

Michigan Christian Soccer League Structure and Policies Handbook 2010-11 (Draft)

Vision

The MCSL's vision is to provide a means for Christian based youth soccer clubs, teams and parents to have their children enjoy the game of Soccer. While a degree of emphasis will be spent on winning, the core goal of the League's clubs and teams is to teach our children to be proficient in the sport without sacrificing basic Christian values.

2010-11 MCSL Board Members

Chair (Scott Chalmers)
Vice Chair (Carl Hoffman)
Secretary (Joanne Shephard)
Treasurer (Al Moran)
St. Matthews At-Large (Julie Moody)
Plymouth Nazarene At-Large (Intentionally Vacant)

*Designates committee chairman

2010-11 MCSL Executive Committee

Scott Chalmers*
Carl Hoffman
Joanne Shephard
Al Moran

2010-11 MCSL Financial Committee

Al Moran*
Julie Moody
Michele Chalmers

2010-11 MCSL Disciplinary Committee

Pastor Fred Hall*
Pastor from St. Matthews
Pastor Shane Fritz

2010-11 MCSL Field Committee

Carl Hoffman*
Doug Watson

2010-11 MCSL Rules/Coaches Committee

Doug Watson*
TBD St Matthews Volunteer

Carl Hoffman
Scott Chalmers

2010-11 MCSL Referees Committee

Julie Moody*
Scott Chalmers

2010-11 MCSL Website Committee

Dave Gillespy*
Ernie Watson
Scott Chalmers
Matt Barnes

2010-11 MCSL Club Affiliates

St. Matthews Lutheran Soccer Club (SML)
Plymouth Nazarene Soccer Club (PNSC)

League Structure

The League's basic concept is a decentralized approach where the majority of the operational services are provided by clubs and/or team coaches (i.e. starfish business model)

League Responsibilities:

1. Coordinate overall Club/Team growth
2. Schedule games
3. Act as official voice to US Club Soccer
4. Create/enforce the rules used in the soccer games
5. Coordinate referees
6. Set season registration deadlines for team formation
7. Set season start dates
8. Develop/manage any policies that impact all teams/clubs in the League
9. Collect paint and field maintenance fees per participating team and distribute equally (by field) to appropriate facility owners.
10. Collect administrative fees per player for League use.
11. Collect insurance and background check fees per player/coach and providing a direct pass thru to US Soccer Club.
12. Designate "official" League division champions (or co-champions) for each season.

Club / Team Coach Responsibilities:

1. Solely responsible for the financial interface to the parents
2. Collect all fees from the parents; passing along monies to the League necessary to pay for US Soccer Club fees (per player and coach fee) and to maintain the field maintenance fund (set fee per team).
3. Pay all referee fees
4. Provide uniforms for their players in accordance with league standards

5. Handle all parental paperwork (medical releases, registration forms, etc.)
6. Set season registration deadlines for players.
7. Recruit / provide coaches for their teams.
8. Provide soccer instruction thru those same coaches.
9. Provide League designee for who is responsible for the fields / goals for any field sites used for League games. Practice fields, etc are not to be considered for this purpose. This could be a Club or Church and will be the entity that receives paint and maintenance fee funds from the League.
10. Responsible for field maintenance excluding paint costs of any field sites used for League games. They will further have to provide goals, nets, field flags, benches, etc as needed to operate a typical soccer field.
11. Provide any trophies for players as dictated by their club/team rules.
12. Provide any special needs to players / parents such as but not limited to: banquets, picnics, etc.

2010-11 MCSL Executive Committee Policies (100)

100.1 Two key guiding principles of the League and its officers are transparency and flexibility ... both must be under God's guidance. We must be transparent in our financial dealings and policies to our clubs, teams and parents. We must be flexible to change our policies as needed when it is apparent the majority of our parents wish it.

100.2 However, while change is to be embraced and not feared, it cannot violate the basic principles of our Christian based philosophy. In such instances, a parting of ways between those that wish such a course and the League will be a foregone conclusion.

