

# 2018 FCAPPS Soccer League Manual

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***Boys Varsity Division***

***Girls Varsity Division***

***Middle School Mixed Boys and girls***

***Division***

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## History of FCAPPS Soccer:

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FCAPPS soccer began in the Spring of 2011 with just two schools (Solid Rock Community School and Fish Home School). The schools played two friendly matches in the spring of 2011.

In the fall of 2011, FCAPPS hosted a 6v6 one day soccer tournament in Tampa, FL with the proceeds going to Moffitt Cancer Center. The success of the tournament prompted more interest in forming a league. In the Spring of 2012, the first official FCAPPS soccer season was started and included Solid Rock Community School, FISH home-school, Clearwater Academy, American Youth Academy, and Hillsborough Baptist.

FCAPPS soccer was started in mind for smaller schools that cannot field a full 11 a side team in FHSAA. Team sizes (as well as field sizes) have been modified to a smaller format (7v7 or 8v8). Competitiveness, sportsmanship, as well as Christian fellowship are encouraged. Schools are also strongly encouraged to meet in the field for post-game prayer with the other team and coaches.

Interested parties in FCAPPS soccer can contact the director of FCAPPS Soccer, Rob Dolan at 727-919-2600 (cell) or 704-614-6697 or by email [rdolan@amica.com](mailto:rdolan@amica.com)

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# Revision - 2018-04-01

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# Article I. FCAPPS MEMBERSHIP

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## GOAL

Our purpose is to provide a league for small schools, in the state of Florida, an opportunity to compete in the game of Soccer.

## PHILOSOPHY

FCAPPS is a Christian-based organization and encourages all member schools to put God first and to promote Christian values and principles to student athletes. We do not promote any particular denomination, but the Word of God. We believe that coaches and staff should feel free to pray for and with the student athletes at any time in accordance with their school beliefs and/or policies.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Through our league, the athletes will be given the opportunity to experience spiritual, mental, and physical growth and social development.

The athletes will learn self-discipline, self-motivation and develop the desire to do one's best. Coaches will be able to use soccer to teach leadership, sportsmanship, and Biblical principles.

Our overall mission is to use Soccer as a means to glorify God, and to bring others to Christ through the game of Soccer. Our program is open to **anyone who shares in our beliefs, values and principles and/or is willing** to follow our rules and understands that they will be exposed to the word of God and Biblical principles.

## MEMBERSHIP REVIEW AND RENEWAL

1. All schools applying for membership will have to appear before a membership board for final approval unless waived by the league's Commissioner..
3. Any school that had been suspended from any FCAPPS sports must appear before the Membership Board before being allowed to participate in FCAPPS league again

## PROBATIONARY PERIOD

1. FCAPPS League's Director may place a team on probation at his discretion, for just cause. While on Probation, no school will be allowed to participate in the state Playoff series.
2. If while on probation, a school violates any FCAPPS rules and/or policies, they may be suspended from the league immediately and may not re-apply for membership for a period of two years from the date of suspension.

## DISCLAIMER

All Players, Coaches, Team Reps, and any other team members who participate in the FCAPPS Soccer League waive and release for all times, all rights and claims for damages, real or otherwise, they may have against FCAPPS for any Loss, Property Damage and/or all Injuries suffered by themselves as a result of participating in FCAPPS Soccer League, games, events and any other FCAPPS sponsored activity.

## RIGHTS AND AMENDMENTS TO RULES

Schools that register for this league accept as a condition of participation the following bylaws and code of conduct, and are subject to disciplinary actions and/or fines as outlined therein. League administrators will render any necessary decisions regarding situations that may develop, which are either not addressed, or only partially addressed in the league rules, and policies.

***FCAPPS reserves the right to add or amend any rule, policy, or procedure, without notice. For incidents where there is no specific rule or procedure, you are expected to do what is reasonable and prudent.***

# Article II. Facilities Management

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## MEDICAL SUPPORT

Ideally, physician should be present at all games and practice sessions. If it is not possible for a physician to be present, some emergency measures must be provided. All coaches and trainers should be trained to properly handle all injuries. A set of guideline should be established

When a player has experienced head trauma, loss of consciousness, or obvious signs of disorientation and/or memory loss, and/or spinal injury, he should receive immediate medical attention and should not be allowed to return to practice or game without permission from the proper medical authorities.

***Coaches are warned not to move players with head or spinal injuries without proper medical training.***

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL PROCEDURES

School personnel must know exactly what is to be done in an emergency and who is responsible for each task. Schools should have written procedures for medical emergencies.

The closet Fire Department to your home game site should be contacted and made aware of your home schedule and the best entrance into your complex.

A first aid responder should be used at all practice and games.

All Coaches should be trained in first Aid.

It is strongly recommended that an automatic external defibrillator (AED) be present and available for use if needed at the site of every interscholastic athletic contest.

## FOUL WEATHER - LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS

Principal and A/D are directly responsible for stopping any game due to various weather conditions. No game should be played in unsafe or hazardous conditions. Games must be stopped.

### **An Approaching Thunderstorm: When to Seek Safe Shelter**

Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles away from the rain area in a thunderstorm. That's about the distance you can hear thunder. When a storm is 10 miles away, it may even be difficult to tell a storm is coming. ***If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance. Seek safe shelter immediately!***

#### A. Basic Recommendations

- 1. Every school should purchase and make use of a hand held Lightning Detector.** These Personal Lightning Detector are small and very affordable (some units are as low as \$61.00 dollars). These lightning detectors provides an early warning of approaching lightning strikes from as far away as 40 miles and lets you know if the storm is coming your way. An audible alarm sounds when there's a strike and a corresponding LED light illuminates accordingly at lightning distances of 20-40 miles, 12-24 miles, 6-12 miles and within 6 miles. Most detectors can be clipped on a belt loop and runs off two AAA batteries.
- 2. Use 30-30 RULE** to estimate distance of storm.  
Use the 30-30 rule where visibility is good and there is nothing obstructing your view of the thunderstorm. When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within 6 miles of you and is dangerous. Seek shelter immediately. The threat of lightning continues for a much longer period than most people realize. Wait at least 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder before leaving shelter. Don't be fooled by sunshine or blue sky! If it is cloudy or objects are obscuring your vision, get inside immediately. It is always safer to take precautions than to wait. Get inside a **large enclosed structure**. **NOT** a carport, open garage, or even a covered patio which provide no protection, and **NOT** by an open window.

# Article III. COACHES REQUIREMENTS

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FCAPPS does not tolerate Profanity, Obscene gestures, Rowdiness, Poor Sportsmanship or Dangerous Play. Such behavior can warrant an ejection from a game and Suspension from further participation in the League.

Because FCAPPS is a Christian-based organization we must hold our members to the highest standards possible. We feel strongly that all members must be held accountable for their actions on and off the field which may have a negative effect on the league.

## A. JESSICA LUNSFORD ACT – Background Checks

1. All volunteers, coaching and staff involved in your program must complete and pass a criminal background check with your local police.
2. Anyone with a felony record is not allowed to coach in the Fcapps league
3. Anyone who has been convicted of a misdemeanor involving any crime of moral perpetuate is not eligible to coach in any FCAPPS league.
4. FCAPPS does not allow any individuals to coach in our league whose character, image, morals or values are contrary to our belief, philosophy or standards.

## B. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Must be Drug free
2. Must be mentally fit and of sound mind

## C. BEHAVIOR OF COACHES

1. Refrain from arguments in front of players and spectators
2. Not use, use of profanity, obscene language
3. Will not act in a manner that is unbecoming of a professional.
4. Will Shake hands with the officials and opposing coaches either before and after the contest
5. Will respect the Game Officials at all times

## D. COACHES – PROHIBITED ACTS

1. Transportation of student-athletes to non-school activities without written permission
2. Providing instruction during the off-season except for allowable off-season programs
3. No school funds (including booster club funds), equipment or transportation can be used for non-school activities
4. Shall not be involved in any activity which would bring financial gain to the coach by using a student's participation in a camp or clinic.
5. Shall not require student-athletes to participate in non-school activities.
6. Participation in non-school activities shall not be a prerequisite for trying out for a school team.

