

Hi Everyone,

The League Executive has been expanded from 5 to 8 people this year. We have had a number of meetings over the past few months and have revamped how the league functions and have come up with strategies to deal with any past issues in an attempt to ensure a non-competitive, safe and enjoyable experience for a league with a mix of younger and older players.

I want to provide some information to Team Reps prior to the season starting that it is imperative that you make sure your players fully understand. Also, as a Team Rep you have a duty to make sure your players remain under control, and play and behave in the spirit of a non-competitive, fun, recreational league. If they are not, it is up to you to get them off the field until they conform. If we as an executive have to become involved penalties for non-conformity to the spirit of the league will be swift and decisive.

This year \$200 of each team's fee will be a bond. Cards this year will/may have team monetary fines. Basically, any yellow card will have an automatic \$50 team fine attached to it. That card will then be reviewed by the Executive and the fine may be waived. For example, if a player forgets and slide tackles another player the fine will probably be waived but the card will be documented. If that same player gets another yellow card for the same infraction, or similar infraction, later in the season, the fine most likely will not be waived, for the second infraction. As another example, if a player gets a yellow card for verbal harassment of another player or dissent to a referee, let me guarantee you that the \$50 fine will not be waived. The team bond will need to be topped back up to \$200 at the beginning of each new season. If the team bond drops to \$50 it will need to be topped back up to \$200 immediately, before that team is allowed to play its next game. So, as you can see if you have players on your team who cannot control themselves, they are potentially going to cost the whole team money depending on how you decide to top your team bond back up.

Terry had a meeting with the referees and stressed to them that they are to absolutely, not take any dissent from players. **Dissent of any kind** is to be immediately carded and team fines will be levied. This is based on the philosophy that players should not be questioning referee's calls in a non-competitive, recreational, old timer's league where it does not really matter which team wins. We have a difficult time getting referees and do not want to lose any, as we have done in the past, due to player harassment, that they did not expect in a non-competitive league. (We have a few right now who signed up in the past to referee on a full time basis that only want help out on an occasional basis due to, quite frankly, idiots harassing them in past years.)

One type of player that we want you as a Team Rep to watch out for this season, and speak to them, if need be, are players playing at an intensity level well beyond our league. When one player does this, he fires up opposing players to increase their intensity levels. In our league, players should rarely, if ever, be running into/over opposing players or initiating any other contact. Any 50/50 ball with a goalie is the goalie's ball. They should not be getting angry with opposing players, their teammates or themselves. They should definitely not be clipping, grabbing, elbowing or taking part in any other behaviour that is best described as being an irritant to opposing players. These agitating behaviours are the antithesis of what should be happening of a non-competitive, recreational league.

KDOTSL Executive