



## SBS Official General Rules

Updated 5/5/2017

### I) GENERAL CONDUCT

- a) It's all about the fun! Please remember that we're all here to have a good time. SBS encourages good sportsmanship and friendly play in all levels and leagues.
- b) All music played at SBS leagues needs to be suitable to be played on the radio and must not offend other players. SBS Staff reserves the right to change any music that is deemed unsuitable for SBS leagues.
- c) **Consumption of Alcohol is Banned at SBS Leagues**
  - i) There is absolutely no alcohol allowed at any field, court, rink, or pool. This is a state law:
    - (1) 16-12.28 Drinking of Alcoholic Beverages in Public. No person shall drink any alcoholic beverage as defined in Chapter 138, Section 1 of the General Laws of the State, or possess an open container, full or partially full, of any alcoholic beverages, while on, in or upon any public way, upon any way to which the public has right of access, in any place to which members of the public have access as invitees or licensees, in any park or playground, conservation area or recreation area, on private land or place without consent of the owner or person in control thereof.  
(CBC 1975 Ord. T14 § 312; Ord. 1982 c. 21 s 1; Ord. 1982 c. 23 s 1)
    - (2) Getting caught with alcohol will result in the following:
    - (3) First violation - You will get a warning and forfeit the current game
    - (4) Second violation - your whole team will be removed from the league without receiving a refund
- d) **Use of Tobacco Products is Banned at SBS Leagues**
  - i) There is absolutely no tobacco products\* nor smokeless tobacco\* permitted at any Social Boston Sports league or event. This is city ordinance that we are required to follow. Any person found to be in violation of this ordinance may be fined two hundred fifty (\$250.00) per offense.
    - (1) \*Tobacco product, smokeless tobacco, and event sites are defined in Appendix A.
- e) Always treat SBS staff, all players, and all members with respect. We are all adults here.

- f) Any aggressive physical contact towards referees or other SBS-ers will result in removal from games and possible further action by the league office.

## **II) AGE REQUIREMENTS**

- a) All rostered players must be 21 years of age by the start of the first game of the season being played.

## **III) GENDER REQUIREMENTS**

- a) Our rules, despite gender requirements or game-play, are LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, and other sexualities and gender identities/expressions) friendly and we encourage you to identify in our leagues as you prefer.

## **IV) SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS**

- a) Subbing during the regular season is allowed and encouraged. Just make sure subs sign the league waiver before they play. This is also our way of making sure that everyone is playoff eligible.

## **V) FORFEITS**

- a) Please consult individual league rules for specifics.
- b) Teams may borrow players from other teams in order to reach the required number of players on the field. However, after the 15 minute "forfeit window" has closed, no more borrowed players may be added to a team.
- c) Notify SBS by emailing [sports@socialbostonsports.com](mailto:sports@socialbostonsports.com) 24-48 hours prior to your game time if your team needs to forfeit. If you fail to give proper notification:
  - i) Your first forfeit results in automatic loses of all seeding tiebreakers
  - ii) Your second forfeit results in automatically missing the playoffs
  - iii) Your third offense results in removal from the league and possible further sanctions including, but not limited to, being locked out of registering for future leagues.

## **VI) TIEBREAKERS**

- a) If teams have the same record at the end of the regular season the following tiebreaker rules are put into effect:
  - i) 1) Head-to-head match-up. I.E. Team A and Team B have the same record. Team A beat Team B when they played. Team A gets the top seed. This does NOT apply if all teams have not played each other. The only exception is if a team has played ALL tied teams AND beat them they will get the higher seed.
  - ii) 2) Strength of Schedule. This is when all of a team's opponent's season standings points are added up. The higher the number, the harder the schedule. Hardest schedule gets top seed.
  - iii) 3) Strength of Hardest Win. A team's victory against their opponent with the best record will be compared to the other team's victory against their opponent with the best record.
  - iv) 4) The team that completed their roster first will get the higher seed.\*\*

- (1) \*\*In the event that both teams entering the 4<sup>th</sup> tiebreaker are teams comprised entirely of Free Agents, the tiebreaker will be Strength of Wins. This is the total number of wins of the teams that you beat.

NOTE: Sports may have specific tiebreaker rules. Always check your sport specific rules before referring to these.

## **VII) COIN TOSS**

- a) For sports that require a coin toss the following rules will be applied:
  - i) A coin toss, or rocks-paper-scissor, or odds-evens will be used to determine side and possession.
  - ii) The team that wins the coin toss will have a choice of ball first half or second half, or they can pick a side of the field to defend.
  - iii) After the team winning the coin toss chooses, the team that lost the coin toss gets to choose whichever option the winning team didn't pick. I.E. if the winning team chose to have the ball the first half, then the losing team gets to choose which side of the field they want.
  - iv) Teams cannot choose to defer their choice to the second half.

## **VIII) CANCELLATIONS**

- a) If SBS needs to cancel due to weather or other conditions, we will email each player in the league. Make sure that your account has an updated email address for weather updates and team invitations.
- b) If a game is cancelled, SBS will do its best to reschedule. If SBS is able to, the cancelled date will be added to the end of the regular season and the playoff date will be pushed back.
- c) If SBS is unable to reschedule, no refunds for the missed date will be given. We typically make sure that we have at least two make-up dates in case we need to cancel.

## **IX) CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- a) Due to space and time restrictions, not all teams will always make the playoffs. However, we do try to get as many teams into the playoffs as possible. When able, we will have consolation games.
- b) Champions receive championship shirts, their team name engraved on the trophy, and a pitcher of beer on SBS.
- c) All players on finals night must have played at least one regular season game and be officially added to the team roster to be eligible for finals night. No ringers. It's a social league...you win a t-shirt.

## **X) REGISTRATION**

- a) Leagues are first paid and completed, first served
- b) If a league fills up and SBS cannot offer your team a spot, you will have the option of transferring to another league or receiving a full refund.

- c) Teams are only considered “complete” and have a spot reserved when their roster meets capacity requirements (check each registration page for specifics).
- d) Changes to your shirt order (color and size) cannot be made after registration ends. Check registration pages for the specific date for when your league registration ends.

## **XI) REFUNDS**

- a) Refunds cannot be made less than two weeks prior to the start date.
- b) Partial refunds may be given between one month and two weeks before a league starts.
- c) Full refunds may be given if it is asked for more than a month before the league starts.
- d) If games are cancelled due to rain we will do everything we can to make up your games. If we cannot, unfortunately we cannot refund your game.

***As always, SBS and its staff, reserve the right to amend and change these rules at any time.***

## **Appendix A: Definitions**

### **I) Tobacco product:**

- i) Shall mean any product containing, made or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed or ingested by any other means, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, pipe tobacco, smokeless tobacco; and
- ii) Any electronic device that delivers nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device, including by not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah.

### **II) Smokeless Tobacco:**

- i) Shall mean any product that contains cut, ground, powdered, or leaf tobacco and is intended to be placed in the oral or nasal cavity, including, but not limited to, snuff, chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, dissolvable tobacco products and snus.

### **III) Event Sites:**

- i) Shall mean the entire physical area in which such sporting events occur. The event site shall include all open, semi-open and enclosed spaces and structures, including, but not limited to, playing fields, dugouts, bullpens, training rooms, locker rooms, team bench areas, spectator seating areas, pedestrian walkway, bathrooms, dining areas, vendor areas offices, recreational areas and stadium parking lots.