## E. REPORT OF VIOLATION

All school administrator, teacher, coach, and sponsor must report an alleged violation of any FCAPPS rule or policy. The report must be in writing and filed with the FCAPPS main office.

## F. FAILURE TO DISCIPLINE

Any Coach, A/D or any other team personnel who fail to take disciplinary action against a coach or players for violating FCAPPS rules and/or policies will cause the school to be fined, suspended, and/or forfeiture of games

# Article IV. CROWD MANAGEMENT AND GAME SECURITY

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It is our responsibility to provide a safe right environment to Athletes and Guest at all times. To the ends, the following rule are therefore instituted

A. Each school should develop a master plan for management of crowds. Administrative duties for controlling crowds involves a well thought out plan of action.

**1. Game Security**

It is ***recommended*** that schools hire security for all of their home games.

We understand that with some schools this may not be financially possible. At all times school personnel should serve as additional security.

2. An administrator should be assigned to act as a hospitality liaison for the visiting team.

3. An appointed school administrator shall be responsible for escorting game officials from the field to the official's cars/transportation and shall ensure that officials are not harassed or accosted by fans, players, parents, coaches or other school officials.

**B. Security Video**

The home team will record all home games. The purpose of this video is to:

a. Provide a neutral and unbiased documentation of the game.

b. Record any infractions or negative behavior before, during, and after the game.

c. Be used as supporting evidence in a game protest.

**d. Instructions to Videographer:**

- Record the game using a wide view or angle.
- Use a wide view, but zoom in close enough to capture or identify individuals involved in the play.
- Video the action around the play, not just the person with the ball.
- Try to capture any problems or incidents involving players, coaches, fans, or spectators.
- Span the crowd from time to time to capture those watching the game. This could be useful later for identification purposes.
- Focus on anyone who appears to be causing or about to cause a problem.

**C. Video Storage:**

1. Label each video with the date and teams.

2. The original security videos should be kept for a period of two years, and should be safely stored in the office of the A/D or a school administrator.

3. The original security videos may not be released without permission of FCAPPS

## ARTICLE V. STUDENT ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Participation in FCAPPS interscholastic athletic programs by a student is a privilege, not a right. Students who participate are required to meet the requirements set forth in this Student Eligibility Policy as established by FCAPPS.

**Section 101 ELIGIBILITY**

Any student who is in any grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and maintains a minimum GPA of 2.0 shall be eligible for Varsity Soccer. Any student who is 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and maintains a minimum GPA of 2.0 shall be eligible for the Middle School League. No player can be older than 19.9 years old. Both Grade placement (what grade

they would be in if they were not held back or promoted) and age requirements must be met in order to be eligible for the High School or Middle School league. If a coach or Athletic Director designates a player as a certain grade at the beginning of the season, that coach can not change the designation during the season.

### **Section 1.02 High School Student Eligibility**

- (a) High School (varsity) level sports are defined by FCAPPS as grades 9-12. FCAPPS allows 7th and 8th grades students to participate on High School teams provided they meet the eligibility requirements. However, holding a player in the 7th or 8th grade when they would otherwise be in the 9th grade based on age and academic performance is strictly forbidden. In other words, FCAPPS does not permit member schools to hold students back for athletic benefit.
- (b) Scholastic Fitness– (High School) - Scholastic fitness is determined by the academic achievement obtained up through and including the preceding semester. For fall sports, eligibility will be based on the cumulative GPA achieved through the last semester of the previous school year. Students are required to obtain an un-weighted cumulative high school 2.0 GPA across all mandatory subjects required for graduation by Florida Statutes. GPA must include grades achieved by the student on courses required for graduation even if that student took those courses prior to entering High School. For example, if a student is entering the 11th grade, his GPA must be at least 2.0 for the 9th and 10th grade up to and including the semester prior to the sport beginning. If your school uses any other method of grading please contact the FCAPPS Compliance Officer for conversion methodology.
- (c) Exception for “Rising 9<sup>th</sup> Graders” - A first-year high school student, entering the ninth grade for the first time, is academically eligible for any sport beginning during his/her first semester of high school attendance. The student, however, must have the cumulative 2.0 GPA at the conclusion of his/her first semester of high school attendance to be academically eligible to participate in a sport beginning during his/her next semester of attendance.
- (d) High School Age Eligibility (High School) - In order to be eligible for FCAPPS competition a student will be eligible may not be older than 19 years 9 months. On that day, the student will become ineligible.
- (e) Four Year Limit of Eligibility (High School) - A student shall be eligible for not more than four (4) consecutive academic years upon first entrance to ninth grade or until the student graduates from High School, whichever comes first. A student who does not attend school, repeats any grade, is declared ineligible to participate, or otherwise fails to exercise the opportunity to participate for any reason for any length of time during this four-year period shall not be entitled to any additional period of eligibility. Original school records shall be submitted to the FCAPPS Compliance Officer in the event of conflicting information as to the date of first successful completion of the eighth grade.
- (f) Dual sports in the same school year – Under certain circumstances FHSAA permits students from schools or home education cooperatives such as those participating in FCAPPS to play sports for their local High School. However, FCAPPS strictly forbids students from participating in the same sport in the same school year with both an FCAPPS team and an FHSAA team. This is also the case even when seasons do not overlap. For instance, FHSAA plays soccer in the Winter and an FCAPPS plays soccer in the Spring. Students are not permitted to play Winter soccer for FHSAA and then Spring Soccer for FCAPPS.

### **Section 1.03 Middle Schools Athletic Eligibility**

- (a) FCAPPS defines Middle School as grades 6th through 8th. 5th graders are permitted to participate however; schools and parents are strongly encouraged to seriously consider the physical maturity of the student.

- (b) Scholastic Fitness (Middle School)- Scholastic fitness is determined by the academic achievement obtained during the immediately preceding semester. For fall sports, eligibility will be based on the last report card of the previous school year. To be academically eligible for FCAPPS Middle School Sports and/or Activity, Students are required to obtain a minimum of 2.0 GPA or “C” letter grade equivalents across all subjects for the immediately preceding reporting period.
- (c) Grade and Age Eligibility (Middle School) - Students will become ineligible for Middle School competition on the day they reach 14 years 9 months regardless of the grade level they are attending.
- (d) Limits of Eligibility (Middle School) - Middle school is defined as grades 6th through 8th. 6th, 7th and 8th grade students are eligible to participate only one year in each grade level. A 6th, 7th or 8th grade student who repeats a grade will not be eligible during the grade being repeated. 5th grade students may participate with special approval from the FCAPPS Compliance Officer and League Commissioner.

**Section 1.04 Development Squads Eligibility**

The purpose of the Development Squad is to allow teams that do not have Middle School Teams a chance to expose younger and less experienced players to soccer. This is not to be used as a holding ground for skilled athletes who should be playing at the High School level. Players assigned to the Development Squad must meet the following requirements:

- (a) Must meet all player eligibility requirements and must pass through the Player Certification Process.
- (b) Players must be listed on the Official Roster.
- (c) A team may have an undetermined number of Developmental players.
- (d) A team may only dress out 22 players per game
- (e) He has mature and develop both physically and mentally to play.
- (f) Development player may be added to or dropped from the 22 man roster at coach’s discretion.
- (g) Developmental play may be on the sidelines during games and may travel with the team but will not dress out in full uniform – Jersey only.
- (h) The 4-year playing eligibility will not apply to developmental players who are legitimately in grades 5th – 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Section 1.05 Calculation of GPA**

This grade point average for FCAPPS eligibility must be calculated as specified in Florida Statutes (Section 1003.437, F.S.), by assigning quality points of “A” = 4, “B” = 3, “C” = 2, “D” = 1, “F” = 0, and “Incomplete” = 0 to the letter grades displayed students permanent record (“+” and “-” signs are ignored). Grades of NG (No Grade Assigned), WP (Withdrew Passing), and WF (Withdrew Failing) are not applicable for inclusion in the Cumulative GPA. See table below:

Letter Grade	Percent Range	GPA
A	90-100%	4.00
B	80-89%	3.00
C	70-79%	2.00
D	60-69%	1.00
F	0-59%	0.00
I – Incomplete	0%	0.00

If the school’s Cumulative Grade Point Average for the student is based on a scale other than the Un-weighted 4.0 scale noted above the school must contact the FCAPPS Compliance commissioner for assistance.

