player not added before the 1 business day time frame: Manager suspension. No additions to teams will be accepted after the teams 7th game of the season.

D. Roster changes must be made directly with the Community Services Office. No changes will be accepted on the field. (The league director, depending upon the reason and need may consider hardship exceptions). Penalty for such violation is manager suspension.

E. To make a roster change, the manager will need to submit, in person, by mail, by email, or by fax, the add/drop form identifying the person to be added and/or the person to be dropped. As well as the player's Code of Conduct.

a) Proof of residency (used for Resident verification) shall also be submitted with the add/drop form for Murrieta residents.

b) All players must submit picture I.D.

c) A non-resident fee of \$10 will be charged for a non-resident being added.

F. Use of a new player without specific approval prior to the effective date of eligibility shall result in a forfeit.

VII. ILLEGAL PLAYERS (please read this section carefully)

A. If a deleted player is found to be participating on a team that they have been dropped from, the team will then forfeit the game.

B. Any player using an assumed name will cause his/her team to forfeit. In addition, the manager will be subject to suspension for the season. Should this occur more than once during the season, the team will immediately be ejected from the league for the remainder of the season and will forfeit all rights and fees.

C. Staff will randomly spot-check I.D.'s, and if the Recreation Staff finds that a player is participating illegally, their team will forfeit the game.

D. Any player who does not have a player I.D. in their possession during game time will be declared ineligible and the team may possibly forfeit.

VIII. FORFEITURE

A. Team managers are responsible for contacting the opposing team's manager before the start of the game in the event of a forfeit.

Game time is start time.

B. When a forfeit is declared, teams involved may use the field/court, however the official does not have to officiate the game.

C. After the second forfeit, the league director has the authority to eject the team from the remainder of the season, they will forfeit all rights and fees paid, and will lose their returning team status.

D. Any team using tactics noticeably designed to delay or to hasten a game will receive a forfeit.

E. Teams cannot ask for a game to be rescheduled.

IX. ILLEGAL PLAYER PROTESTS

A. The game shall be delayed until the player in question submits proper I.D. to the game official, and signs the score sheet. If a player cannot provide I.D. acceptable to the game official, the said player may not participate further in the game.

B. If proper I.D. and signature are submitted, the said player's name shall be verified using the team's roster, the following working day. If the said player's name does not appear on the roster, the game is an automatic forfeit.

C. Additionally, if a team is found to have used an illegal player, the said team's manager shall be suspended for a minimum of one week's scheduled game.

D. All illegal player issues shall affect only the game in which the matter was raised. Protests will not be retroactive.

X. PROTESTING (non-illegal player protests)

A. The final score, as approved by the official at the end of the game, is the official score. Protests about the accuracy of the final score shall not be received or considered.

B. Procedure regarding an alleged discrepancy on the official score sheet during the game:

a) All protests must be filed in writing on an official protest form by 5:00 p.m. the following business day after the game at the Community Services office located at the California Oaks Sports Park.

b) All protests need to be accompanied with a \$25 protest fee, which is returned if the protest is granted; retained if found invalid. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the City of Murrieta.

c) Protests filed late and/or without the protest fee will not be accepted.

C. Any protest of a misinterpretation of the rules must be filed in writing and received by the league director by 5:00 p.m. the next working day. A \$25.00 protest fee is required and will be returned if the protest is upheld. The decision of the league director is final. The decision shall be made within seven (7) working days.

XI. EJECTIONS AND SUSPENDED PLAYERS

A. The official is in complete control of the game. Unsportsmanlike conduct by a player, manager, coach, team sponsor, attendant, or spectator necessitates suspension from the game by an official. The official's decision is final and will not be reviewed by staff or the League Director.

B. Any player ejected from a game must leave the facility immediately or a forfeit will be called against their team.

C. Any ejected player must sit out during the next scheduled game and will not be allowed onto the facility. Exceptions: If infractions are covered in the Code of Conduct, which may necessitate harsher penalties.