100.3 Seasonal fees recommended for the teams/clubs for this season are:

U7 (\$60 single / \$90 dual)

U9 (\$60 single / \$95 dual)

U12 (\$60 single / \$100 dual)

100.4 Teams are encouraged to charge higher costs as they believe necessary to appropriately to their operations. The League only requires that they document the reasons behind the gaps to the League recommended values to their parents on their registration forms.

100.5 Registration forms must include the following wording in a location that is followed by a parent signature. The wording: "I have read the policies and rules governing Parental Conduct located on the MCSL website or provided to me by the Team officials and agree to abide by them. I will further agree to pass along such information to any spouse, relatives or friends that attend my child's games."

100.6 The maximum number of teams that will be allowed in the divisions for the fall season are U7 (8), U9 (4), U12 (4). Spring will depend upon the ability to locate addition fields from other participating affiliates that may join us. In the case of the U7, the numbers above 4 need to be in even increments (i.e. 6 or 8) to allow us to avoid games during the week. Team determination for the season will be determined on a first come, first serve basis at the registration deadline to the teams (i.e. roster and money in hand). In the event of exceeding our designated

capacity, a drawing will occur to select teams for the season. Monies will be returned to the teams involved.

100.7 For the fall 2010 season, to successfully operate a division, 4 teams will allow best operation. However, we will go forward if we have at least 3 teams reducing the number of games played (six). In the event the minimum number of teams is not met, the League will inform the impacted teams, return their money they provided and the season will either be delayed to allow further efforts to still make the season go or ultimately to cancel the season. In either case, parents of the impacted team must be kept aware of the situation so that if they wish, they can find other options for their children. Unfortunately for this fall, such opportunities will be limited for other Soccer venues.

100.8 League games are to be played on Saturdays with few exceptions.

100.9 Practice times are club/team discretion but must not conflict with Church services. If necessary, parents must be allowed to pull their kids early from a practice if travel time is necessary to insure they are not prevented from a Church service.

100.10 Team Colors of Record:

PNSC Primary: Lime green, black trim. Secondary: Orange, black trim.

SML Primary: Black, red/white trim, Secondary: Red?, black/white trim

2010-11 MCSL Financial Committee Policies (200)

200.1 Fees collected for insurance and background checks from the teams are to be 100% passed through to US Club Soccer.

200.2 Team fees for paint and field maintenance are to be divided up equally among the entities the club designates as responsible for the fields for the fall (or spring) season on a per field basis. A signed receipt acknowledging they will provide said fields is for the entire season in a proper condition suitable for soccer play is to be obtained by a committee member.

200.3 Financial committee will create end of the year statements of operation that will be made available to all people designated in the bylaws upon their request. It will be a standing request that this be reported to the Executive Board at least once per year.

2010-11 MCSL Disciplinary Committee Policies (300)

300.1 Leagues sanctioned by US Club Soccer establish their own protest and disciplinary committees and procedures, which must be approved by US Club Soccer at the time of sanctioning. Other than an allegation of referee assault or abuse, all protest and disciplinary matters arising out of these competitions may be heard by these committees. If the disciplinary committee fails to take any action on a written allegation, the petitioner may forward the matter to the US Club Soccer Discipline Committee.

300.2 All disciplinary issues are to be first reviewed by Executive Board members to determine if the problem can be resolved between the parties without the need for formal action. Any meetings are to be informal and focus on information gathering and amicable resolution consistent with our Christian

values. As necessary, any warnings will be documented to the impacted party with the understanding they agreed to such action during the informal process.

300.3 Issues that are brought before the MCSL Disciplinary Committee will result in a formal review with the impacted parties invited to participate to provide their account of what occurred. Upon hearing the testimony provided by the parties involved and any information gained during the informal information gathering stage conducted by the Executive committee, the Disciplinary committee will deliberate and provide a written ruling as to what actions are required. Their decision is final subject to any appeal procedures designated in US Club Soccer Disciplinary Procedures Policy Attachment C.