## **Section 1.06** Transferring Student Eligibility

- (a) Students that transfer between member schools are not eligible for competition in FCAPPS activities for one full academic semester after transfer. Transferring students are required to prove eligibility by providing an official transcript. If the student's transcripts are being withheld such that a student cannot prove scholastic fitness the student may request a hardship waiver. However, if a student's transcript has been withheld by a member school due to non-payment of tuition other similar reasons; the student's eligibility may be withheld.
- (b) Students who are expelled or suspended from a member school will not be eligible for FCAPPS competition at another school unless and until a waiver is approved by the FCAPPS compliance officer who may investigate the expulsion and justification, etc.

## **Section 1.07** Students who are Athletically Recruited are Not Eligible

Any student who was recruited in violation of the Athletic Recruiting Policy will be ruled ineligible until further notice.

## **Section 108** Individualized Education Program

### **Definition**

An IEP defines the individualized objectives of a child who has been labeled with a disability, as defined by federal regulations. The IEP is intended to help children reach educational goals more easily than they otherwise would. In all cases the IEP must be tailored to the individual student's needs as identified by the IEP evaluation process, and must especially help teachers and related service providers (such as paraprofessional educators) understand the student's disability and how the disability affects the learning process. The IEP should describe how the student learns, how the student best demonstrates that learning and what teachers and service providers will do to help the student learn more effectively. Key considerations in developing an IEP include assessing students in all areas related to the known disabilities, simultaneously considering ability to access the general curriculum, considering how the disability affects the student's learning, developing goals and objectives that correspond to the needs of the student, and ultimately choosing a placement in the least restrictive environment possible for the student.

- (a) FCAPPS recognize and accepts an **Individualized Education Program**, commonly referred to as an **IEP**, which is mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) as one of the tools used to academically qualify a student to participate in all FCAPPS sports.
- (b) FCAPPS'S will accept all IEP students if the following or similar guidelines are part of a school's IEP criteria and process.
- (c) **Members of the IEP team**

The IEP team must include the student and student's parent(s) or guardian(s), a special education teacher/case manager, at least one regular education teacher, a representative of the school or district who is knowledgeable about the availability of school resources, and an individual who can interpret the instructional implications of the child's evaluation results (such as the school psychologist).

The parent or school may also bring other individuals who have knowledge or special expertise regarding the child. For example, the school may invite related service providers such as speech and occupational therapists. The parent may invite professionals who have worked with or assessed the child, or someone to assist the parent in advocating for their child's needs, such as a parent advocate or attorney. Many parents choose to bring at least one other person with them to IEP meetings because meeting with such a large group of school personnel can be intimidating to parents. If appropriate, the child may also participate in IEP team meetings. For example, some children begin participating in their IEP meetings when they reach middle school age.

### **The IEP content addresses:**

- Present level of academic achievement and functional performance
- Measurable annual goals
- Benchmarks or short-term objectives
- Special education, related services, supplementary aids and services
- Participation with children without disabilities
- Participation in state and division-wide assessments
- Duration, frequency, and location of services
- Progress report schedule
- Initial transition
- Secondary transition

#### **(d) Reporting of IEP on Player certification form**

Students on an IEP will not have a G.P.A., therefore, you will write "IEP" in the box under grades.

For all students list as having an IEP, you will submit;

A List his disability

A copy of his IEP evaluation and progress report.

Submit the names and titles of the IEP team members.

**Note:** It is understandable that some sensitive matter/issues may not be disclose and may need to be blacked out on form.

## **Article VI. NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY**

Non-Traditional students are defined students who are not a full time member of the school's student body but wishes to participate in interscholastic athletics with that school. Non-traditional students are permitted to participate provided they meet ALL FCAPPS eligibility requirements in addition to those laid out for each type below:

### **Section 2.01 Charter School Students (Including Florida Collegiate)**

- (a) The student must meet all FCAPPS eligibility requirements and must attend a charter school that does not sponsor an interscholastic athletic program in a sport in which the student desires to participate.
- (b) Not available for International Students. International Students must follow requirements in Section 2.05

### **Section 2.02 FLVS-Full Time Students**

- (a) The student must meet all FCAPPS eligibility requirements and must be a full time student of the statewide Florida Virtual School Full Time Public Program.
- (b) Not available for International Students. International Students must follow requirements in Section 2.05

### **Section 2.03 Home Education Students and FLVS – Homeschool**

#### **Home Education Students and FLVS - Homeschool**

- (a) These students must meet all eligibility requirements and receive their education through parental instruction at home, FLVS-Part Time, parent led classes or home-school cooperative instructors. These students are permitted to participate with member schools or Home Education Program Cooperatives.
- (b) Not available for International Students. International Students must follow requirements in Section 2.05

- (c) Home Education Students are required to provide either the FHSAA Home Education Transcript Form or FCAPPS Home Education Transcript in lieu of a standard transcript as proof of scholastic fitness.

### **Section 2.04** Students of Non-Member Private School Students

- (a) These students must meet all eligibility requirements and must attend a non-member school that does not offer an interscholastic athletic program during the Soccer Season.
- (b) Not available for International Students. International Students must follow requirements in Section 2.05
- (c) A letter from the student's primary school will be used in lieu of a standard transcript. This letter must be signed by the head administrator and must verify that his school does not provide an athletic program during the Soccer Season and must also provide verification of the student's un-weighted cumulative GPA.

### **Section 2.05** Youth Exchange and Other International Students

FCAPPS allows Youth Exchange and other International Students to participate in FCAPPS athletic competition under the following conditions. No more than four international students may play for a school team (per division-for example school "x" may have 4 or less international students in their Varsity Boys team, four or less international students for their Varsity girls team and four or less international students for their mixed middle school team).

- (a) Qualifying Programs Youth exchange and International Students must be registered through in accordance with one of the following:
  - (1) F1 Academic Student Program - *The F-1 academic student program is a non-immigrant visa category intended for the use by nonresident students whose primary purpose for visiting the United States is to study full-time at an approved institution.*
  - (2) J-1 Exchange Visitor Program - *The J-1 exchange visitor program is a non-immigrant visa category designed to promote mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries through bona fide educational and cultural exchange.*
  - (3) Other International Students - *These students must possess a valid Form I-94 (Arrival-Departure Record) and a nonimmigrant visa (i.e. A-2, E-2, H-4, L-2, R-2, TD, etc.) issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) as an unmarried, dependent minor of an individual issued the equivalent visa type.*
  - (4) Citizens of Bermuda or Canada - *In general, citizens of Bermuda and Canada do not need a visa to travel in the United States. However, these students must meet all other requirements of this Policy.*
- (b) Host Family Required - Youth exchange students are required to reside with a Host Family. No member of the school's coaching staff or other representative of the school's athletic interest may serve as the host family for any Youth Exchange student.
- (c) Required Course of study - The youth exchange or international student must be enrolled in a full year traditional academic track that leads the student to obtaining his original high school diploma by the member school. The student must be enrolled for one full school year at the member school and in attendance at the local member-school campus. Enrollment in a program of shorter duration or use of correspondence courses/distance learning to obtain compliance is prohibited.
- (d) Must Not Have Been Athletically Recruited - The Youth Exchange or International student must not have been recruited or selected to attend the member school for athletic reasons by any individual or

agency, whether or not associated with the school's athletic interest. Any contact by athletic staff beyond introduction into athletic programs, schedules and requirements shall be considered athletic recruiting and is in violation of the FCAPPS Athletic Recruiting Policy.

- (e) Must not be a Graduate - The Youth Exchange or International student must not have completed their terminal grade in either the U.S. or his/her home country. Youth exchange students will not be eligible once they have completed the terminal grade in either the U.S. or their home country. A student, who has graduated, even if they have graduated early, is considered to have reached their terminal grade.
- (f) international and Youth Exchange Form Required The student and his/her parent or legal guardian along with the schools head administrator must complete and sign the International and Youth Exchange Registration Form – Attachment (e)
- (g) All Other FCAPPS Eligibility Requirements Must Be Met

## Article VII. ATHLETIC RECRUITING POLICY

### **Section 3.01** Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to assist the League in establishing fair play amongst the member schools by providing clear guidelines, rules, regulations and requirements for various activities that may be related to Athletic Recruiting.

