

RAMBLERS RULES OF PLAY & CODE OF CONDUCT:

Penalties: 1st offense, warning. 2nd offense, yellow card, and possible 5 minute ejection, sub allowed. 3rd offense, red card and ejection for the remainder of the game/practice session, no sub allowed for remainder of the game/ practice session. Respect the Referee, and respect the call.

1. **Sportsmanship:** The principal mission of the Ramblers is still today as it was when it began over thirty years ago: to provide a comfortable and fun space for all people, regardless of their skill, sexual orientation, gender, race or religion; to come together and enjoy the competition and sport of soccer, good friends and to be a part of the Ramblers family. Unsportsmanlike play will not be tolerated.

2. **Referees:** The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final. The referee may change a decision when realizing that it is incorrect or at his/her discretion. The call of the referee must be respected. If a player fights with the referee regarding a call, that player will be cautioned.

3. **Shinguards:** Wearing shinguards is mandatory. Players must leave the field immediately if they are not worn, and can't return until they are presented to the Referee. This is a FIFA rule, as well as local club/league rule. No exceptions.

4. **Absolutely no slide tackling:** A slide tackle is a tackle in soccer in which a player attempts to take the ball away from an opposing player by deliberately leaving his feet and sliding along the ground with one leg, or both, extended to push the ball away from the opposing player.

5. **Kick-off:** All players must be in their own half of the field of play; when the referee gives a signal the ball is in play when it is kicked forward. The kicker can't touch the ball again until it has touched another player and goal may be scored directly from the kick-off.

6. **Dropped Ball:** If, while the ball is still in play, the referee is required to stop play temporarily for any reason not mentioned elsewhere in the rules, the referee drops the ball at the place where it was located when play was stopped.

7. **Ball In/Out of Play:** The ball is out of play when it has fully crossed the goal line or touch line, whether on the ground or in the air, or play has been stopped by the referee. The ball is in play at all other times, including when it rebounds off a goalpost, crossbar or corner flag post and remains in the field of play, or if it rebounds off either the referee or an assistant referee when they are on the field of play.

8. **Fouls and Misconduct:** To be enforced stringently.

8a. **Showing dissent by word or action:** A player who is guilty of dissent, towards the referee or another player, by protesting verbally or non-verbally, including: spitting in the direction of a player, foul language and foul hand language, will be cautioned. The captain of each team is ultimately responsible for the behaviour of his team.

8b. **Delaying the restart of play:** Referees will caution players who delay the restart of play by tactics such as kicking the ball away, holding the ball, preventing the referee call, excessive delay of throw in or kick and delay in leaving the field for substitutions.

8c. **Persistent infringement:** Referees will be alert at all times to players who persistently infringe the Rules. In particular, they must be aware that, even if a player commits a number of different offenses, he must still be cautioned for persistently infringing the Rules. There is no specific number of infringements which constitutes "persistence" or the presence of a pattern – this is entirely a matter of judgement and must be determined in the context of effective game management. (i.e., it is the Referee's decision)

8d. **Serious foul play:** A player is guilty of serious foul play if he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when challenging for the ball when it is in play.

8e. **Violent conduct:** A player is guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball. He is also guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against a team-mate, spectator, match official or any other person. Violent conduct may occur either on the field of play or outside its boundaries, whether the ball is in play or not, and will not be tolerated at all and could result in temporary suspension from the club for a set period of time, up to 2 months.