

# **Montrose Soccer Club**

# **Policies & Guidelines**

Approved by MSC Board 7/22/2025

# **Montrose Soccer Club Policies & Guidelines**

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## 1. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

## 1.1. Provide a Viable and Strong Club Team System

The Montrose Soccer Club (MSC) was organized to provide a venue for Montrose youth to play competitive soccer. The Club's intent is to develop boys and girls teams of same-aged players to compete with other youth soccer teams in the region and state. Our teams are organized and coached to raise the level of skills of the players, promote a lasting love for the game, and promote sportsmanship among players, parents, coaches, and game officials.

## 1.2. Operate a Competitive Club Team Program

The MSC is intended to provide a bridge in their soccer playing for young boys and girls advancing from Montrose Recreation Department soccer (recreation) to High School soccer (interscholastic) by participating in Colorado Soccer Association (CSA) leagues and tournaments as a competitive level club.

## 1.3. Enhance Coaching

The MSC relies on volunteer coaches but recognizes the need for the Club to aid in the education and training of these volunteers to become better versed in soccer techniques, training, and tactics. The Club will support MSC Coaches in their efforts to further educate themselves as soccer coaches and will strive to develop programs to assist coaches and provide more structured training through MSC.

## 1.4. Maintain a Viable and Competent Officiating Cadre

The MSC will strive to maintain an adequate cadre of certified referees to cover all scheduled home soccer matches for all age levels of play. The Club will arrange for local certification training opportunities each year and sponsor new referees in their efforts to become certified referees. The Club will sustain a program to mentor newly certified referees and provide opportunities for all Club referees to referee scheduled league matches and gain actual game experience each season.

## 1.5. Maintain a Strong Financial Position and Operating Plan

MSC will maintain a viable budget to ensure the long-term viability of the Club. Expenditures and revenue shall be tracked and accounted for each year and there will be sufficient funds available at the end of each year to carry the Club into the next season. The MSC Board shall continue to manage the Club and take the necessary action to maintain its not-for-profit status.

The MSC will explore and seek all possible revenue sources to sustain the Club and help to defray the costs to players. MSC fundraising projects shall be consistent with the principles and ideals of youth sports.

MSC will provide for and maintain a scholarship program to benefit those players who, because of financial need or special circumstance, are unable to pay all or part of the seasonal player registration fees.

## 1.6. Soccer Facilities and Equipment Program

The MSC will adhere to the terms and conditions of its 50-year lease with the City of Montrose for the use of the Sunset Mesa soccer field complex. The Club will provide and maintain goals and nets on the four Sunset Mesa soccer fields in the spring and fall as well as mark regulation size field lines for those fields during the Club playing season. The City of Mont rose, pursuant to our lease, will water, mow and maintain the turf and City facilities at the Sunset Mesa soccer complex. The MSC will coordinate and work with the City to prevent unnecessary damage to the turf that can result from overuse and will manage practice and the placement of goals to sustain healthy turf to the best of its ability while honoring and adhering to our league match schedules during the fall and spring soccer seasons.

All MSC teams will be afforded practice times on the Sunset Mesa soccer fields. Based on the Club's lease with the City of Montrose, all Club teams are given preference and priority over other groups and the public for use of those fields during the regular soccer seasons. Each team will have at least two practice days per week reserved (weekdays) and fields will be available for scheduled matches on weekends.

MSC will provide basic soccer equipment such as balls (practice and game), scrimmage vests, cones, and corner flags for all Club teams.

## 1.7. Enhance Image of Soccer in Community

The MSC will work to maintain a respected image for youth sports in Montrose by continuing to be a drug-free and tobacco-free program. The members of the MSC will adhere to the Club's Code of Conduct while participating in Club functions, both in town and when traveling to other locations for league or tournament play. MSC teams will strive to maintain an attitude of proper sportsmanship while participating in Club functions and all MSC teams will participate in scheduled matches, whether league or tournament play, wearing matching Club-wide approved uniforms and warm-up apparel.

The MSC Board will strive for better outreach to the local public on the Club and the soccer opportunities it provides using local media, personal contacts, and electronic media. The MSC Board will maintain an internet website for the Club under the domain name of <a href="https://www.montroseavalanche.org">www.montroseavalanche.org</a>.

## 2. COACHING

MSC Coaches will be volunteers. They will serve at the pleasure of the MSC Board. Each Coach and Assistant Coach must complete a background clearance check, concussion training, Safe Sport training, and be cleared to participate under CSA provisions. Anyone wishing to volunteer their time as a Coach must submit a coaching application to the MSC Board. The MSC Board will approve all new Coaches by majority vote.