### **Section 3.02** Athletic Recruiting Defined

- (a) FCAPPS defines Athletic Recruiting as any act or action that exerts undue influence on a student athlete to attend or remain a student at an FCAPPS member school for the purposes of athletic participation including interviews, incentives, and evaluations, on or off field coaching or any other activity related to the sport that is not expressly permitted in this policy.
- (b) Athletic recruiting is a gross violation of the spirit and philosophy of educational athletics. Athletic Recruiting is unethical and unsporting conduct, and is forbidden by FCAPPS Policy.

### **Section 3.03** School's Responsibility

Schools are wholly responsible for the following:

- (a) The acts of any employee or athletic department staff member.
- (b) The acts of third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization that is a representative of the school's athletic interests when a member of the school's administration or athletic department staff knows or should know that the person, business or organization is promoting the school's interscholastic athletic program.
- (c) The acts of any other third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, acting at the request, direction, or otherwise on behalf of any employee or representative of the school's athletic interests.
- (d) The acts of any other third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, acting on behalf of any student athlete.
- (e) Informing student athletes and their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of potential eligibility issues related to the participation by the student athlete in non-school athletic activities (e.g. AAU team, club team, travel team, recreation league team, etc.) affiliated with the school through one of its coaches or other athletic department staff members or a representative of the school's.

- (f) Disclosing any potential infractions or potential appearance of impropriety to the FCAPPS Compliance Officer as soon as is reasonably possible.

### **Section 3.04** Promotional Material, Open Houses, etc

Schools are welcome and encouraged to advertise the availability of FCAPPS athletic programs. This can be done via open houses, promotional material, or advertisements provided the athletic program is presented in conjunction with and in support of the academic programs or value of the institution. Marketing of the athletic program in a way that raises it above the academic programs of the institution is forbidden.

### **Section 3.05** Unauthorized Contact with perspective students

Contact, either directly or indirectly, whether in person or through written or electronic communication, by a school employee, athletic department staff member, representative of the school's athletic interests or third parties, such as an independent person, business or organization, with a student or any member of the student's family, in an effort to evaluate talent or to pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a different school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics is strictly prohibited.

### **Section 3.06** Contact Initiated by Prospective or Future Student

When a school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of a school's athletic interests is contacted by a student who does not attend that school and/or any other member of his/her family, about the school's interscholastic athletic program or attending the school, the school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school's athletic interests must immediately refer the student and/or his/her family member to the appropriate school personnel who have the responsibility of registering and admitting prospective students. Only during the summer off-season period, as defined in the Off-Season and Spring Practice Policy, and once the student has registered, been accepted and no longer attends the previous school may the student have contact with athletic department staff members or representatives of a school's athletic interests.

### **Section 3.07** Casual Contact with Students

It is not considered a violation of this policy for an employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of a high school to have casual contact with a student who does not attend that school or any member of the student's family in a normal community setting. At no time during such contact, shall the employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the athletic interests of the school pressure, urge or entice the student to attend a school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.

### **Section 3.08** Coaches Participation in Other Off-Season Camps or Clinics

Coaches and or Staff Members from FCAPPS Schools may participate or instruct in Off Season Player Camps provided the following criteria are met:

- (a) The event is hosted by a third party (not-for-profit organization), of which the coach is not an organizer, supervisor or owner, etc.
- (b) The coach does not wear any school attire which identifies the school with which the coach is affiliated.
- (c) The coach participates in an instructional capacity only.
- (d) If the coaches school has a Middle School Team the students being instructed or coached must be 4th grade or below.
- (e) If the coaches school has only a High School Team the students being instructed or coached must be 7th grade or below.

### **Section 3.09** Extra Benefits Prohibited

Student-athletes must not receive extra benefits, which are benefits that are not offered or generally made available to all other students in the school. This may include but not be limited to the following examples:

- (a) Flexible Attendance
- (b) Academic Workload
- (c) Payment for play, attendance or any other incentive
- (d) Free Transportation beyond what is available to all other students
- (e) Any other benefit, large or small, offered to an athlete that is not offered to the school at large.

### **Section 3.10** Financial Aid and Scholarships

FCAPPS understands the desire and need for some students to obtain financial assistance in order to attend their school of choice. FCAPPS strongly supports providing this opportunity to students who are in need. However, the school must ensure that it has the safeguards, checks and balances, in place that prevent pseudo "Pay for Play" scenarios.

### **Section 3.11** School Administered Financial Aid

- (a) Schools may administer school-based financial assistance programs for students who attend those schools. Financial assistance must be totally unrelated to a student's athletic interest, potential or performance. Financial assistance based even partially on a student's athletic interest, potential or performance is not permitted.
- (b) Potential evidence of impropriety would be a situation where an inordinate percentage of athletes were receiving financial aid in comparison to the overall student population. Such a situation would indicate impropriety and must be avoided.
- (c) Athletic department staff members, other than those persons who have as their major responsibility an official leadership role in the academic leadership or admission programs of the school, are prohibited from sitting on the school's financial assistance committee or otherwise playing any role in the process of deciding which students receive financial assistance or the types or amount of assistance they will be given.

### **Section 3.12** Contributions by Donor **Contributions by Donor**

Funds that are donated to schools by persons, businesses and organizations may be given as financial assistance to students provided the decision as to how the funds are allocated rests exclusively with the school. It is not permissible for a donor to contribute funds to provide financial assistance for a particular student-athlete.

### **Section 3.13** *State Administered Scholarships*

#### State Administered Scholarships

Some students may qualify for and may gain approval for State administered scholarships such as Opportunity Scholarship, McKay Scholarship, etc. However, the school may not exercise any undue influence in the provisioning of these scholarships and must not seek out qualified applicants for athletic purposes.

## Article VIII. OFF-SEASON POLICY

- (a) The purpose of this policy is to establish boundary conditions and clear regulations regarding permissible forms of "off-season" contact with student athletes and the administrative requirements

of such activity which will aid the league in ensuring fair and balanced play across the league for any given sport.

- (b) This policy is applicable to all FCAPPS Soccer Teams without exception and further it should be assumed that if a particular activity is not documented herein as acceptable it is to be considered unacceptable unless written authorization to the entire membership is provided. Exceptions will be delivered to the entire membership not just one particular school.

### **Section 4.02 Academic Off-Season Period**

This period will be considered the “quiet period” for soccer. Coaches may have a liberal amount of contact with student athletes who are enrolled at their school but there must be no organized soccer instruction or practice periods of any kind during this period. The intention is to promote well-rounded students that are able to focus on academics and to allow them to participate in other activities and sports such as basketball, football, baseball, etc.

### **Section 4.03 Exclusions**

The following paragraphs outline exclusions or limitations of this policy:

- (a) Player Led Practices - Player led practices are permitted and will not be considered OTA’s as long as the school, faculty or other assigned adults do not assist, facilitate, direct, encourage or sponsor such activity in ANY WAY. The use of school property or rented property is strictly forbidden. In order to qualify as a Player Led practice it must be totally run by the players without any participation of the school staff whatsoever.
- (b) Physical Conditioning Sessions - Physical conditioning session is permissible and encouraged however activity in the inclusion of soccer scrimmages and/or games are not allowed. Coaches are permitted to conduct these sessions at their discretion but there can be no soccer specific development skill involved.

## **Article IX CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT**

### **Section 5.01 Concussion Management Plan Required**

- (a) FCAPPS requires its member schools to have a concussion management plan in accordance on file and available for use by sideline personnel at all FCAPPS activities and related practices. Concussion management plan should be built in accordance with ss. 943.0438 and 1006.20, F.S.
- (b) All member school personnel, players and parents are encouraged to educate themselves
- (c)

### **Section 5.02 Parental Awareness and Release**

Each student-athlete and their parent or legal guardian, duly appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, must sign and submit the Participant Liability and Release Form. Schools will make all reasonable efforts to ensure parents have read and understand the Concussion Awareness for Parents/Guardians document affixed to the release form.

