

RSL Fall 2025 Rules

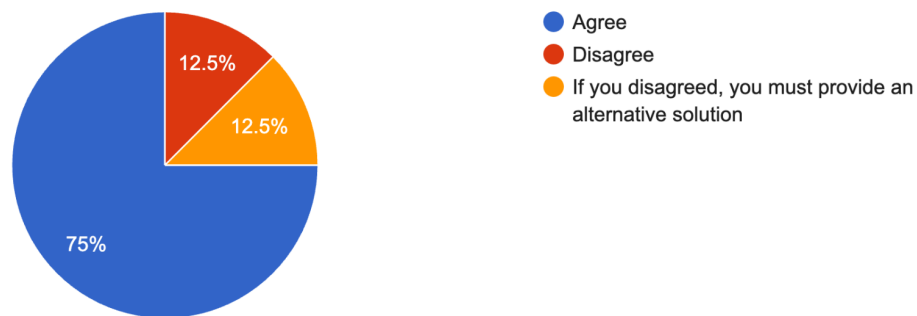
Mandatory Captains Meeting-August 21, 2025

Captain's vote

Captains voted **yes** to the following:

Coed Teams -Substitute Player Policy Update In an effort to maintain competitive balance, ensure fairness, and reduce the use of unauthorized players...ust still be registered players in the Coed Division

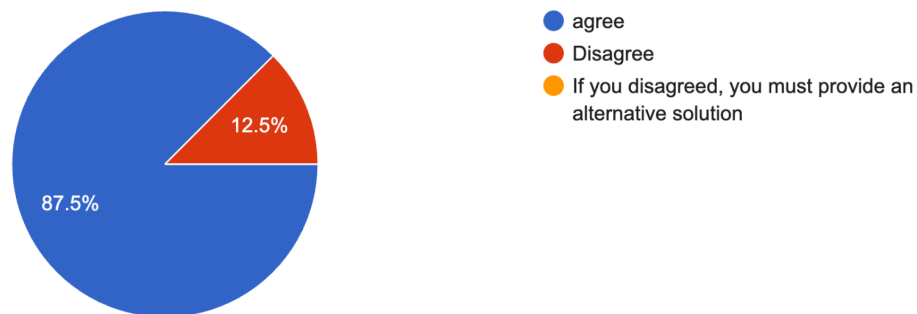
8 responses



Based on an alternate solution, we have deleted the 48 hour suggestion and added the Substitute list.

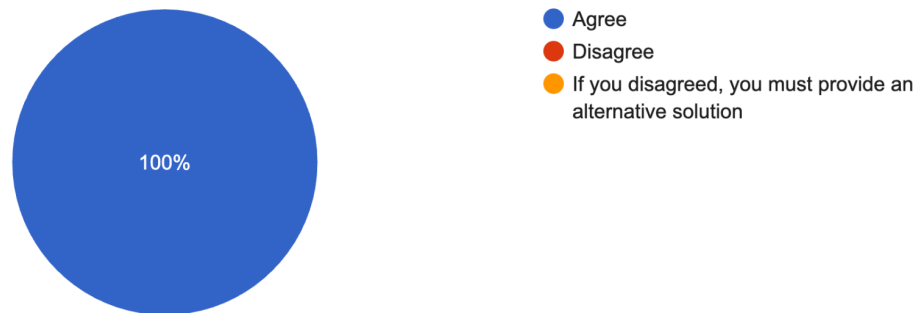
COED Teams- Premier Division Playoff Format Adjustment In response to player feedback regarding the season length and competitiveness: ...de a more dynamic and concise end to the season.

8 responses



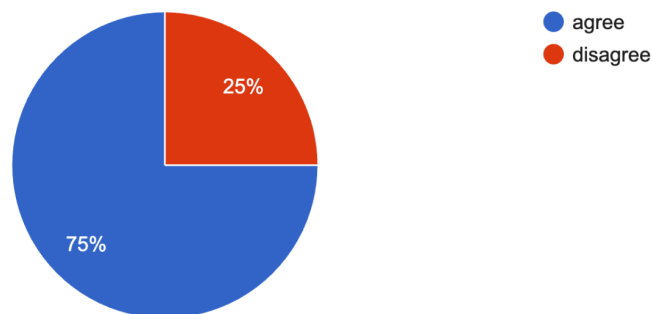
COED Teams -Champions Division Promotion Policy To streamline the league's promotion and relegation system and avoid unnecessary overlap: "...layoff game" between divisions will be eliminated.

8 responses



It has been asked on the end of season survey to have the COED Champions division play on a dedicated day and the COED Premier division on another dedicated day.