D. The team manager or acting manager is responsible for giving the official the name of an ejected player. Any manager or acting manager giving a false name will be penalized and his/her team will receive an automatic forfeit.

E. Any player ejected for the remainder of the season will be suspended from all teams they are currently participating in within the City of Murrieta.

F. Any player or coach suspended for inflicting unnecessary harm to any player, Official, or spectator shall be suspended for not less than four (4) games and cannot play until the League Director makes a final decision. The presiding Official shall provide a written report to the League Director stating the cause of the ejection.

G. The League Director will hear and decide on suspensions and protests.

XII. NO OFFICIAL

A. If an official does not show up, games may be played with a volunteer official as long as both coaches agree to a volunteer official. Volunteer officiated games will be official. If the coaches do not agree to a volunteer Official, the games will be rescheduled.

B. No protest will be allowed on games using a volunteer official. The game will stand as played and both coaches, as well as, the volunteer official must sign the score sheet.

C. City employees may act as an Official in the event that an Official does not show up.

XIII. PLAYOFFS

A. The teams overall record throughout the season will determine playoffs.

B. Playoff notifications will be done both by mail and phone; however, it is the ultimate responsibility of the manager to contact the Community Services Department for details.

C. In the event of a tie in the standings (which are based on winning percentage), the following formula will be used to determine the playoff schedule.

- a) Head to Head competition
- b) Point differential
- c) Fewest points allowed

D. If possible, playoffs are always scheduled the week following the conclusion of league play, on the regular league day/night. It is possible for make-up games and playoff games to be

scheduled on the same night. It is also possible for a team to play more than one playoff game on the same night.

E. Playoff Formats- Playoff will typically consist of the Top Four Teams in each league. (To be eligible for playoff, your team's record must also be above .500)

F. In unusual league circumstances other means of determining a league champion may be utilized.

G. CSD Staff will verify all rosters prior to the start of playoffs. If a player is not listed on the roster, they will be considered ineligible and not be able to play. Please see Section IX for additional information on the determination on an illegal player.

XIV. AWARDS

A. First place teams will receive team and individual awards.

In the even t-shirts are given here are the sizes that will be given.

Men's teams will receive a maximum of 2 XXL, 7 XL, 6 L

Women's teams will receive a maximum of 1 XXL, 4 XL, 5 L, 5M

Coed Teams will receive a maximum of 1 XXL, 4 XL, 5 L, 5 M

XV. TEAM CLASSIFICATION

A. The City of Murrieta maintains the right to change a team classification at any time during the season.

XVI. MANAGER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Each team shall have one permanent rostered manager. Duties of the manager shall include, but are not limited to the following:

B. Report and keep current the phone numbers and addresses of both the manager and assistant manager.

C. Call the Community Services office and verify make-up games whenever your game has been canceled or postponed. Failure to appear for a make-up game shall be declared a forfeit and will not be rescheduled.

D. Insure that each team member has read and understands the rules.

E. Insure that each team member signs and prints his/her name on the team roster.

F. Filling out accident forms if an accident or incident happens involving your player.

G. Informing the Recreation Staff of the injured player within 24 hours of the incident.

XVII. LEAGUE STANDINGS

- A. Standings will be based on teams winning percentage of the season.
- B. Standings will be posted each week in the California Oaks Sports Park bulletin boards as well as on the City's web site at www.murrieta.org.
- C. If any errors are noticed in the standings, please notify the League Director.

