**Academy League - Birmingham**

**Game Day Formats & Rules**

**Updates for Fall 2025**

**7v7 (9U & 10U)**

* 25-minute halves.
* Rosters required at every match
* Players may play a maximum of **two games per weekend**.
* Substitutions allowed with referee permission
* **No punting or heading**.
* TRUE build-out line will be used as preference – half-way between midline and Penalty box – cones can be used to mark line on the sidelines
* Ball live on goal kicks once played.
* **No slide tackling**.
* Clock runs during water breaks; players may exit the field.
* In lopsided games, [Competition Safeguarding](https://www.alsoccer.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/282/2024/09/2024ASACompetition-Safeguarding.pdf) should be used - teams may add players at stoppages after notifying the referee.
* Must notify the League Administrator & opponent of field closures.

**9v9 (11U & 12U)**

* 30-minute halves.
* Rosters at games required.
* Players are limited to **two games per weekend**.
* **NO Punting, heading or slide tackling allowed**
* Normal offsides rule applies as Law 11
* Substitutions allowed with referee permission.
* Same water break and lopsided game procedures as 7v7.

**Rosters**

* Game-day roster must be given to the referee before kickoff.
* Acceptable formats:
  + GotSport match roster, OR
  + GotSport player pool printout (highlight participants).
* The coach/manager must appear on the roster or have a valid USYS pass.
* Referee collects signed roster post-game, keeps for 30 day
  + Must provide roster to AL Soccer if requested.
  + Verifies score with both coaches
  + Referee can enter score in GotSport

**Referee Fees**

* 7v7: **$40 per game**.
* 9v9: **$50 per game**.
* Paid in cash, half from each team, directly to the referee prior to the game. Referees can agree to be paid via Venmo, Paypal, etc.

**Scoring**

* The winning team enters the score into GotSport **immediately after the game**.
* Scores are not public.
* Failure to report → **$75 fee**.
* No team should win by more than **6 goals**.
* Instructions and links provided for score entry.

**Rescheduling**

* Must use **D-League rescheduling form**.

1. **Rainouts** → reschedule within 24 hours, no fee.
2. **More than 8 days prior** → $75 fee.
3. **Less than 8 days prior** → $125 fee (may be waived for emergencies).

**Rainouts & Field Closures**

* Contact **League Administrator (Maddie@alsoccer.org)** immediately.
* Admin will notify the referee coordinator. Failure = club responsible for referee fees.
* Teams must also notify opponents directly via GotSport (chat or contact info).

**Fines & Discipline**

* Fines may be issued for:
  + Repeated blowouts,
  + Poor sideline behavior,
  + Winning margin >10 goals,
  + Canceling or changing listed match days.
* Games cancelled without approval → **$100 fine**.
* Rescheduling fees: **$75 before Wednesday noon or $125** **after Wednesday noon.**
* Repeated failure to enter scores → **$75 fine per occurrence**.
* Final decisions rest with the League **Administrator & ASA Technical Committee**.