## **Article X. PERSONAL CONDUCT POLICY**

### **PERSONAL CONDUCT POLICY**

Schools will enforce the below personal conduct policy on behalf of FCAPPS during all FCAPPS events. Failure to do so will result in fines, suspension or expulsion from FCAPPS.

## Section 6.01 Parental Conduct

- (a) Parents are not permitted to not bring alcohol or illegal drugs to any games or practices.
- (b) The use profanity around players, fans or officials is strictly prohibited.
- (c) Parents shall not address the referees during the game, the only exception being to point out emergencies or safety issues. (After the completion of the game, parents may politely ask for referee to explain the rules surrounding the call made during the game.)
- (d) Parents will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials.
- (e) Parents must treat all players, coaches, fans and officials with respect. Parents will encourage fair play.
- (f) Violations of the FCAPPS Personal Conduct Policy may result in suspension or expulsion from FCAPPS Athletics.

## Section 6.02 Player Code of Conduct

- (a) Players must obey their parents, coaches, assistant coaches and referees at FCAPPS events and while traveling to such events. Disrespect, arguing, fighting will not be tolerated.
- (b) Players must refrain from rough physical contact with other students, such as hitting, punching and tripping.
- (c) Players must refrain from all forms of inappropriate sexual behavior.
- (d) Players are expected to treat the post -game prayer time with proper reverence. Jokes, songs, conversation or behavior that treat the Lord's name, character or institutions with triviality are not permitted.
- (e) Players will refrain from language and actions which are vulgar, inappropriate and demeaning to either God or mankind. Inappropriate teasing, criticizing, put-downs, insults and name-calling are not permitted.
- (f) Players will demonstrate honesty in all their dealings with one another and their coaches.
- (g) Players will respect property and belongings of others.
- (h) The possession and use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco or weapons of any sort is strictly forbidden on the school grounds, at any practice or game, or while being transported to a practice or game or FCAPPS event.
- (i) Players representing FCAPPS or their home school when in public will dress appropriately, Boys/Girls will not wear pants that are sagging and expose underwear. Players will not wear clothing that is sexually revealing or immodest.
- (j) Players will not wear any jewelry during a game or event.
- (k) Players understand that neither FCAPPS nor your home school will be held responsible for any lost or damages to personal property at any game or activity.

## Article XI. PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

### Section 7.01 Penalties

Failure to comply with FCAPPS Compliance Policies will result in Penalties in accordance with the following:

- (a) Eligibility Effect of Violation for Students
- (b) A student who is found to have been athletically recruited or is found to have received an impermissible student was athletically recruited or at which he/she received the impermissible benefit, and may be declared ineligible for interscholastic athletic competition at all member schools for one or more years.
- (c) Other Disciplinary Measures for Infraacting Schools FCAPPS reserves the right to exercise one or more of the following disciplinary measures on the infraacting school:
  - (d) Loss of League Championships or Titles
  - (e) Forfeiture of Contests
  - (f) Temporary Suspension
  - (g) Indefinite Suspension – Reinstatement Required

- (h) Expulsion
- (i) Public Reprimand
- (j) Financial Penalties (Fines)

### **Section 7.02** Appeal of Compliance or Eligibility Decision

- (a) When a school or individual student is determined to be ineligible and/or otherwise disqualified by the FCAPPS Compliance Officer based upon any provision this policy, the member school's principal (or equivalent) may appeal the ruling of the FCAPPS Compliance Officer.
- (b) Initial Appeals must be submitted directly to the FCAPPS Compliance Officer in written form clearly stating all circumstances and mitigating factors of the matter including justification for the appeal. Letters of Appeal will only be accepted if signed by the schools Head Administrator (i.e. Principle or Headmaster).
- (c) If after consideration, the FCAPPS Compliance Officer elects to uphold the original decision and/or deny the appeal the school will have the right to take the appeal to the Commissioner for final consideration.
- (d) The FCAPPS Compliance Officer may elect to increase or decrease the penalty administered by the FCAPPS Compliance Officer and the decision will be final with no further avenue of appeal.

### **Section 7.03** Request for Hardship Waiver

The member school principal may file a request for undue hardship waiver on behalf of the student when, in his/her opinion, enforcement of the provision(s) which render(s) the student ineligible would work an undue hardship upon the student. The member school will utilize the appeals process in Section 7.02 above to request such a waiver. In addition, the student:

- (a) Must not have graduated from high school.
- (b) Must not have played more than four years while in high school – grades 9-12.
- (c) Must not be older than 19 years 9 months of age.
- (d) Must be enrolled in a full course of study in pursuit of high school diploma.
- (e) Must not have spent more than two semesters in grade twelve (12).
- (f) Observed all provisions of the Athletic Amateur Rule.
- (g) Must be otherwise eligible.

## **Article XII. PLAYER CERTIFICATION**

Schools must submit team certifications to the FCAPPS Compliance Officer for every prior to participation in any FCAPPS sport, scrimmage, jamboree or game. This section lays out requirements for Player and Team Certification.

### **Section 8.01** Agreement to Comply and Disclose

By submitting Player and Team Certification, schools are stipulating that their team is in compliance with this manual and agree to comply with all of the policies herein. Furthermore, teams agree to disclose any compliance violations to the FCAPPS Compliance Officer immediately upon discovery

#### **Special note:**

Compliance Packet will no longer be required to be on the sideline of each game. Schools are still required to have emergency information and a medical release forms for each player at all team gathering and/or events.

### **Section 8.04** Change Control Process

- (a) Changes - Changes to the team compliance packet and certified roster must be approved by the FCAPPS Compliance Officer. The Certified Roster for each team including changes will be provided to the membership as a whole via email notification.
- (a) Additions - Additions to the roster will be accepted through the first 3 weeks of the season and will generally receive approval as long as eligibility requirements are met and certification paperwork is in order.

## Article XIII. SCHOOL CERTIFICATION (HIGH SCHOOL)

### **Section 9.01** School Certification Requirement

Starting 2016, all schools applying for membership in any FCAPPS varsity sports must be accredited by one of the accrediting agencies listed below.

High schools and home education cooperatives are exempt from the accreditation requirement.

Any school applying for membership must have at least started the process of accreditation upon submitting an application for membership into FCAPPS and must have full accreditation achieved by an agreed upon time. Until a school has reached full accreditation, they will be placed on probation and will not be able to participate in the state playoff series. In addition, they will not be guaranteed a set number of games.

All members must maintain their accreditation in order to remain a member of FCAPPS. Should a school lose their accreditation; they must immediately notify FCAPPS and ask for a grace period while trying to re-gain their accreditation.

Depending on the circumstance, FCAPPS may or may not grant this grace period, and will determine the length of time to extend this grace period.

### Accrediting Agencies

#### **Association of Christian Schools International**

P.O. Box 65130  
Colorado Springs, CO 80962-5130  
Phone: (719) 528-6909  
<http://www.acsi.org>

#### **Association of Christian Teachers and Schools**

P.O. Box 8437  
Rockford, IL 61126  
Phone: (815) 239-6673  
<http://www.actsschools.org/>

#### **Association of Independent Schools of Florida**

1001 West Cypress Creek Road, Suite 320C  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309  
Phone: (954) 267-9496  
<http://www.aisfl.com>

**Christian Schools of Florida**

P.O. Box 1764

Crystal River, FL 34423-1764

Phone: (352) 601-3880

<http://www.christianschoolsfl.org>

**CGACS (Church of God Association of Christian Schools)**

3736 Cragmont Drive

Tampa, FL 33619

(813) 620-3366

**Council of Bilingual Schools**

12101 SW 34th Street

Miami, FL 33175

Phone: (305) 552-0202

<http://www.cobisschools.com>

**Episcopal Diocese of Florida**

352 Market Street

Jacksonville, FL 32202

Phone: (904) 356-1328

<http://www.diocesefl.org>

**Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools**

P.O. Box 277807

Miramar, FL 33027

Phone: (954) 517-9500

<http://www.faccs.org>

**Florida Council of Private Schools**

P.O. Box 50327

Ft. Myers, FL 33994

Attn: Dr. Bob Calvert

Executive Director

EMAIL: [info@floridacps.org](mailto:info@floridacps.org)

