**Richmond ExSSC summer competition Game Rules**

**OBJECTIVE:** the objective of Richmond ExSSC 6-a-aside social competition is to provide an off season opportunity to play soccer, with the aim of skill retention, fitness and fun in a friendly and social environment where soccer is promoted and enjoyed in the Hawkesbury.

**FIFA Rules of Football apply where they have not been altered or affected by these Game Rules.**

**1. GOALKEEPERS:**

* The goalkeeper can handle the ball anywhere inside the penalty area.
* The goalkeeper may leave the penalty area, but can’t handle the ball outside the penalty area.
* Where the goalkeeper receives the ball during general play, the goalkeeper may kick or throw the ball from the penalty area.
* During general play, a goal can be scored directly from a goalkeeper's throw or kick.
* A goal **cannot** be scored directly from a goal kick.

**2. KICK OFF:**

* Kick off shall be from the middle of the field.
* A goal **cannot** be scored directly from a kick off.
* Opposing players must be at least 5 metres away from the ball.

**3. GOAL KICKS:**

* Goal kicks must be taken from inside the penalty area.
* The ball must be kicked, not thrown.
* A goal **cannot** be scored directly from a goal kick.
* Opposing players must be at least 5 metres away from the ball.

**4. BACK PASSES:**

* The regular back pass rule applies- ie the goalkeeper **CANNOT** pick the ball up.
* An indirect free kick, to be taken from the edge of the penalty area, shall be awarded for an infringement of this rule.

**5. CORNERS:**

* These will be marked and taken in the usual manner.
* A goal **cannot** be scored directly from a corner;
* Opposing players must be at least 5 metres away from the ball.

**6. INDIRECT FREE KICKS:**

* Except in the case of an infringement within the penalty area, an indirect free kick shall be taken from the point where the infringement occurred;
* Where an infringement occurs within the penalty area, any indirect free kick shall be taken from the edge of the penalty area at the closest point to where the infringement occurred.
* Opposing players must be at least5 metres away from the ball

**7. KICK INS:**

* When the ball goes over the sideline, play restarts with a KICK-IN (No throw ins).
* The KICK-IN must be taken within 4 seconds or the kick-in will be awarded to the opposing team.
* Opposing players must be at least 5 metres away from the ball.
* A goal cannot be scored directly from a KICK-IN.

**8. FREE KICKS:**

* Free kicks, other than penalties will be INDIRECT.
* Opposing players must be at least 5 metres away from the ball.

**9. PENALTIES:**

* Penalties are awarded as normal for any fouls inside the penalty area, and will be taken 5m from the goal line directly in front of the goal
* Opposing players must be at least 5 metres away from the ball and not within the penalty area.

**10. TACKLING:**

* **Slide tackles are not permitted**.
* **Tackling from behind is not permitted**.

**11. OFFSIDE:**

* The offside rule **DOES NOT** apply.

**12**.**OFFENSIVE, ABUSIVE OR THREATENING LANGUAGE:**

* Any player using offensive, abusive or threatening language will automatically receive a yellow card; or
* The player may receive a red card if, in the opinion of the referee, the incident is serious enough to warrant such action.

**13. YELLOW CARDS:**

* Any player receiving 2 yellow cards in the same match, will immediately receive a red card;
* Any player accumulating 3 yellow cards (in separate games) will be automatically suspended as follows:
	+ From playing for any other team on the day that the 3rd yellow card is awarded; and
	+ from playing the next scheduled match for the team for which the player is registered.

**14. RED CARDS:**

* Any player receiving a red card will be automatically suspended as follows:
	+ From taking any further part in the game in which the player received the red card; and
	+ From playing for any other team on the day that the red card is awarded; and
	+ Suspensions will be awarded by the NFA judiciary as per the NFA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.
	+ Suspensions that are more than the mandatory one match suspension need to go through NFA judiciary with a charge of $75 per incident if a panel needs to be convened. This cost will be paid by the player that has been suspended if found guilty. Fees will be paid to Richmond ExSSC before facing the judiciary.

**15. PLAYERS UNDER SUSPENSION:**

* If any player plays, or attempts to play, in a game whilst under suspension:
	+ **The player will be suspended for** **balance of the competition**; and
	+ If such game involves the team for which the player is a registered player, that game shall be forfeited to the opposing team; or
	+ If such game involves a team other than the team for which the player is a registered player, that game may be forfeited to the opposing team at the discretion of the Richmond ExSSC six aside committee;

**16. FINALS:**

* See draw regarding semis and finals.
* The team being the highest placed team at the conclusion of round 10 will be declared the winner of the competition regular. If weather permits, week 11 will be used as top 4 semi -finals, with week 12 being used for Finals. The final decision will lie solely at the discretion of the Richmond ExSSC 6-a-side committee.
* If weather does not permit, at the conclusion of normal rounds,(round 10) the 2 highest placed teams will play off in the final. The final decision will lie solely at the discretion of the Richmond ExSSC six -a -side committee.
* Once the Finals draw has been placed on the website teams have until Monday 5pm to dispute league position. No disputes will be allowed after Monday 5pm
* Games will be played on the allocated day. Changes of days will not be considered.

**17. MIXED COMPETITION:**

* A maximum of 3 male players can be on the field at any time.
* No players can score inside the penalty area
* Players may enter the penalty area however must pass or take the ball outside the penalty area to score.

 **The Referees decision is final**