All MSC Coaches will have a coaching agreement with the organization. Each coaching agreement with the Club is for one year (fall and spring seasons). The President of the MSC must sign all coaching agreements. The MSC Board is responsible for approval of, evaluation of, and dismissal of all MSC Coaches. Actions to remove or dismiss a Coach or Assistant Coach must be brought to the MSC Board by a member of the Board and be substantiated with cause. Violations of the Code of

Conduct can be considered cause as well as other actions that are not in keeping with the goals, objectives and policies of the MSC.

## 2.1. Coaches Recruiting

Recruitment and advertising for qualified Coaches will be ongoing. Anyone interested in coaching for MSC must submit an application to include his or her non-technical qualifications, overall philosophy, coaching philosophy, experience in leadership, disciplinary history, interpersonal skills, etc. Knowledge of soccer, soccer coaching, training, and playing experience are desired, but not required. An interest in and willingness to coach and learn are important attributes considered by MSC. Applications must be received prior to the Annual Meeting held in May. The Board or its sub-committee will recommend to the Board whether to approve or reject each candidate. Past history of physical abuse (e.g., assault) or restraining orders will be a factor that may warrant a potential coaching candidate unsuitable for coaching duties, but such past sanctions shall be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine the applicability to coaching youth soccer. The Board will decide on coaching staff for the year (fall and spring seasons) at the June board meeting. Coaches must be named prior to the Board determining teams to register with the CSA. The Head Coach of each team is strongly encouraged to recruit an Assistant Coach.

## 2.2. Procedures for Voicing Coaching Concerns

The MSC encourages an open forum for parents and players to express their concerns when presented in a manner that is appropriate and constructive. However, there is an appropriate time and place to voice these concerns. When Coaches are on the field training teams or coaching matches, it is not appropriate to approach them during those times. Individual concerns do not need to be raised in front of the entire team or voiced via team email lists. In order to help facilitate resolution to coaching concerns in a manner that is fair to both the player and the Coach, the following procedure is to be followed:

- (1) Speak directly with the Coach and try to resolve the problems. This should be scheduled with the Coach at an appropriate time (not to include game day or at a tournament) when there are no other players or parents around, and when the Coach is finished with training or coaching. If you feel that the problem has not been resolved here, then go to the next step.
- (2) Contact a member of the MSC Board (or Director of Coaching) via phone or email and discuss your coaching concerns. You should be able to demonstrate that you have taken steps to address your concerns with the Coach directly. Also include a solution that you would recommend. Contacts made to the Board (or Director of Coaching) shall be attempted to be resolved or acted upon within 14 days, but if such recommendations require MSC Board action, then action may take longer in order to schedule a Board meeting.

## 2.3. Coaches Responsibilities

The primary roles of the youth soccer coach are teacher, motivator, and communicator. The Coach must fulfill all three roles in order to provide a successful soccer experience for all involved. MSC Coaches are expected to familiarize themselves with and abide by the CSA Rules and Procedures pertaining to the league or tournament their team is participating in. All MSC Coaches are required to follow the MSC Code of Conduct. Failure to adhere to this Code will result in disciplinary action up to and including release from their coaching responsibilities. The Board and Coaches will determine

team and player placement. Coaches are encouraged to attend Board meetings to discuss their recommendations. Coaches will adhere to the MSC Coaching Agreement.

## 2.4. Team Manager Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of the Team Manager are to serve as a communication link between parents and Coach and to assist with the administrative details of running the team. She/he also receives information from the Club regarding the MSC Board decisions and policies throughout the year. Team Managers are encouraged to attend board meetings.

## **Team Managers:**

- are expected to enlist parent volunteers as needed.
- are responsible to work with the Coach and Assistant Coaches to determine what assistance is needed and identify the activities requiring support. They will clarify which duties the Coach, the Team Manager, and parent volunteers will handle. The Team Manager is responsible for coordinating the various team activities and finding the appropriate help when needed.
- should know and understand how to use the PlayMetrics app. Team Managers should attend the required parent meeting at the beginning of the season to assist parents/guardians with the app and to make sure this process of communication will work effectively.
- keep the PlayMetrics app up to date with all information on players and the scheduling of games.
- are responsible for handling the collection of team funds for the Club and turning over funds to the Registrar in a timely manner.
- may assist the Coach in maintaining appropriate sideline behavior as outlined in the MSC Code of Conduct.
- will report the game score in PlayMetrics within 48 hours of the game time.

## 2.5. Trainers

The MSC may hire trainers to provide technical, tactical, and coaching assistance to the Club and its team Coaches. The selection of such contract professionals is made by the MSC Board, and the contract shall be signed by the MSC President. These trainers are not considered members of the MSC but will be subject to the MSC Code of Conduct while providing services.