**Florida Catholic Conference**

201 West Park Avenue

Tallahassee, FL 32301-7715

Phone: (850) 222-3803

<http://www.flacathconf.org>

**Florida Coalition of Christian Private Schools Accreditation**

P.O. Box 5100

Deltona, FL 32728-5100

Phone: (386) 218-5310

<http://www.fccpsa.org>

**Florida Conference of Seventh-Day Adventist Schools**

655 North Wymore Road

Revision 2018-04-01

Winter Park, FL 32789-1715  
Phone: (407) 644-5000  
<http://www.floridaconference.com>

**Florida Council of Independent Schools**  
1211 North Westshore Boulevard, Suite 612  
Tampa, FL 33607  
Phone: (813) 287-2820  
<http://www.fcis.org>

**Florida League of Christian Schools**  
1437 East Memorial Boulevard  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
Phone: (863) 683-5726  
<http://www.flocs.org>

**Lutheran Schools Florida-Georgia District**  
7207 Monetary Drive  
Orlando, FL 32809-5753  
Phone: (407) 857-5556  
<http://www.flga-lcms.org>

**National Association for Christian Education**  
4325 Highway 17  
Fleming Island, FL 32003  
Phone: (904) 343 - 1561  
<http://www.info@naceoffice.org>

**National Independent Private School Association**  
10134 SW 78th Court  
Miami, FL 33156  
Phone: (305) 630-2557  
<http://www.nipsa.org>

**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools**  
Council on Accreditation and School Improvement  
Commissions on Elementary, Middle and Secondary Schools  
1866 Southern Lane  
Decatur, GA 30033  
Phone: (404) 679-4500  
<http://www.sacscasi.org>

## Article XIV. SOCCER SPORTS SPECIFIC RULES

### FCAPPS SOCCER LEAUGE 2018

Unless otherwise stated below the FCAPPSs soccer league will defer to the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) Rule book. The NFHS rulebook will be final ruling on all issues regarding the FCAPPS soccer league for Spring 2018. The League Commissioner will have final say on all issues and all Schools participating in the league agree to any and all rulings made by Commissioner and/or his designee or Governing Board Howard.

#### Rule 101 DIVISIONS

There will be three Divisions

- A. Varsity Boys division only
- B. Varsity Girls only division
- C. A mixed (boys and girls) Middle School/Junior High division.

#### Rule 101A TEAM ROSTERS

Teams will provide the director with official rosters prior to the first game of the season. All team rosters will be due on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Roster changes can only be made by the 3<sup>rd</sup> league game. No roster changes may be made after the third game. Roster changes after the 3<sup>rd</sup> league game will only be made on special appeal to the league. Teams should bring 2 extra copies of their rosters to every game-one to give to the opposing coach and one the head official.

#### Rule 102 SEASON DURATION

The Season will start on March 10, 2018 and run through April 25, 2018 (all regular season games must be finished on 4/25/18).

#### Rule 103 END OF YEAR TOURNAMENT

We will have a FCAPPS State Cup tournament on Friday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018-location to be determined.

#### Rule 201 GAME FORMAT

- A. For Varsity games-each side will have 8 players (7 field players and 1 goalie). In the event that a team does not have 8 players, they may play with 7 players, but no less than 6 players. If a team does not have 8 players, the Coach from the opposing team may agree to play a reduced format and play 7 vs. 7 (6 field players and 1 goalie).
- B. Games shall consist of two 40 minute halves with a 5-10 minute break between halves. Referees will also have the freedom to call for a water break at the 15-20 minute mark of the half, the water break will be for 2-3 minutes.
- C. For Middle School games, each side will have 8 player (7 field players and 1 goalie). Games shall consist of two 30 minute halves with a 5-10 minute break between halves. Water breaks will also be allowed for Middle School games.

## Rule 202 UNIFORMS REQUIREMENTS

Schools must wear matching shirts, shorts and socks (i.e. one student can't be wearing white socks and fellow teammates wear blue socks). Team Uniforms must have a player's number clearly marked on the back of the jersey. It is preferred that team shirts have the school's name or logo on the front of the jersey. It is strongly suggested that teams would have a home and away jersey, but this is not mandatory. If there is a clash in team colors, schools may opt to have one team wear pennies to distinguish the two teams.

## Rule 203 SAFETY ITEMS

Players must have molded cleats (no metal spikes) and shin guards. Goalies may wear padded shirts/shorts and goalie gloves. No Jewelry is allowed (earrings, chains etc..) and must remove before the game. Cast or protective gear maybe allowed per NFHS rules and guidelines.

## Rule 203A CLEATS/FOOTWEAR

We no longer allow Football cleats for use in soccer- any player wearing Football cleats will not be allowed to play in a league game.

## Rule 203B GAME BALLS

Game Balls: All Schools will be required to have a minimum of 3 game balls at each home game-Game balls must be NFHS (must have the NFHS stamp on the ball) or high end tournament soccer ball from our league partner Admiral soccer.

## Rule 204 Standings and Point System

- A. Teams will receive 3 points for a win
- B. 1 point for a tie
- C. And 0 points for a loss.
- D. Coaches will be encouraged not to run up scores and to make this a positive experience for the students.
- E. Coaches will submit the game results and player stats to max-prep website within 24 hours of the conclusion of a game.
- F. Player stats must be submitted within 24 hrs of the game-schools that wait till the end of the season to post player stats, will have those stats negated and will not count. Awards will be given at the end of the year for top conference goal keeping (goals against average) , assist leaders, and goal scoring. All stats will be based upon max-prep website-no other means will determine stat leaders.

## Rule 205 Conference Championship and State Championship

- A. FCAPPS soccer will both have a West Conference and an East Conference for 2018.
- B. After regular season play, the team in each conference that has the most points will win the conference and head to the state playoff against the other conference champions (West vs East).
- C. In the event that there is a tie in point for the conference championship a one game playoff will occur. Director Dolan will flip a coin to determine which team will play at home, unless a neutral venue can't be found. If no winner is determined after regulation play, teams will play two five minute overtimes (no golden goal). If no winner is determined by overtime, teams will go to 5 v 5 penalty kicks to determine a winner. If a winner can not be determined after 5 penalty kicks, then the game goes to sudden death Penalty kicks.

- D. There will be both a West and East Conference Champions based upon league points during the regular season. Once it is determined which team is the conference champs, the East and West Conference will play a two game playoff (one game at home and one game away).
- E. The aggregate score of the two games will determine the State Championship (away goals will determine the championship if there is a tie after two games with away goals weighted more than home goals scored). If there is still a tie after aggregate goal count, teams will go to overtime (two -5 minute overtime halves). If there is still not winner after overtime, then the game will go to penalty kicks and then sudden death penalty kicks(see section c above).

### Rule 301 FIELD SIZE

- A. The Varsity Field sized must be anywhere from 50-60 yards wide by 70-80 yards in length.
- B. The Goalie box and penalty box must be proportional equal to the field size.
- C. Each goal area must have a penalty marker 12 yards from the goal.
- D. Field lines should be clearly marked and corner flags should be in place on all four corners with clearly marked corner arcs. Corner flags are required for each field (no exceptions).
- E. All teams must submit a field diagram to the league director before the beginning of the season (March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017).

### Rule 302 FIELD SIZE

- A. The Middle School sized field will be 50-60 yards wide by 70-80 yards in length.
- B. Goalie boxes, penalty boxes, and center circle shall be proportional equal to the field size.
- C. Field lines should be clearly marked and corner flags should be in place on all four corners with clearly marked corner arcs.

### Rule 401 GOAL SIZE

- A. Teams may have either an 8x24 feet goals or 7x21 feet goals w/proper nets.
- B. Goals should be properly secured to prevent movement during the game.
- C. Teams must have the same sized goals at either end of the field.

