

Soccer Frequently Asked Questions

I just had my ears pierced, can I tape them?

Please, for everyone's safety, there is no jewelry allowed while playing games. No earrings, necklaces, watches, or bands/ties that may catch another player, even if accidental. The only exception to this would be a medically required bracelet, which must be taped down. If a player is noticed to have jewelry, he/she will be asked to leave the field and cannot return until the jewelry is removed referee allows them back in play.

Do I need cleats and shin guards?

Shin guards are required for all games and recommended at practices for player safety. Cleats are not required for either games or practices, but are recommended for both performance and grip (and therefore, safety). For those who find this to be a financial burden, we have a number of donated used cleats and shin guards available at no cost.

What about the rest of my uniform? Do I have to buy it?

Player jerseys, shorts, and socks are included in the registration fee and will be given to all players by their coach. Players must wear their jersey and socks to each game. Some prefer to purchase their own shorts, which is acceptable as long as they are solid black. Uniforms do not need to be worn to practice.

How do I know if soccer is cancelled?

We will email (and possibly call) you if soccer is cancelled, provided you have supplied accurate contact info at registration. Any cancellation will also be posted to the sports ministry page of the website (kids.ccphilly.org/sports). Decisions to cancel will generally be made by 7am on game days (unless inclement weather is sudden and unexpected).

Are headers (playing the ball with your head) allowed in Calvary's league?

Headers are virtually non-existent in our younger leagues and are minimal in our age groups 10 and up, the age when U.S. soccer allows headers on a minimum basis. Therefore, we do not currently have a rule in place banning headers.

They were offside... weren't they?

Offside has 2 parts to it. #1, a player has to be in an offside position, ahead of the second- to-last defender at the time of the kick, AND #2, that player must become involved in the play or gains an advantage by being in an offside position. A player in an offside position may intentionally avoid playing the ball to avoid being called for offside. Offside is cancelled if the ball is played intentionally by a defender (not just touched, but intentionally kicked). There is no offside on a throw-in, goal kick or corner kick.

How should a throw-in be done correctly?

Proper throw-ins have these elements: ball in both hands, thrown from behind and over the head, and is tossed while having both feet on the ground. Players may drag their feet on the ground so long as the foot doesn't leave the ground until after the ball is released. Also note that it is okay to step on the line, just not fully over the line.

What is the difference between a direct free kick and an indirect free kick?

The only difference really is that a score is allowed directly from a direct free kick but not from an indirect free kick. For an indirect kick, the ball must be touched by another player on either team first.