Termination or dismissal of contract trainers will be subject to the terms and conditions of their service contract and will not necessarily be subject to the same rules and policies as MSC team Coaches.

#### 3. REFEREES

The MSC shall maintain a sufficient pool of certified referees to provide adequate referee coverage for all MSC home games. MSC will designate a Referee Assignor for the Club and that person can be given a stipend for their services each season. The amount of the stipend is set by the Board and can vary depending upon the workload of the Assignor.

Referee Assignor will:

- ensure new referees are familiar with the MSC Referee Guidelines and that the policies therein are followed.
- assign referees from the MSC pool of referees for all MSC home games.
- try to spread out the assignment of referees equitably so that all referees have many opportunities to gain experience and receive pay for their services.
- work to mentor newly certified referees and to develop those referees so that they may cover more levels of play.
- coordinate with CSA on local referee scheduling issues, as necessary.
- recruit new referee candidates.
- schedule and organize the annual recertification clinic and new referee certification clinic in Montrose provided there are sufficient applicants to warrant a local clinic.

The MSC Referee Assignor may also assign referees for other soccer clubs in the area. When the MSC Referee Assignor assigns referees for other clubs, MSC will assess an additional administrative fee to those Clubs to cover the burden that this additional work creates for the Assignor and the Club to track and make payments for referee services.

#### 3.1. MSC Members

Local referees working for MSC are members of MSC. As members they are subject to the Club's Code of Conduct and can be on the MSC Board, coach, or serve in other capacities. All referees should be mindful of conflicts of interest or the appearance there of. The Assignor will make every effort not to place referees in situations where there is the potential for conflict of interest. Referees are expected to be fair, even handed, and levelheaded when providing their services.

## 3.2. Complaints

Both the MSC Coaches responsibilities and the Code of Conduct address the respect and behavior that is to be afforded to referees by members of MSC. The Laws of the Game, CSA policies and the certification process provide the rules and procedures the referees are to follow.

In the event that a Coach or member of MSC has an issue or complaint regarding the officiating of a referee in the MSC pool of referees, those concerns should first be presented to the MSC Board (or Director of Coaching). The MSC Board (or Director of Coaching) may then forward complaints to the Referee Assignor if they believe there is merit to the complaint. The MSC Referee Assignor shall review all complaints. The Assignor may opt to take any one of several courses of action to address the complaint. The Assignor may bring the issue before the Board if it is deemed a violation of the Code of Conduct. Otherwise, the Assignor should address complaints appropriately with the subject Official either through consultation, training, oversight, or warning.

Complaints received from parents, Coaches, or players from other teams about MSC pool referees should be forwarded to the MSC Board. The President will respond to such complaints in writing when possible. The President will consult with the Referee Assignor before responding to any outside complaints. All complaints received from CSA regarding MSC pool referees will be addressed by the Referee Assignor and the MSC President and will be responded to in writing.

#### 3.3. Dismissal

MSC pool referees, those referees that receive payments directly from MSC, can be subject to dismissal from our Club for cause. MSC recognizes soccer referees are certified by larger State and national organizations and their certifications cannot be revoked or suspended by MSC, but MSC can opt not to assign a certified referee to MSC home games for cause.

Cause for dismissal would involve criminal convictions for actions that could put the public or youth in danger or jeopardy. Cause for dismissal would also involve violations of the Code of Conduct that warrant suspension or expulsion from the Club pursuant to that Code of Conduct.

Poor judgment by officials in the course of officiating games or repeated complaints regarding the officiating is not cause for dismissal. Such issues are to be addressed by the Referee Assignor and the MSC President.

## 3.4. Payment

Certified referees officiating CSA league games will be paid per CSA rules at the time, which may include being paid by CSA directly or by through the Club with reimbursement by CSA. MSC pool referees officiating tournaments are paid by tournament officials. MSC referee pay scales will mirror CSA referee pay scales.

MSC will reimburse the initial certification fee (currently \$90) and annual recertification fee (currently \$50) at the end of the Fall season if you have refereed at least 10 games per calendar year.

## 4. TEAMS

All teams will have a Head Coach. All teams are strongly encouraged to have an Assistant Coach and a Team Manager. Assistant Coaches and Team Managers are selected by the Coach and do not require Board approval though they must notify the Registrar. All parties are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct, Board directions, and MSC policies. They must also complete a background check, concussion training and Safe Sport as directed by the CSA. The Board does reserve the authority to dismiss Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Team Managers for cause.

