



Over 65 Rules of Competition of the Greater Portland Soccer District, Inc. (GPSD)

Rule 17 - Divisions

F. The Over 65 Division

The Over 65 Division shall be comprised of players 65 years of age and older.

All rules of competition will conform to the current edition of The FIFA Laws of the Game and existing GPSD Rules of Competition (1-16) unless otherwise stated below. The ultimate intent of the O-65 division is not in winning games for the sake of the win or rank, but to celebrate those who love the game for the games sake and are still able to participate in the beautiful game after age 65.

The Over 65 Division shall adhere to the following GPSD Rules of Competition modifications:

1. Rule 5.E does not apply “A player may not play in two league matches on different teams within the same division inside of a five-day time period”.
2. A player may participate in a Match, regardless of age, as long as that player turns 65 years of age or older during that matches calendar year.
3. In keeping with the ultimate intent of the O-65 division noted above, the only documentation of points will be for wins, losses, and ties.
 - i. Goal differentials, goals scored, and goals allowed will not be documented.
 - ii. Two teams tied for first place both enter the Championship Game.
 - iii. If one team takes first place and two teams have tied for second place at the end of the season, the two teams will determine by coin toss which team gains entry into the Championship Game.
4. All middle of the week games shall be played on the same evening as much as field availability allows.
5. In an effort for more equally competitive games, teams which finished in the top three from the season prior will play each other at least one additional time during the regular season.

FIFA Laws of the Game modifications:

Law 1. The Field of Play:

- A. Length: 70 yards (goals placed on the 15 yard lines). 50 yards may be used if two simultaneous games are splitting one full-sized soccer field.
- B. Width: approx. 53 1/3 yards (American football field markings)
- C. Goals: The recommended distance between the posts is eighteen (18.5) feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6.5) feet. Goals may be smaller or larger in dimension based on facility availability.

Law 2. The Ball:

- A. Size five (5) balls in good condition, and properly inflated to the manufacturer standard. Ideally a FIFA Approved Match Ball should be used.

Law 3. The Number of Players:

- A. Each team will consist of not more than Nine (9) players and not less than Six (6) players on the field. Before the game starts, the team managers may agree to adjust player size per team depending on circumstances.
- B. Substitutions: Each team may make unlimited substitutions at any stoppage of play after getting the approval of the referee.
- C. Players must enter at the half line and exit across the touch line nearest to their technical area.
- D. Teams may consist of players of any gender.
- E. Rosters should be a minimum of 12 players.
- F. ~~“Guests” can play if a team has less than eleven players. However if a team plays more than two “guests”, the game will be played but there will be a forfeit result of 1-0. A guest player is identified as a player who is not rostered on the team.~~ “Guest players” are allowed if a team has less than eleven players. “Guest players” are to be added to the roster before the official start of the game. If a team plays more than three “guests”, the game will be played but there will be a forfeit result of 1-0. A guest player is identified as a player who is playing on a team not identified as his/her primary team.
- G. No player can be rostered on more than one team. though “guest players” are allowed for each game as defined in Law 3F.
- H. Under no circumstances will any player, "guest" or otherwise, play for both teams in the same match.





Law 4. The Players' Equipment:

- A. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions with the following conditions:
 - 1. Non-uniform clothing must be either black in color or match the primary uniform color
 - 2. When wearing non-uniform clothing, the uniform jersey must be the topmost layer of clothing.

Law 5. The Referee:

- A. Only a GPSD assigned referee may be used.

Law 6. The Assistant Referees:

- A. None

Law 7. The Duration of the Match:

- A. ~~30 minute halves with 5 minute halftime~~ 40 minute halves with 5 minute halftime

Law 8. The Start and Restart of Play:

- A. Conform to FIFA

Law 9. The Ball In and Out of Play:

- A. Conform to FIFA

Law 10. The Method of Scoring:

- A. ~~If at anytime in the second half, a team establishes a 10 goal lead, the Referee will offer the losing coach the option of continuing to Full-Time or terminating the match at the current score.~~ If at any time a team establishes a four goal lead, the leading team must remove one player from the field. If a six goal lead occurs in a 9 v 9 game format, then the leading team removes an additional player from the field. In an 8 v 8 format, a six goal lead results in the losing team adding one player to the field. Each team will consist of not more than Nine (9) players and not less than Six (6) players on the field.

Law 11. Offside:

- A. The Offside Rule does not apply.

Law 12. Fouls and Misconduct:

- A. Slide tackling will be considered dangerous play and awarded a free kick. To be a slide tackle both components of tackling and sliding MUST be present.
- B. Exception- Goalkeeper will be allowed to slide tackle in the penalty area as well as handle the ball in the Goal Area.
- C. All others conform to FIFA .

Law 13. Free Kicks:

- A. ~~All opponents must be a minimum of 8 yards from the ball at the taking of a free kick.~~ All opponents must be a minimum of 6 yards from the ball at the taking of a free kick unless on the goal line between the goal posts. All fouls, regardless of where they occur on the pitch, are awarded as indirect free kicks where the foul took place.

Law 14. The Penalty Kick:

- A. Law 14 does not apply to this division. Due to the configuration of pitches used (width v length), and lack of identified boxes, "Penalty Kicks" are not identified nor awarded. All fouls, regardless of where they occur on the pitch, are awarded as indirect free kicks where the foul took place.

Law 15. Throw-In:

- A. Replace "Throw-In" with "Kick-In". Excluding requirements that the ball is to be handled in a certain manner. All "Kick-Ins" must remain below knee height. All opponents must be a minimum of 6 yards from the ball unless on the goal line between the goal posts at the taking of a "Kick-In". An illegal "Kick-In" results in loss of possession with a "Kick-In" given to the opposing team.





Law 16. The Goal Kick:

- A. Replace "Goal Area" with "within 5 yards in front of the frame".
- B. Replace "Penalty Area" with "within 5 yards in front of the frame".
- C. Remove Penalty Kick offences (see Law 14 modification).

Law 17. The Corner Kick:

- A. Conform to FIFA

Certificate of Secretary

The undersigned, as secretary of GREATER PORTLAND SOCCER DISTRICT, INC., hereby certifies that the bylaws to which this certificate is attached were duly adopted by the board of directors of said corporation and are in full force and effect.

Date Adopted: February 26, 2024

Date Drafted: February 22, 2024

Date Proposed: February 25, 2024

Print Name: Mike Driggs

GPSD Secretary