8 responses



New-

Referee RESCHEDULING FEES: (Per Contract)

- **For any reason (including weather), a match is cancelled or postponed:**
- **Less than one hour before scheduled kickoff, a \$15 rescheduling fee will be charged to team**
- **Less than one week but more than one hour before scheduled kickoff: \$10 rescheduling fee will be charged to team**

- **On match day, rescheduling fees only apply in situations where the scheduled kickoff time of a match changes by more than one hour.**
 - **Rescheduling fees do not apply if there are:**
 - **Field changes within the City of Roanoke, City of Salem, County of Roanoke, or County of Botetourt boundaries, and the assignor is informed by email or text more than one hour prior to scheduled kickoff of the match.**
 - **The City of Roanoke, City of Salem, County of Roanoke, or County of Botetourt refuses field access, and the assignor is informed by email or text more than one hour prior to scheduled kickoff of the match.**
- **Rescheduling fees are in addition to the normal match Assignor fees.**

New Subbing Rule change

Substitute Players

1. RSL registered players may play for other teams as an “emergency” guest player. If a team has 10 or fewer of its OWN rostered players, that team may take up to 3 subs from another team. If a team has 13 of its OWN rostered players, no subs from another team will be permitted. If a team has 11 of its OWN rostered players, they may take up to 2 subs and if a team has 12 of its OWN rostered players, the team may only take 1 sub. The total must never go past 13 players. The only sub from another team that DOES NOT count towards the 3 sub limit is a rostered goalie. All teams MUST provide subs from another team with a same color jersey or pinny in order for the subs to play.
2. Players must be registered in the division they are subbing for. Example- If a player wants to sub for a coed team, they must be a registered player in the coed division/bracket and/or a dual registrant. A men’s or women’s division player who is only registered in the single division is not eligible to sub for a coed team.

COED ONLY-new

In an effort to maintain competitive balance, ensure fairness, and reduce the use of unauthorized players, the following updates to the substitute player policy are proposed:

A. Substitution Limits and Eligibility

- Each registered player may sub for another team a **maximum of 4 times per season**, regardless of division.

- Players may **cross-bracket** when subbing (e.g., Champions to Premier or vice versa), **regardless of gender.**
- **Only one Premier Division player may sub for a Champions Division team at a time,** and it will count as **one of their four allowable subs**—just as it would if they subbed within the Premier Division.
- In the event of inclement weather where at least **one half of play is completed,** the game will **count as a sub appearance** for any sub listed, regardless of whether they physically played.

B. Sub Request Procedure

- **A sub list will be distributed prior to the season with a list of eligible subs. Players can choose to be added to this list when they register. The sub must adhere to the above rule of being a registered COED player. This list will be distributed to the referee assignor.**
- **Only players in good standing can sub. (no red cards, suspensions etc)**
- **If a sub is not on the list, they cannot sub... make sure your players select the option during registration.**

New

COED

Premier Division Playoff Format Adjustment

In response to player feedback regarding the season length and competitiveness:

- **The Premier Division will now conclude with a 4-team playoff format.**
 - **The top 4 teams at the end of the regular season will enter a single-elimination semifinal and final.**
 - **This change is intended to increase engagement and provide a more dynamic and concise end to the season.**

Champions Division Promotion Policy

To streamline the league's promotion and relegation system and avoid unnecessary overlap:

- **The Champions Division winner will automatically be promoted to the Premier Division.**
- **The last-place team in the Premier Division will automatically be relegated.**
- **The previously held "promotion playoff game" between divisions will be eliminated.**

Reminder:

1. Each team captain will receive a team ball for the season. Captains are responsible for the ball and will be charged \$25 holding fee. At the end of season, captains will return the ball and will receive the \$25 returned. If the ball is lost, RSL will use the \$25 holding fee to purchase a new ball.

Ball Code- Reach out to Kim

- If you will supply your own ball at each game
 - If you paid the \$25 and returned the ball after Spring season
-
2. Bylaws have been updated. Additional language has been added around **forfeits and subbing**. Please make sure you review when registering.
 3. The following was added to the Shin Guard section in bylaws
Shin Guards should be the appropriate size to protect the player's shin. Manufacturer shin guards without modifications are expected. Referees can refuse play if deemed altered or too small.

Physical Rosters must be presented to refs at each game. Make sure you have copies. RSL will give each captain a roster. It is the captains responsibility to maintain.

Sportsmanship

Offenses and Consequences (Discipline Committee Enforced)

- All cards will be documented on the player's profile.
- The incident will then be presented to the Roanoke Soccer League Board Discipline Committee.
- The player can submit their version of the incident to the board within 24 hours of the offense.
- The Discipline Committee investigate

Reminders:

1. All players must be wearing a **MATCHING** team jersey with a number. No jersey = no play for that player

- **Exceptions- If a player shows up without his/her jersey, a pinnie can be used for that game only.**

Captain's Duties

1. Make sure all trash is picked up
2. **Make sure your players DO NOT argue with referees or other players.**
3. Communicate with opposing team captains regarding subs **prior** to the game.
4. Make sure all players on your team are registered for the division, Have Roster available
5. Make sure your players are wearing **shin guards**.