300.4 The guiding philosophy that will be used in the disciplinary actions at the League level is one that promotes prevention and allows forgiveness to be applied as appropriate. However, abuse of children or referees will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in a harsher manner than typical disputes that might arise between the adults.

2010-11 MCSL Field Committee Policies (400)

400.1 Parents/players are to respect the fields they play their games at (i.e. pick up litter, do not abuse any facilities, etc).

400.2 For PNSC fields specifically, the children's playground facilities are only to be used by age appropriate children (i.e. <5 years old).

2010-11 MCSL Rules/Coaches Committee Policies (500)

500.1 The MCSL will have three divisions (U7, U9 and U12) per US Club Soccer age guidelines.

500.2 Each division will have a special rules sheet that will emphasize the difference to basic FIFA rules that will be in place for that division. These will be posted for Coaches as well as provided to referees. Additionally, they are to be posted in an appropriate location on the League website.

500.3 For the U7 division, the games will be played upon a field the size of X by X using a size 3 ball and played 5 v 5.

500.4 For the U9 & U12 divisions, the games will be played upon a field the size of Y by Y using a size 4 ball and played 7 v 7.

500.5 Total team roster size for U7 will be 10 players. An exception can be made for inclusion of an extra player when the last spots are provided by siblings.

500.6 Total team roster size for U9 & U12 will be 14 players. An exception can be made for inclusion of an extra player when the last spots are provided by siblings.

500.7 Each season, the League will declare division winners to the team(s) that accumulate the highest amount of points during the course of the games played that season. Co/Multi-Champions is an acceptable outcome and declared as such if a tie in total points occurs. Points are awarded as such: Win – 3 pts, Tie – 1 pt and Loss – 0 pt.

500.8 If a tie game occurs, a 5 minute overtime period can be played at the discretion of the head referee provided it is agreeable to both head coaches of the impacted teams.

500.9 Specifics on rule exceptions to standard FIFA will be called out in a separate file called 2010-11 MCSL Specific Rules.pdf.

2010-11 MCSL Referees Committee Policies (600)

600.1 The MCSL will accept referees from a number of sources as coordinated by the committee.

600.2 Authorized Fees for the 2010-2011 Referees are as follows: U7-Single Ref (\$20), U9-Referee (\$20) & Linesman (\$16), U12-Referee (\$24) & Linesman (\$18).

600.3 Referee/linesman fees are to be paid by each team every game (paying half the designated fee).

600.4 A referee list will be maintained by the committee with designated backups. The list will be published to all participating referees so they can plan accordingly.

600.5 If a referee/linesman cannot make a game they are to contact for a replacement on the backup list for the given scheduled day. If unable, they will contact the referee committee chair so that alternate arrangements can be made.

600.6 In an emergency, volunteer linesman can be pulled from the audience or coaching staffs at the game. Coaches are expected to be extraordinarily patient in such a circumstance and help any volunteer get the call right regardless of the outcome to their given team.

600.7 Referees/linesman that refuse payment effectively “donate” their fee to the team’s general fund.

600.8 In the event, that a team forgets to provide payment to the referee(s), they must do so within 24 hours or the League will cover their expense. If League money is used the team will be given an “infraction warning”. In addition to reimbursing the League, the warning is effectively putting the Team on notice that any such reoccurrence will result in being considered a “repeat offender”. When given that designation, they will have to provide monies that will be held in effective escrow for the remainder of their home games. This sum will be paid to them at the conclusion of the season minus whatever funds are needed for further offenses. If an offense occurs while in “repeat offender” status, the following season, the team will start on that status. Teams will revert back to pre-infraction level if they demonstrate the ability to pay their referee fees for the remainder of the season without incident.

2010-11 MCSL Website Committee Policies (700)

700.1 Website domain name was purchased in July 2010. It is www.mi-csl.com. Authorized spending for the 2010-11 fiscal year will be ~\$256 for the year with a small initial fee (\$40.20) and monthly upkeep fee (\$18 per month). Website host is via Squarespace. Domain and emails are through Hover.

700.2 Content will be determined at the discretion of the website committee under oversight of the Executive committee.