### Rule 501 OFFSIDES

Offsides will be in effect and will be called by the referees when the ref deems offsides has occurred

### Rule 601 REFEREES

- A. Two referees shall officiate all FCAPPS games.
- B. The home team will be responsible for payment of the referees.

### Rule 602 BOOKING PROCEDURES

- A. Coaches shall email their home schedule to each regional ref assignor in order to schedule games.
- B. Coaches or AD's will be responsible to give the Ref Assignor 24 hr notice if a game is to be canceled or rescheduled.
- C. If 24 hours' notice is not given, the home school will be responsible to pay the ref fees even if no game was played, unless the away/visiting team does not give due notice for a cancellation-then the visiting team will be responsible for the ref fees if no just cause is given for the game cancellation. In the event of a dispute-League Director Dolan will determine which school will have to pay the fee for the cancelled game and all schools will submit to that decision that join the Fcapps soccer league.

- D. Schools that have a history of not paying their ref assignor, maybe subject to a security deposit determined by your area ref assignor. If so determined by the regional ref assignor, a specified school would need to send the ref assignor a pre-determined deposit. If all ref assignor fees are paid in a timely manner, the ref assignor will refund the deposit back to that school.
- E. Schools may only used approved regional ref assignors for their games, no independent ref's will be allowed to be used at any Fcapps conference game-use of illegal officials will cause the home team (paying ref team) to forfeit the game and possible incur fines from the league.
- F. Schools will appoint a School Administrator for each home game (this can not be a member of the coaching staff), the School Administrator will be responsible for ensuring that officials are not harassed or accosted, before, during or after a game. The School Administrator will be responsible for walking game officials back to their cars and ensuring that the officials are safe and are able to leave the game without incident. Any reports of game officials being harassed will be cause for fines and possible suspension from the league (to be determined by Fcapps director and commissioner).

### Rule 603 COMMUNICATIONS WITH GAME OFFICIALS

- A. All Coaches and Players must give respect and courtesy to game officials regardless of the outcome.
- B. Any Coach or School that harasses or yells at any game official may be reprimanded by League's Director and/or the leagues Commissioner.
- C. Punishment includes but not limited to player or coach suspension or removal from the league for repeat offenders as well as possible monetary fines.
- D. The Director and/or Commissioner reserve the right to review these issues on a case by case basis and determine appropriate action/fines/suspensions.

### Rule 701 SUBSTITUTIONS

Please refer to NFHS rules on substitutions.

### Rule 801 RED/YELLOW CARDS

- A. A player awarded a Red Card will be removed from the field and not allowed to play for the rest of the game. Also, his or her team will play short-handed for the rest of the game.
- B. Any player that receives a Red Card will have to serve a 2 game suspension from the next league games.
- C. Any player that receives two Yellow Cards during the game will receive
  1. A Red Card after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Yellow Card and will also serve out a two game suspension
  2. As well as his/her team will play short-handed for the rest of the game.
- D. Any player who repeatedly has Red Cards in successive games will have his or her status as a FCAPPS player reviewed by the Director and/or Commissioner. The Leagues Commissioner will have final say on the status/eligibility of that player.
- E. Any Coach or Assistant Coach that receives a Red Card and is ejected from a game will receive a \$150 fine that will be assessed to that Coaches School.
- F. There will be no Blue card issued this season (our referees will be advised of no blue cards). Any blue card received in a game, it will be the equivalent of a red card for the league purposes and rules.
- G. If a player receives a red card (or two yellow) the coach or AD of that school must report the incident within 24 hrs (a simple email to Director Dolan will suffice).
- H. School Coaches or AD's may appeal a suspension if the card was received for tactical reasons. Director Dolan and Commissioner Howard reserve all rights on suspension reviews and all decisions will be final.

## Rule 901 CLUB PLAYERS/CLUB PLAYER ELIGIBILITY/FHSSA PLAYERS

Any player that played for a public or private High School in any capacity in 2017-2018 in the Florida High School Athletic Association League (FHSSA) will not be eligible to play in FCAPPS for the 2018 Spring Season. Any player that plays Club soccer, may play both club soccer and Fcapps soccer at the same time (with no limitations on time periods that a player may play both FCAPPS and club play). Any games played by a school with an illegal FHSSA player will be forfeited and the school using such players will be subject to fines and/or possible suspension from the league.

## Rule 902 SLAUGHTER RULE/CALL OF THE DOGS RULE/GOAL COUNTS

Teams/schools that leave their 1<sup>st</sup> team ("a" players" ) in the game against a much weaker opponent in order to run up the score and do not put in their bench players, maybe be subject to a fine of \$500 for un-sportsmen like conduct. Regarding games, once a team goes up 8-0 and plays at least one half of the game, the game is officially considered over. If a team beats another team by 8-0, but both teams agree to continue play, the teams may continue to play the game, but no additional goals over 8 will be counted in the standings and coaches may not count any additional goals or assists after the game is called. . Coaches may only count the goals/assists prior to the game being called.

## Rule 903 GAME SCHEDULING

Team will be notified in Mid February (2018) of what conference they will be in as well as which teams/schools will need to be schedule as a home and away games. Once notified, schools will need to contact each other and begin scheduling. All games must be scheduled and completed before 4/25/18.

## Rule 904 Additional Rules

Fcapps soccer will follow all established NFHS rules, including rulings on kickoffs, offside etc.

## Article XV. GAME PROTEST GRIEVANCE AND DISPUTES

### ***Section 101*** Binding arbitration

FCAPPS is a Christian based organization and therefore, does not believe in law suits and court action against our member schools. We adhere to the following Bible Scripture References.

#### A. Brother Who Sins Against You (Matthew 18:15 - 17)

If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. 16. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. 17. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen, even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

B. Lawsuits among Believers (1 Corinthians 6:1 - 8)

If any of you has a dispute with another, dare he take it to the ungodly for judgment instead of before the saints? **2.** Do you not know that the saints will judge the world and if you are to judge the world; are you not competent to judge trivial cases? **3.** Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! **4.** Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters; appoint as judges even men of little account in the church! **5.** I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is no body among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers? **6.** But instead, one brother goes to law against another-and this in front of unbelievers! **7.** The very fact that you have law suits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? **8.** Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers.

**Section 102** As a condition and term of membership in FCAPPS Soccer League

All schools must agree to settle all grievances, game disputes and game protest through binding Arbitration. All disputes and protests must be submitted in writing and submitted to the Soccer League's Director along with a \$100.00 security fee refundable upon appearance at the grievance committee Meeting.

- A. The committee will consisting of several Representatives from member schools.
- B. These Representatives will convene to review the matter, and make a recommendation.
- C. The Committee's findings will be **final and binding**.  
FCAPPS Board and/or Commissioner Reserves the right to rule in any matters not covered in this policy.

**Section 103** Types of Meeting:

1. A formal gathering of Representatives
2. Conference phone calls
3. Corresponding by electronic means – via e-mail and/or fax,

**Section 104** Exceptions

Due to time constraints, the League's Commissioner may rule on Grievance, Disputes and Game Protests without meeting formally with a board. . The decision of the Commissioner is final and cannot be appealed.

**Section 201** Loss of Membership

Any school official, its students, and/or their parents, or any one acting on behalf of the school, who files or attempts to file civil actions against FCAPPS, or any member school will cause this contract and membership to be terminated for a period of not less than two years. All games will be suspended and all previous games played will be ruled as a forfeit.

**Section 301** Game Protest

It is the strong belief of FCAPPS that contests should be won or lost on the field of play. Protests should seldom occur, however, if a school or Coach feels the need to file a formal protect, he/she may do so. In filing a protest, he/she must be careful not to defame the reputation of any school, coach, or player. He/she should reframe from sending information to other coach in FCAPPS League or other outsider who was not involved in the game or a witness to the questionable violation.

**Section 302** Defamation of Character

Defined as:

1. The law, defamation, vilification, slander, or libel is the communication of a statement that makes a false claim, expressively stated or implied to be factual which in turn may harm the reputation
2. Any intentional false communication, either written or spoken, that harms the reputation of an individual, business, product, group.

