



Welcome to Afrim's Sports' 2017 Womens 7v7 Outdoor league. This is the seventh year Afrim's Sports will be running this league at Nott Road in Guilderland with games beginning on Tuesday, June 6th, 2017. Our main goal is to provide opportunities for people to stay healthy and fit and most importantly to play soccer as much as possible!

League fee is \$90/player + valid Afrim's Sports' Membership (\$15/annual fee) + current waiver on file (only good for 1 year). The registration fee is a flat fee for all players, no matter how many games each player is playing and/or missing, NO "splitting" the cost with another player. Each team must have 10 players **minimum** on their roster (no max roster size) prior to start of season. Games will be played on Tuesdays **AND/OR** Thursdays at either 6:00pm or 7:00pm. This means teams may play up to **2** times per week, unless your team is scheduled for a BYE. Each player will receive automatic game reminder e-mails 2 days before each game (if subscribed to our emails).

No persons may be added to any roster after Tuesday, June 27th (3 weeks after league start date). Roster additions must be submitted to afrimsports@gmail.com. Players can only play on **ONE** team in any given division. Example: Jane can play on 1 team in the A division **AND** 1 team in the B division, but **NOT** on 2 teams in the A division or 2 teams in the B division.

The minimum number of players allowed to start a game is 5. If team has less than 5 players at the start of the game, it will be recorded as a 0-3 forfeit loss. If a team wants to forfeit, players from other teams can be asked in order to field enough players (this must be decided before the game begins). In the event of a forfeit, the teams may scrimmage among themselves. Forfeits will NOT be rescheduled. ****If your team forfeits 3 games due to a lack of players, then your team will be removed from the schedule. No refunds will be given.****

Please have your team bring 2 colors to each game (ex: white t-shirt and black t-shirt). Most teams do wear matching t-shirts or uniforms. If your team is looking to buy t-shirts or uniforms we have a large selection at our soccer shop! Jason can help find your team a uniform at an affordable price (#518-438-3131 x3).

RAIN OUTS: If Nott Road is closed due to inclement weather; games may be moved indoors to Afrim's Sports Colonie, Latham or Bethlehem if there is field availability. If games are moved indoors, the format will change from 7v7 to 6v6 to accommodate the smaller playing field. If any game is rescheduled to alternate day/time, teams are required to play make-ups as scheduled or accept a forfeit loss of 0-3. Team captains will be notified by phone and we will e-mail each team of any changes. This is also why it is important that every player is listed on your roster. In the event that your team captain is unavailable or out of town, we will still be able to contact other players on your team via e-mail.

Each player must sign the Afrim's Sports waiver, have a valid membership and have an up-to-date photo in our system in order to play in the league – *this includes any substitutes/guest players you may be using*. **Referees will be checking rosters and player cards before each game. Any person who is unpaid, has not signed a waiver, does not have an up to date membership, or does not have a player card on file will NOT BE PERMITTED TO PLAY. Any substitute/guest player who shows up to Nott Road without properly acquiring a guest player pass will NOT BE PERMITTED TO PLAY.** Substitute/guest player passes cost \$10 and must be paid no later than 4:30pm on game day at Afrim's Sports Colonie at 636 Albany Shaker Rd. Albany, NY 12211. Each guest player pass is only good for **1** game and will be added to the team's player cards for that date only. ***If any un-rostered player shows up to play and gives the referee a fake name, they will be banned from Afrim's Sports' league play indefinitely. They will also be banned from the league if they try to re-use their guest player pass, as passes are good for only 1 game.***

Please keep in mind that there are no water fountains at Nott Road. Teams must bring their own drinks and ice (if needed for injuries) themselves as this will not always be provided by Afrim's Sports. If there is an Afrim's Sports' representative present at the fields, water and/or ice may be available (look for the truck typically in between Fields 1 and 3).

All players must wear shin guards and will NOT be allowed to play without them. Cleats are allowed, but no metal cleats or spikes will be permitted.

We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to a fun and successful outdoor season!

Questions? Please do not hesitate to contact us at afrimsports@gmail.com or by calling (518) 438-3131 x2.

Afrim's Sports' Womens Outdoor Soccer League Rules

Section I: General

1. A player must be at least eighteen (18) years of age in-order to be eligible to play. Any exceptions must be approved by Afrim's Sports staff and the parent/guardian of the player.
2. Each player must have a signed waiver on file in order to play (*this can be done online through your DASH account*). If a player is under eighteen, their waiver must be signed by their parent/guardian.
3. Players can submit registration/intent to register by e-mail; however, the addition will not be official until a member of Afrim's Sports' staff has added the player to the appropriate roster.
4. Guest players – All guest players must register with Afrim's Sports, sign the waiver, pay the membership and physically stop by Afrim's Sports in Colonie (636 Albany Shaker Rd.) to get their picture taken. This must be done ONLY ONCE. Once you have registered with the waiver, updated membership and have your picture on file, a player card will be printed and kept on file. Once you meet those 3 requirements, you do not need to come pick up your pass before the game; just call in, make a payment and we will bring the card out to the fields for you. Your Guest Player card will be added to the appropriate team's roster each time and will be given directly to the referee. The fee is \$10 per game for each guest player.
5. If your team forfeits 3 games due to a lack of players, then your team will be removed from the schedule. No refunds will be given.

Section II: The Game

1. Game times are 6:00pm or 7:00pm at Nott Road fields in Guilderland.
2. Games will be played on Tuesday and/or Thursday evenings.
3. A team shall consist of a minimum of ten (10) players. The minimum number of players to start and continue a game is as follows: A minimum of 5 players must be present to start and/or continue game. If team has less than 5 players at start of game, the game will count as a 0-3 forfeit loss. If a team wants to forfeit, they may pick up players from other teams in order to have enough players (must be decided prior to start of game).
 - In the event of a forfeit, the teams may scrimmage among themselves. Forfeits will NOT be rescheduled.
 - ***If a team forfeits 3 games due to a lack of players, then your team will be removed from the schedule. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN.***
4. Substitutions shall be unlimited and unrestricted and may be made with consent from the official:
 - prior to a throw-in (either team in possession),
 - after a goal or before a goal kick by either team,
 - after an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play,
 - at half time.
5. The game shall consist of two (2) twenty-five minute (25 min.) halves with a rest period of five (5) minutes in between halves. ***The rest period will be shortened if the game failed to start on-time.***
6. Games ending in a tie remain a tie – NO overtime
7. Afrim's Sports and Nott Road staff will determine if the games will be postponed or moved inside due to inclement weather. Updates will be posted on the Afrim's Sports website and Facebook, and in some instances e-mailed to the players.
 - ***Nott Road does NOT inform Afrim's Sports until 4:00pm of any field closures... This means we will be contacting you as soon as we know; however it will not be until AFTER 4:00pm!!***
8. Once games begin, if the weather is threatening, a league official will determine if the game is to be postponed. If lightning is observed in the vicinity, teams will be asked to leave playing area for thirty (30) minutes. If the lightning disappears after thirty minutes, the game will continue. If the lightning continues after thirty minutes, the postponement will continue until the area is lightning-free for thirty (30) minutes.
9. If a game is terminated before reaching halftime because of the weather, the teams must come to an agreement on whether or not they would like to reschedule to a later date ***before leaving the field***. If the two teams cannot come to an agreement, the game will NOT be rescheduled and the existing score will stand. ***If a game reaches halftime the game will be considered complete.***
10. **SLIDE TACKLES are NOT permitted.**
 - Sliding may cause injuries and increase on-field conflict.

Section III: The Uniform

1. **All players must wear soccer shin guards.**

2. All cleats/shoes must conform to the laws of the game.
 - **No metal cleats or spikes are permitted**
3. The laws of the game forbid players from wearing anything that is dangerous to another player. The use of hard and dangerous protective equipment is not permitted.
4. No hats are allowed except for goalkeepers. The referee must approve other non-dangerous headwear.
5. Knee braces must be inspected and approved by the referee prior to the start of the game.
6. Only hand and arm casts are allowed. Casts must be padded and must be inspected and approved by the referee prior to the start of the game.
7. The referee or league official(s) can order a player to remove any unauthorized or dangerous equipment (including jewelry).

Section IV: The Equipment

1. Afrim's Sports will provide game balls and corner flags.
2. Balls and flags remain the property of Afrim's Sports and must be returned after each game.
3. We recommend that teams bring their own ball(s) to warm up with as there will be none available to borrow.

Section V: Protests

1. Complaints or protests can be made to Afrim's Sports. The complaint/protest should be as specific as possible and include: First and last names of everyone involved, a complete description of the **FACTS**, why you feel a protest is necessary, etc. Written complaints/protests can be e-mailed to afirmsports@gmail.com.
2. *Judgment calls by the officials can **NOT** be protested.*

Section VII: Sportsmanship/Player Behavior

The following actions and other actions which detract from the recreational nature of the game will result in **suspension** or **expulsion** from outdoor league play:

1. Demonstrative behavior in protesting a referee's or Afrim's Sport's official's decision by any team member or a team's fans.
2. Resorting to behavior that threatens or assaults any player, referee or official (i.e. verbally threatening another player, coach, referee, or officials, taunting other players, etc.)
3. Obscene and abusive language will not be tolerated on or off the field, regardless of whether or not it is directed at someone else.

Section VII: Ejections/Suspensions

To enforce player behavior that is consistent with the established purpose of recreational soccer, the following action may be taken:

1. An official may eject any player in violation of any of the above rules. Upon ejection of a player for unsportsmanlike conduct, the official will inform the player, team and field official that the player has been ejected. *The player is responsible for leaving the park within two (2) minutes.* A player remaining in the vicinity of Nott Road fields (including the parking lot) after being ejected from the game will be subject to a long term or life-time suspension.
2. Any player ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct could face an **automatic one-day (1)** suspension. A suspended player may not attend nor participate in the game(s) affected by the suspension.
3. Any player who, after being ejected, acts in such a way as to offend or endanger anyone, including spectators or families of players, will be automatically suspended for a minimum of four (4) weeks. Examples of such behavior include, but are not limited to, physical assault and/or verbal assault. The maximum penalty is permanent expulsion from Afrim's Sports.
4. Any player ejected twice during the season will automatically be suspended for the remainder of the season.
5. In flagrant cases of unsportsmanlike conduct that are reviewed by a panel, an entire team can be held responsible for the actions of an individual on the team.
6. In any case of suspension or expulsion, **NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED.**

Cards:

Yellow

1. Any player with two (2) yellow cards in consecutive games cannot play the next game.

2. Any player with four (4) non-consecutive cards cannot play the next game.
3. Two (2) yellow cards in the same game is equivalent to an immediate red card.

Red

1. All red cards will result in immediate ejection; AT A MINIMUM, the player will sit out for the rest of the game *AND* the following game. All red cards will be subject to review to determine the length of the suspension. If the ejected player attempts to play during their suspension, then she will be suspended indefinitely. On a red card, the team will play a man down for the remainder of the game, even if goals are scored.
 - a. Red card product of two (2) yellow cards: **must sit 1 game**
 - b. Red card for violent conduct, fighting or trying to physically attack another player or official: **lifetime ban**

*****If a player on your team receives a card and refuses to give her name to the referee, your entire team will forfeit their remaining schedule. If a fake name is given, your entire team will forfeit their remaining schedule AND will be banned from the Womens Outdoor League permanently.*****

Section XI: Rainout Rescheduling

1. Teams are required to play make-up games as scheduled or accept a forfeit loss of 0-3.
2. If the games are moved indoors, the format will change from 7v7 to 6v6 to accommodate smaller playing field.

Section XII: Standings

If there are any ties for the top three finishers in league play, the following tie breaking procedures will be used in the order that they appear:

1. Points
2. Goal Differential
3. Wins
4. Goals For

League standings will be kept on the Afrim's Sports website. Players can log into their [DASH account](#) to access these standings.