

School Sport SA Sapsasa State carnival

Football (soccer) Rules and Conditions

Updated 6/23/2025

- The Sideline official will be provided by School Sport SA (See further info below) – there will be 3 people wearing an official vest 1 per 2 pitches). These people will be your go to regarding any adversity to the [School Sport SA codes of behaviour](#).
- Except where otherwise stated, the game shall be played under the laws laid down by Football SA (Under 12 9v9 and Minirosos Playing format and rules) **Note:** Shin guards are basic compulsory equipment.
- All spectators to be on the outside of the pitch boundary fence. Officials and players only on each pitch during their scheduled game.
- Each team will be provided a regulation Size 4 ball
- Matches shall be played of two (2) periods of **18 min - 4 min** half time break and **5 min** between matches
- Teams to be ready (off the pitch) to go on the field as soon as the preceding match is finished and all teams are to have their 'warm-up' etc. prior to the taking of the field for their game. This can occur in the 5-aside pitches **(The toss should also take place before the scheduled game)**
- All matches will be centrally timed with a siren through the PA system
 - At the beginning and end of each half.
 - Penalties, penalty kicks or corner kicks can be completed after the siren – Matches will end when the ball is kicked away or the opposition has possession (as identified by the referee).
- A team squad is 12 players, with 9 players on the pitch.
- Group premiership tables will be drawn in the following manner: Points (3 for a win, 2 for a draw, 1 for a loss) The carnival is a round robin series. Joint winners can be declared if necessary. **Percentage will not be used to determine ultimate winners.**

Interchange Rule

- A coach or team supervisor may substitute any of the 12 players listed as many times as desired and at any time during the game provided that the following conditions apply (The Referee does not need to stop the game)
 - * Interchange must only occur in a dead ball situation
 - * There are only 9 players from that team on the field at any time
 - * That the interchange occurs on the side line at the middle line
 - * If a player is substituted, the referee is notified of the change
 - * If it is found after the opposition coach calls for a count that there are more than 9 players from one team on the field, that that team shall have deducted any goals scored in that half period of the game
 - * Any player may change places with the goal keeper at any time during the taking of penalties, provided the referee is notified of the change

Referees

School Sport SA (with the support of Football SA) will provide student referees for all games and linespeople for most games (if a linesperson is not provided it is the responsibility of the district to provide). **Important: Coaches and players** are to acknowledge that referees may be relatively inexperienced, and they must accept the referees' calls and focus on their skill development, learning and enjoyable participation.

Failure to compete in the right spirit may result in a team being penalised a premiership point.

Modifications

Field size: 60 - 70m x 40 - 50m. Goal size 2m x 5m (approx.). Penalty area 10m x 20m, penalty spot 7m from goal line.

Offside: There is **no offside** rule for this competition. Linespersons will focus on supporting the main referee and calling balls that cross the sideline. Coaches and managers are expected to encourage players to be onside especially those who are in permanent / blatant offside positions.

Goal kicks: can be taken from anywhere within the penalty area, opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.

Corner kicks: opponents must be 5m away from the ball.

Order-off rule – Yellow and Red Cards

The intention of this carnival is to provide learning opportunities through competitive participation for all students. Players whom the referee/s consider to be guilty of dissent, foul play or bad language are to be ordered off for a period of 10 minutes. As indicated by a yellow card. The player may be replaced. If the player is sent off again (Red card), they will remain off for the remainder of the game. Continued occurrences will result in a conversation between the carnival convenor, coaches/managers and the player – which may result in further consequences.

Behavioural expectations – Code of Conduct

Players, team officials, referees/umpires and spectators are required to abide by the [School Sport SA codes of behaviour](#), in order to maintain a safe and respectful environment for all involved. The follow additional areas of responsibility will support the maintenance of a safe and respectful environment.

- School Sport SA official responsibilities:
 - a) Provide designated Sideline Officials (1 person per 2 pitches)
 - b) Provide clear direction to referees prior to the event on rules and enforcement of rules
 - c) Be proactive in managing poor behaviour by players, officials and spectators
 - d) Stop matches that are not being played in a safe and/or respectful way
 - e) Remove any person they deem to be not playing in a safe and/or respectful way
- Team official responsibilities:
 - a) Make all players, officials and spectators aware of the code of conduct prior to the event and that they are aware of consequences for not following them
 - b) Make sure all players are aware of the rules and the expectations of on/off field behaviour prior to the carnival
 - c) Model positive behaviour by focusing on encouragement for sporting behaviour and skill
 - d) Not to enter the playing area unless permitted by referee
 - e) Be proactive in managing poor behaviour by your players, officials and spectators
 - f) Remove players from matches if they are not playing in a safe and/or respectful way
 - g) Stop matches that are not being played in a safe and/or respectful way
 - h) Contact event manager asap for support if necessary
- Referees/Umpires responsibilities:
 - a) Enforce the rules of the competition in a clear, fair and consistent manner
 - b) Encourage and praise good sporting behaviour
 - c) Be proactive in managing poor behaviour by players and officials
 - d) Stop matches that are not being played in a safe and/or respectful way
 - e) Contact sideline official or event manager asap for support if necessary
- Players responsibilities:
 - a) Play fairly and within the rules of the competition
 - b) Abide by the decision of the referee
 - c) Not to enter the playing area unless permitted by referee
 - d) Model positive behaviour by focusing on encouragement of teammates
- Spectators responsibilities:
 - a) Model positive behaviour by focusing on encouragement for sporting behaviour and skill

Failure to abide by the codes of behaviour and responsibilities outlined above may result in offenders being asked to leave the venue.

Designated Sideline Official for all Sapsasa state carnival events

Due to an increase in reported inappropriate behaviour of spectators and players at School Sport SA events a Sideline Official who will contribute to maintaining a safe and positive educational environment will be deployed.

Role of the Sideline Official

To assist /contribute to the management of Sapsasa state carnivals by ensuring that:

- Players on the sideline are behaving appropriately
- Spectators are following the School Sport SA codes of behaviour and departmental policies (all department events are smoke and alcohol free) through proactive means
- They are the point of contact for parents, players, umpires and opposing teams, if the teacher in-charge is coaching/umpiring
- They are the first point of contact for venue personnel or any disputes/indiscretions that may arise off of the playing field, if the teacher in-charge is coaching/umpiring
- Minor issues are resolved if possible and issues reported to the teacher in-charge of the team as soon as possible
- Any significant or unresolved issue is to be reported immediately to the teacher in-charge of the team (this may require the game is halted if the teacher is umpiring) and the event convenor who will work together to resolve the issue

Sideline Officials will be identified by the wearing of a School Sport SA fluoro vest