## Article XVI TOURNAMENT AND FEES

### Section 101 FEES

Each year, at the annual meeting, the league director will determine the individual cost per team to enter a team into the FCAPPS Statewide Tournament. This amount will be based on the total overhead cost to facilitate the event. It is also understood that this cost could be slightly higher if a vendor or field provider raises their price – then the necessary adjustment will be added into the cost. League Fees will be \$100 per school and are due on 1/31/18. Tournament fees will be \$300 per Team and are also due on 1/31/18. Any fees not postmarked by 1/31/18 will be subject to late fees and fines (\$50 for every week late).

### Section 102 TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

The end of the year tournament will be an open invitational tournament. Director Dolan and Commissioner Howard will reserve the right to invite non-conference or out of state teams that are in line with our league values and of similar talent and caliber as our conference member teams/schools.



## FCAPPS Home School Academic Eligibility Form

The parent/guardian must complete and sign this form or a similar form in the presence of notary public and presented to the school at which the student wishes to participate. All attachments are required and must be submitted with this form. *(An Alternate form may be used with the consent of FCAPPS Commissioner).* This form must be completed and filed with the school Office prior to student participating in any Practices, Games, Contest and/or Events with the school. This and all Students records must be made available for review and/or inspection to FCAPPS upon request.

Student's name First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ **Grade he was in during the previous school year: \_\_\_<sup>th</sup>**

Home address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

### High School Record

*Please attach any transcripts from classes taken at any public, private or umbrella or FLVS Institution,*

9<sup>th</sup> grade: Year 20\_\_\_\_

Subjects	Subject grade	G.P.A.	Grade subject level
Other			
Other			
Other			
English			
History			
Math			
Science			

**Accumulate GPA:** \_\_\_\_\_

Where were subjects taken? \_\_\_\_\_

10<sup>th</sup> grade: Year 20\_\_\_\_

Subjects	Subject grade	G.P.A.	Grade subject level
Other			
Other			
Other			
English			
History			
Math			
Science			

Accumulate GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Where were subjects taken? \_\_\_\_\_

11<sup>th</sup> grade: Year 20\_\_\_\_

Subjects	Subject grade	G.P.A.	Grade subject level
Other			
Other			
Other			
English			
History			
Math			
Science			

Accumulate GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Where were subjects taken? \_\_\_\_\_

12<sup>th</sup> grade: Year 20\_\_\_\_

*If student is:*

- 1. A returning senior and has not graduated.*
- 2. Has not played football four year (grades 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>).*
- 3. Is academically eligible.*

Subjects	Subject grade	G.P.A.	Grade subject level
Other			
Other			
Other			
English			
History			



Notary Public  
My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Signatures of parent and student must be notarized.**



## FCAPPS Participant Liability Waiver Form

### Participant Conditions

FCAPPS and/or any member school, or any of its employees, directors, officers, agents, representatives, or assigns reserves the rights in its sole discretion to refuse entry, or to remove any participant, spectator including his/her Guest from their property (the "Facility") or from participation in any activity organized by FCAPPS and/or any member school, for any reason whatsoever. Any such refusal of entry or removal by FCAPPS and/or any member school shall be its sole discretion. FCAPPS and/or any member school shall not be responsible for the safekeeping, loss, theft, or damage of any participant's property or the property of any guest that is brought into the facility. Participant shall comply with and observe all rules and regulations of FCAPPS and/or any member school, and the terms and conditions of this agreement at all time and shall assure that their Guest(s) complies with and observes the same.

### Waiver

To the best of our knowledge, my Son/Daughter is in good physical condition and fully able to participate in all FCAPPS sports, events, and/or activities. I, We are fully aware of the risks and hazards connected with the participation in FCAPPS sports, events, and/or activities including CONCUSSION, other physical injury or even death, and hereby elect to voluntarily participate in said event, knowing that the associated physical activity may be hazardous to me, my child and our property.

I have and understand read the FCAPPS Concussion Awareness Statement (Attached) and I VOLUNTARILY ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY RISKS OR LOSS, PROPERTY DAMAGE, OR PERSONAL INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH, which may be sustained by me, my child or loss or damage to property, owned by me, my child, as a result of participation in FCAPPS sports, events, and/or activities.

I hereby RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE, FCAPPS, their officers, volunteers, agents, and employees (hereinafter referred to as RELEASEES) from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, my child, or to any property belonging to me, while participating in physical activity, or while on or upon the premises

where the event is being conducted.

It is my expressed intent that this release and hold harmless agreement shall bind the members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns and personal representative, if I am deceased, and shall be deemed as a RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE, and CONVENTION TO SUE the above named RELEASEES.

I hereby further agree that this Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement shall be constructed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida.

In signing this release, I acknowledge and represent that I HAVE READ THE FORGOING Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement, UNDERSTAND IT AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements or inducements, apart from the foregoing written agreements have been made; and I EXECUTE THIS RELEASE FOR FULL, ADEQUATE AND COMPLETE CONSIDERATION FULLY INTENDING TO BE BOUND BY SAME.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator/Teacher Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



## Concussion Management and Awareness

### What is a concussion?

Concussion is a brain injury. Concussions, as well as all other head injuries, are serious. They can be caused by a bump, a twist of the head, sudden deceleration or acceleration, a blow or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with force transmitted to the head. You can't see a concussion, and more than 90% of all concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. All concussions are potentially serious and, if not managed properly, may result in complications including brain damage and, in rare cases, even death. Even a "ding" or a bump on the head can be serious. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, your child should be immediately removed from play, evaluated by a medical professional and cleared by a medical doctor.

### What are the signs and symptoms of concussion?

Concussion symptoms may appear immediately after the injury or can take several days to appear. Studies have shown that it takes on average 10-14 days or longer for symptoms to resolve and, in rare cases or if the athlete has sustained multiple concussions, the symptoms can be prolonged. Signs and symptoms of concussion can include: (not all-inclusive)

- Vacant stare or seeing stars
- Lack of awareness of surroundings
- Emotions out of proportion to circumstances (inappropriate crying or anger)
- Headache or persistent headache, nausea, vomiting
- Altered vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Delayed verbal and motor responses
- Disorientation, slurred or incoherent speech
- Dizziness, including light-headedness, vertigo (spinning) or loss of equilibrium (being off balance or swimming sensation)
- Decreased coordination, reaction time
- Confusion and inability to focus attention
- Memory loss • Sudden change in academic performance or drop in grades
- Irritability, depression, anxiety, sleep disturbances, easy fatigability
- In rare cases, loss of consciousness

### What can happen if my child keeps on playing with a concussion or returns too soon?

Athletes with signs and symptoms of concussion should be removed from activity (play or practice) immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the young athlete especially vulnerable to sustaining another concussion. Athletes who sustain a second concussion before the symptoms of the first concussion have resolved and the brain has had a chance to heal are at risk for prolonged concussion symptoms, permanent disability and even death (called "Second Impact Syndrome" where the brain swells uncontrollably). There is also evidence

that multiple concussions can lead to long-term symptoms, including early dementia.

**What do I do if I suspect my child has suffered a concussion?**

Any athlete suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the activity immediately. No athlete may return to activity after an apparent head injury or concussion, regardless of how mild it seems or how quickly symptoms clear, without written medical clearance from an appropriate health-care professional (AHCP). In Florida, an appropriate health-care professional (AHCP) is defined as either a licensed physician (MD, as per Chapter 458, Florida Statutes), a licensed osteopathic physician (DO, as per Chapter 459, Florida Statutes), or a licensed physicians assistant under the direct supervision of a MD/DO (as per Chapters 458 and 459, Florida Statutes). Close observation of the athlete should continue for several hours. You should also seek medical care and inform your child’s coach if you think that your child may have a concussion. Remember, it’s better to miss one game than to have your life changed forever. When in doubt, sit them out.

**When can my child return to play or practice?**

Following physician evaluation, the *return to activity process* requires the athlete to be completely symptom free, after which time they would complete a step-wise protocol under the supervision of a licensed athletic trainer, coach or medical professional and then, receive written medical clearance of an AHCP. For current and up-to-date information on concussions, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/concussioninyouthsports> or [www.seeingstarsfoundation.org](http://www.seeingstarsfoundation.org)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator/Director Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature