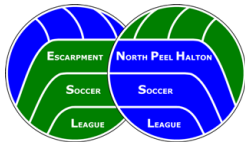


Escarpment & North Peel Halton Soccer Leagues Overview for Coaches: A Short Guide to a Successful Season

This short guide will help you find information, and hopefully answers, to questions you will have after leaving the league kick-off meeting. If not, contact your division's convenor for help (convenor details can be found on our website under "Teams & Coaches". They will escalate unresolved issues to the board of the leagues.

Question/Task	Home Coach	Away Coach
Where & when does my team play?	Check hand-out, call your convenor or check http://www.escarpmentsoccer.com	Ditto – you may call ahead to check on field conditions and player availability (school trips, etc)
What do I need to bring?	Alternate jerseys or training vests in case of colour clash; game ball and stand-by (pumped); Game sheet filled in & signed, Ice packs, 1 st Aid Kit, emergency action plan, cell phone, parent contact numbers, club head referee's cell phone number; town support for lights	Use game sheet provided by Home Coach... Ice packs, 1 st Aid Kit, emergency action plan, cell phone, parent contact numbers
Who pays the referee?	Home coach or home club	Not
What do I do if I saw the referee making a wrong call?	Nothing – all referee decisions are final	Same as home coach
Who takes care of a dismissed ("red card") player?	Elect a parent before the game to be with player off the field & bench ¹	Ditto
The ref showed cards – any team!	Ensure that you send the game sheet to the convenor asap	nothing
What do I do during the game?	Stay in technical area (1m around the bench) Enjoy watching the game – instruct players; don't criticize in public	Same as home coach, plus applaud good efforts by the home team, which endears you to the home crowd.
What do I do after the game? <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> Home coach reports score via email/phone to convenor with subject line/message as follows: <mm/dd/yy> <home team> <score> : <away team> <score> Example: 05/31/10 Milton One 1 : Acton Two 3 </div>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lead your team to the centre to shake hands with the away team – ensure that NO derogatory remarks or ill behaviour occur. 2. Thank the referees and take your copy of the game sheet 3. Praise your team and provide some general feedback 4. Report the score to your convenor when you get home 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lead your team to the centre to shake hands with the away team – ensure that NO derogatory remarks or ill behaviour occur. 2. Thank the referee and take your copy of the game sheet. 3. Praise your team and provide some general feedback 4. Clean up after your team (water bottles, etc)
What do I do the next morning?	Send, or scan & email, the game sheet to the convenor.	nothing
Weather looks awful! It has been raining for many days – an F1 tornado is coming through, etc.	Referees will cancel game on site, if necessary, unless club has canceled game ahead of time.	Check with home coach about fields before you leave.
What if there is a player injured?	Wait for referee to signal you on ...	Ditto
One of my parents doesn't show to pick up their kid?	Have another person wait with you. If alone, allow player in the car, but keep yourself safe outside. Document incident to your club!	Ditto
A team has less than 11 players	You can only field 2 more players than the opposing team – max 11	Ditto

¹ Player safety is paramount to all rules: never leave a youth player unattended. If you are alone with the team, explain the situation to the referee and ask that s/he remains on the bench with her /his jersey covered.



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Schedules, Convenors, Field Locations, Rules & Regulations, and Scores can be found at <http://www.escarpmentsoccer.com>.

Rule Deviations from FIFA's Laws of The Game (LoTG):

- Unlimited substitutions
- Substitutions can be made (advise referee if changing GK):
 - On your team's throw-in
 - When the other team substitutes on their throw-in (piggy backing)
 - On Kick-Off
 - Goal Kick
 - To replace an injured player
- Each player on your team must play at least 50% of the game
- Ball sizes and game lengths as per table
- You can only field 2 more players than the opposing team up to maximum of 11; minimum 7 players

Age	Ball Size	Game Length
U10	4	2 * 30 mins
U12	4	2 * 35 mins
U14	5	2 * 40 mins
U16	5	2 * 45 mins
U18	5	2 * 45 mins

Code of Conduct

The OSA has a general Code of Conduct for Coaches:

c.f. www.ontariosoccer.net ->Programs->Coach Development->About Coaching->Code of Conduct

In addition, the leagues requires you to:

- Be a credit to the game – do no HARM! If you yell at the referee, your players will too! If you yell negatively at a player, s/he will stop playing (also be mindful of OSA's Harrassment Policy Section 13)
- Ensure that each player plays at least 50% of every game.
- Do not score more than three (3) goals over the opposing team (see www.escarpmentsoccer.com-> Coaches Corner to learn about mitigation strategies in case you are up by 3 goals.
- Help your head coach to balance teams, if there are more than one from your club in the same division.
- Do not field players from another team in your division.
- Play only players that are on your roster – the roster has to signed by two (2) club officials and sent to the league's secretary.
- Of course, no smoking and drinking anywhere near the players...

Most Commonly Misunderstood LoTG

Law 11: Offside

A player can be in offside position all day as long as s/he is not involved in play and does not interfere with the goal keeper. The assistant referee may raise the flag to indicate to the referee an offside position, but it is up to the referee to make the call. The referee will determine when a player is committing an offside offence!

Law 12: Fouls & Misconduct

Attempts to foul are punished as if the foul occurred, e.g. trip, kick, strike the opponent.

A player can be sent off for using insulting, offensive or abusive language or gestures and must leave the field.

A coach cannot be sent off, BUT the referee has the authority to stop or abandon the game until the coach has left the field of play – there are disciplinary ramifications to both these cases, so please prevent them from happening.

Quirky sub-rules in some Laws

Law 16: Goal Kick – you can score directly from a goal kick, but not on your own goal

Law 17: Corner Kick – you can score directly from a corner kick, but not on your own goal

Law 8: Start & Re-Start of Play – you can score directly from a Kick-Off, but not on your own goal.

Law 15: Throw-in – you cannot score directly from a Throw-In.

Enjoy your time – it is just soccer! You catch more bees with honey than with vinegar! The referee is always right! The best games end 1-1! Nurture Respect & Friendship!