XVIII. THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR PLAYERS AND COACHES

- A. Coaches and players should comply with the meaning and the spirit of the playing rules. Purposely ignoring or willful violation of the rules is unacceptable. Those who break the rules not only degrade themselves but the game, their team, and the community.
- B. Coaches and players should show respect for the decisions of Officials and the efforts of their opponents, and they must conduct themselves as to dignify the game.
- C. Coaches should motivate players so they will control themselves at all times; thereby, preventing any unsportsmanlike act to opponents, officials or spectators.
- D. Coaches should refrain from heckling game officials and from challenging judgment decisions of the Officials. Discussing an occasional rule interpretation is permissible if it is done with dignity and sincerity.
- E. Coaches with an ethical approach will not tolerate actions by players, which are physically dangerous to opponents.
- F. Coaches and players should cooperate in eliminating game delays and stalling tactics.
- G. Coaches in coach's boxes are expected to direct their remarks to their teammates and not use their position in attempting to upset the opposing team players.
- H. A dedicated coach will instill in all his/her players the habit of properly respecting opponents and game officials. Players must not direct unbecoming language or personal remarks to opponents and/or officials.
- I. All participants/ spectators are responsible for their actions before, during, and after the game.

Appendix A - Soccer Rules

Equipment

Each player must bring their official player card with them to each game.

Each player must wear shin guards and matching jerseys. The home team must bring an alternate jersey in the event of conflicting colors. The home team must also provide the game ball.

Headgear is not allowed to be worn by any participant during games, except for one piece head/sweat bands that do not have to be tied or do not have any form of knot(s). Illegal headgear consists of any hats, bandannas, baseball caps, and any other such similar headgear.

Players must REMOVE ALL JEWELRY prior to participating, including any viewable body piercing.

Field

8v8 Soccer Field Dimensions

Length	Aprox. 100 yards
Width	Aprox. 50 yards
Goal	7'h X 24'w

Players

A team will consist of 8 players.

A team may start the game with as few as 6 players. (5 guys max and 1 girl minimum)

Coed teams must have at 3 women on their team.

Substitutions must be approved by the official before they are made.

All added players must submit the appropriate paperwork 1 business day in advance see rule VI.

The Game

There will be two 30 minute halves with a continuous running clock.

Officials can account for stoppage time.

5 minute half time

Each team will have one time out (lasting one (1) min), each half of the game.

Tie Breaker- Playoffs Only

If at the end of a match the score is tied there will be one 5 minute sudden death overtime.

If at the end of sudden death overtime the score is tied there will be a penalty style shoot out.

5 shots will be taken on the goalie that was in the goal the last 5 minutes of the game

Players may be chosen before the shootout begins, all other players must move beyond midfield.

The 5 shots will be taken from 9 yards out.

Goal

A goal is scored when the ENTIRE ball has crossed the goal line between the goal posts and under the cross bar; provided it has not been thrown, directly propelled by hand, arm, or carried by a player of the attacking team. A female goal will count as **TWO (2)** goals. The last **offensive** player to touch the ball dictates how many points are awarded.

Goalie Play

Goalies may use their hands anywhere inside their goal box.

Goalies have 5 seconds until they are required to release a controlled held ball.

A goalie punt must be touched before crossing mid field.

A goal kick must be touched before crossing mid field.

Goalies may throw the ball past mid field.

Goalies may defend the goal by sliding hands first only to block an offensive player with the ball. They may **not** attack an offensive player feet first.

Once a goalie has controlled and then released the ball he/she may not touch the ball again using their hands until another player has touched the ball.

Goalies may play the ball from being on the ground within their goal box. The ball or any part of the goalie's body must be touching the goalie box.

To change goalies, the relief goalie must enter the field and previous goalie must exit the field immediately. Once off the field this person may sub in for teammates, but they must leave the field first.

Prior to the last five (5) minutes of the game, if a team wants to exchange goalies they must do so because after the five (5) minute mark the goalie will not be allowed to change positions. Therefore, the goalie that is in the last five (5) minutes of the game will be the goalie that against defends penalty shots.

Fouls

Slide tackling: There will be no slide tackling in 8v8 play.

- Slide tackling is defined as a player making a defensive move by sliding feet first in an attempt to take away the ball from an offensive player.

A player (offensive or defensive) may slide to prevent a ball from going out of bounds so long as no other players are in their vicinity.

Handball: a ball touched with a hand or arm by any player other than the goalie.

Any roughness: tripping, pushing, holding

Illegal substitution (substitute entering the field before the player he/she is replacing is off). Must gain approval from official.

Offside

There will be **NO OFFSIDES** in 8-on-8 soccer

Penalties

Goalies must keep their heels on the goal line. Once the kicker has begun his/her attempt the goalie may move laterally, but not until then.

Once a kicker has kicked a penalty shot then a goalie may move forward/backward, but not until the ball has been kicked.

The kicker has only one attempt to score. The attempt must be in one motion. If the kicker stops the penalty shot it is considered a missed shot.

The goalie may not move from the end line until a ball is kicked.

Goalies may not be exchanged during penalty shots

Direct Free Kick

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits 1 of these 6 offences

Kick or attempts to kick an opponent

Trips or attempts to trip an opponent

Jumps at an opponent

Charges an opponent

Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent

Pushes an opponent

A direct kick is also awarded if a player commits any of the following four offences

Tackles an opponent to gain possession of the ball, making contact with the opponent before touching the ball

Holds the opponent

Spits at an opponent
Handles the ball deliberately
A direct free kick is taken from where the offence occurred

Penalty Kicks

A penalty kick is awarded if any of the above offences is committed by a player inside his own penalty area, irrespective of the position of the ball, provided it is in play.

Indirect Free Kick

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside his own penalty area, commits any of the following four offences

Takes more than 5 seconds while controlling the ball with his hands before releasing it.

Touches the ball again with his hands after it has been released from his possession and has not touched any other player. (Exception if a goalie is bouncing the ball)

Touched the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate.

Touches the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate.

An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player in the opinion of the referee...

Plays in a dangerous manner

Impedes the progress of an opponent

Prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands

Commits any other offence, not previously mentioned

The referee signals when the shot is taken and can only be a goal if the ball touches another player before it enters the goal.

The indirect free kick is taken from where the offence occurred

Advantage

When an official refrains from whistling a violation or foul, he/she will clearly indicate by voice and gesture that it is an advantage so the players know that the penalty has not gone unnoticed. An advantage will be called if, in the judgment of the official, the attacking player has a legitimate shot to make a play.

Throw-In

A Goal cannot be scored from being thrown in.

Ball must pass over the player head

Both feet must remain on the ground

Corner Kick

A goal may be scored off a corner kick

A corner kick is awarded when the whole ball, having last touched a player of the defending team, passes over the goal line either on the ground or in the air, and a goal is not scored.

The ball is placed inside the corner arc at the nearest corner flag

The ball is kicked by the player of the attacking team

Player and coach conduct

Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players and fans

Only the captain is allowed to address an official during play

Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct including unnecessary roughness, arguing with officials, fighting, abusive language directed towards officials/opponents will result in player(s) involved being ejected from the game.

Any player ejected from the game will automatically be suspended for one contest.

Any player being ejected twice in a single season must meet with the league director before he/she may return to play. Team captains from other teams will be consulted on their opinion if that player should be allowed to return.

YELLOW AND RED CARD VIOLATIONS

A player shall be issued a **yellow card** (cautioned) if she or he:

- demonstrates unsportsmanlike behavior,
- dissents by word or action,
- persistently infringes the law of the game,
- illegally enters the game,
- illegally exits the game,
- delays the restart of the game (throw in, corner kick, free kick),
- does not assume the 10 yards on a corner kick or free kick,
- any other violation or foul the officials deem as a yellow card violation.
- If the same player is given two yellow cards, that player will receive a red card.

A player shall be issued a **red card** (ejected from game) if she or he:

- demonstrates violent conduct,
- demonstrates serious foul play,
- uses foul and abusive language,
- spits at another player, referee, or spectator,
- receives a second yellow card in the same game,
- intentionally physically impedes a player with an obvious opportunity to score a goal,
- denies his opponent a goal by intentionally handling the ball,
- any other violation or foul the officials deem as a red card violation.

Players receiving a red card will be suspended from their next scheduled game.