Coed 11v11

Relegation Structure

This system ensures competitive balance, gives developmental teams something to strive for and allow flexibility to adapt for future seasons.

Committee Member overseeing this -Christian Moore.

Premier League (Top Division)

Teams (8): Joes, Urban, Roanoke, West Ham,, Medkick, Franchise, Los Cocos and Receptors

Regular Season Format:

- *Each team plays the other teams once (7 matches per team).*
- *Traditional point system: Win = 3 pts, Draw = 1 pt, Loss = 0 pts.*
- *Standings determine seeding for playoffs.*

Playoff Structure:

- *Top 4 teams*
- *Single-elimination format:*
- *Semifinals: Highest remaining seed vs. lowest remaining seed, other two teams face off.*
- *Final: Winners of the semifinals.*
- *Premier League Loser (Relegation Factor):*
 - o *The lowest-seeded team in regular season moves to the Champions Bracket*

Champions League

Teams (6): Pick, Mellow Yellow, Unathletico, Folklore, Highlander, Pretty in Pink, New Team.

Regular Season Format:

- *Each team plays the others twice (home and away).*
- *10 matches per team.*

- *Traditional point system: Win = 3 pts, Draw = 1 pt, Loss = 0 pts.*
- *Top 2 teams qualify for the Champions Final.*
- *1st and 2nd place teams face off in a single-match Championship Final.*
- *Winner crowned*
- *Winner advances to the Premier League bracket for following season*

Season Rules

Coed 11v11

Cost- \$75 (+ \$20 MDCVSA fee for new players to RSL) *Increase due to field and ref costs increasing*

- *Subbing- FIFA Sub rules- Players must be called on by referee at center mark*
- *No Slide tackling.*
- *Goalies can punt etc.*
- *Offsides will be called.*
- *Minimum of 3 women and 8 men on field during play (no specific position requirements-EX-goalie)*
- *see subbing rules above*
- *Players must be registered in the division they are subbing for. Example- If a player wants to sub for a coed team, they must be a registered player in the coed division/bracket and/or a dual registrant. A men's or women's division player who is only registered in the single division is not eligible to sub for a coed team.*
- *No more than 3 subs allowed for each game. (men or female)*
- *We understand injuries occur and we want our players to be able to have a break from play when needed.*
- *Rosters are set by the **4th game**. No additional players after this date to be eligible to play in Playoffs/Championships*
- *All subs must be on the dedicated list. Each player must be in good standing with the league.*
- ***No subs from other teams** allowed for Playoffs/Championships.*
- *Keep language PG (Kids might be present) Discipline measures will be in place and cards will be distributed.*
- *Shin guards required*

Women's 11v11

Cost-\$75 (+ \$20 MDCVSA fee for new players to RSL) *Increase due to moving from 1 ref to 3 ALONG WITH field and ref costs increasing*

- *Subbing- FIFA Sub rules- Players must be called on by referee at center mark*
- *3 man ref crew*
- *No slide tackling.*
- *Keep language PG (Kids might be present) Discipline measures will be in place and cards will be distributed.*
- *Subbing is allowed when the team is down women players. Rule is not to allow "Ringers" to play when you have enough to play.*

- A player subbing for multiple divisions must be registered as a dual player!
Example- If a player wants to sub for a coed team, they must be a registered player in the coed division and/or a dual registrant. A men's or women's division player who is only registered in the single division is not eligible to sub for a coed team.
- ***No subs from other teams allowed for Playoffs/Championships***
- Rosters are set by the **4th game**. No additional players after this date to be eligible to play in Playoffs/Championships
- Shin guards required

Men's 11v11

Cost-\$75 (+ \$20 MDCVSA fee for new players to RSL) *Increase due to field and ref costs increasing*

- *Subbing- FIFA Sub rules- Players must be called on by referee at center mark*
- *No Slide tackling.*
- Goalies can punt etc.
- *Offsides will be called.*
- Players must be registered in the division they are subbing for. Example- If a player wants to sub for a coed team, they must be a registered player in the coed division/bracket and/or a dual registrant. A men's or women's division player who is only registered in the single division is not eligible to sub for a coed team.
- Rosters are set by the **4th game**. No additional players after this date to be eligible to play in Playoffs/Championships
- ***No subs from other teams allowed for Playoffs/Championships.***
- *Keep language PG (Kids might be present) Discipline measures will be in place and cards will be distributed.*
- Shin guards required