## 4.1. Player Placement

After player placements are held, the Board and Coaches will meet to determine the number of teams to be registered with the CSA that season, and the placement of those teams in the silver or gold brackets. The Board, Coaches and Assistant Coaches will meet to finalize player placement on those teams.

Players will generally remain on the same team for both fall and spring seasons, however, no player will be *guaranteed* placement on a team from season to season.

## **Determining Player Skill for Placement on a Team**

**4.1.1.** Player Placement Evaluation: Players will be evaluated and placed on teams based on the evaluation process of the MSC Coaches after the spring season. As a general guideline, MSC Coaches evaluate players based on the four pillars of player

- development: technical, tactical, physical, and psychological observation.
- **4.1.2.** For returning MSC players, the evaluation will also be based on their prior soccer **year performance.** Tryouts are essentially a season-long process. MSC Coaches are to communicate throughout the year regarding the development of players.
- **4.1.3.** Coaches will notify players and the Registrar of the placement of players within 48 hours of Board approval. The Registrar will email the player's parents/guardians of team placement for acceptance.

#### 4.2. Practice Guidelines

- **4.2.1** All MSC teams are expected to practice twice a week and may exceed that schedule provided there are fields available, and players and parents are agreeable to such a practice schedule.
- **4.2.2** Fields are never to be used when conditions may cause damage to the playing surface.
- **4.2.3** Player conflicts involving practices and games should be worked out between players and Coaches. The MSC encourages players to play multiple sports. Multi-sport players must notify their Coach to work out practice times and to determine play time.
- **4.2.4** Coaches will abide by section 7.1 regarding Lightening Postponements or Unsafe Conditions

## 4.3. Playing Time Guidelines

- **4.3.1.** Poor attitude or effort may result in reduced playing time along with poor attitude or performance in previous games.
- **4.3.2.** Missing practice or games may result in reduced playing time.
- **4.3.3.** Playing time may be restricted due to player discipline issues.
- **4.3.4.** Coaches are expected to outline playing time policies and guidelines prior to the beginning of the season.
- **4.3.5.** Players that have regularly attended practice, put forth good effort during practice, and are not being disciplined for poor attitude shall play a minimum of 1/3 of the game.

## 4.4. Roster Changes and Player Movement Guidelines

When a player is registered with the MSC, they make a commitment first and foremost to the Club and second to a specific team. MSC discourages moving players from one team to another during a season. However, after team rosters are set subsequent additions may occur.

In all cases, CSA roster limits are to be followed, and the MSC Club Registrar must be notified of any roster changes throughout the playing season. The Registrar must be notified of roster changes for a particular game no later than 3 days prior to the scheduled game.

- **4.4.1.** Players will generally play on teams in their age bracket. If the State does not have a specific age division in our league for a particular age group, exceptions may be made.
- **4.4.2.** Coaches may request the Board to allow a player to "play up" for a particular year but they must submit in writing the reasons or rationale for playing up and there must be an agreement of Coaches involved. Such requests must be approved by the MSC Board.
- **4.4.3.** Players cannot play in more than two league games in one day.

#### 4.5. Tournament Rosters

MSC players may move from team to team within the Club or to other Clubs as guest players for tournaments. The MSC rules regarding "playing up" will not apply for guest tournament players. Coaches must agree upon player movement for tournament teams. If there are conflicts between Coaches on guest player movement, the MSC Board will resolve such conflicts.

## 4.6. Elite or Academy Teams

Players who are selected for a MSC team at the beginning of the year are tied to that team for the season. MSC players wishing to move to a Club team sponsored by another Club under CSA, or any other nationally sanctioned soccer organization, at mid-season must be released by MSC and their Coach to the other team. MSC players cannot play on two different Club teams in the same season during the year except as tournament guest players.

## 4.7. Tournament Guest Players

If a player wants to guest play at a tournament for another Club, the parent/player must get approval from their Coach, then contact the Registrar for their player card.

## 5. REGISTRATION

#### 5.1. Procedures

Registration for the fall season will begin in May. Registration for the spring season will begin in January. Players must register for each season they wish to participate in.

The MSC will email members when registration is open. MSC will also advertise registration via the website, Facebook, etc. To register, families will access the Club website, www.montroseavalanche.org. Requirements for registration will include insurance information, emergency contact information, and a player and parent Code of Conduct must be signed.

New players must provide a birth certificate, or passport as a way for the CSA to verify the ages of players. Identification can be emailed to <a href="mailto:montroseavalanche@gmail.com">montroseavalanche@gmail.com</a>. Players not properly

registered and approved by the CSA will not be eligible to practice or play in games.

## **5.2.** Fees

The MSC Board sets registration fees on an annual basis. Fees are collected for each season of the soccer year because some players only play in one season.

Fees go to cover costs incurred by MSC for some of the following:

- Equipment
- Field preparation and maintenance
- Game officials
- Insurance
- CSA fees
- Tournament fees (up to tournament allowance)
- Coach stipends
- Director of Coaching stipend
- Registrar stipend
- Referee Assignor stipend

#### Fees do not include:

- Uniforms
- Special team parties or events
- Players cost to travel
- Indoor soccer
- Additional tournaments (over the tournament allowance)
- Soccer camps

Full payment of fees, or commitment to an approved Payment Plan shall be made before the start of practice for each team. Players who have not paid their fees in full (unless they have been granted a scholarship or are currently on an approved Payment Plan) before the first scheduled practice of that season will not be allowed to play. Failure to comply with payment terms may be cause to remove your child from participation in any future MSC events.

## **Volunteer Compensation Per Season**

Coaches – \$500 stipend at the end of the season Assistant Coaches - \$100 stipend at the end of the season Board Member – one free registration

If a Head Coach is also a Board Member, they earn the stipend plus one free registration.

If a Head Coach, Assistant Coach or Board Member does not fulfill their duties for the full season (per the Coaching Agreement and/or MSC Board Agreement), they will not receive their stipend, or if they are a Board Member, they will be issued an invoice to reimburse the Club for the value of their free registration(s). Payment must be made within 14 days.

#### 5.3. Uniforms

The MSC Board will determine the uniform set for the Club. The uniforms advertise Sponsors and are good for a 2-year term beginning in the Fall of 2025 and will be replaced every 2 years thereafter. The Club will order the uniform sets for all players and the players will be required to purchase those uniforms from the Club through the website at registration, if a uniform is needed or if required for the current 2-year term. The Club will sell those uniforms at cost.

Purchasing uniforms as a Club gives us better pricing, supply, and service which the Club then can pass on to players. All players are required to play in MSC authorized uniform sets. Uniforms can be reworn from season to season so long as they remain in good condition but must be replaced if the Sponsors are changing for the next 2-year period.

#### 5.4. Refunds

It is the policy of MSC to refund registration fees ONLY if you move out of town prior to the start of the season, or if the child is unable to participate due to injury or illness. If MSC is unable to place a player on a team, a full refund will be issued. If a player has registered and made payment of fees then decides to drop out of the program, there will be no refund of payment fees. Players who have participated in one or more scheduled matches would not be considered eligible for an injury refund of fees. If a player has received their uniform, the cost will not be refunded, even if unworn.

If there are exceptional circumstances that parents who have paid registration fees believe warrant refunding of fees paid, those requests must be made, in writing, to the MSC Board. Conflicts with practice schedules, personality issues between players or Coaches, loss of interest, or conflicts with other elective after-school programs are generally not considered exceptional circumstances.

## 5.5. Scholarships

Montrose Soccer Club (MSC) offers need-based scholarships to assist players with the cost of registration and standard uniforms only. The MSC Board of Directors reserves the sole authority to award scholarships, deny applications, determine award amounts (up to the full cost of registration and standard uniform for the season), request additional documentation, and determine the availability of funds. Scholarship availability and awards are subject to adequate budget and may be adjusted at the sole discretion of the Board.

- **5.5.1.** Eligibility and Documentation Scholarships are available to families demonstrating financial need. To be considered, applicants must submit a completed MSC Scholarship Application prior to the player registration deadline for the applicable season. Along with the application, families must provide one or more of the following forms of documentation:
  - Proof of eligibility for free or reduced lunch under federal school meal programs
  - A copy of the most recent federal income tax return of the player's current legal guardians
  - Current proof of participation in SNAP or other public assistance programs (excluding Medicaid or any other documentation containing Protected Health Information (PHI))
  - Other relevant financial documentation requested by the Board to evaluate need

Each player requires a separate application. Players from the same household may apply for individual scholarships.

**5.5.2. Application and Review Process** - Applications are available on the MSC website at www.montroseavalanche.org and may be submitted by email to montroseavalanche@gmail.com or by mail to MSC, PO Box 604, Montrose, CO 81402. Only fully completed applications with appropriate supporting documentation will be reviewed. Players will not be rostered to participate in practices or games until a completed application is received, all required documentation is submitted, and any remaining registration fee balance is paid.

Scholarship applications must be submitted prior to the player registration deadline for the applicable season. Late or incomplete applications may be denied at the discretion of the Board. Families must reapply each season, and scholarship awards are not guaranteed from season to season.

The full MSC Board of Directors will review and determine scholarship awards in accordance with these policies. The Board may request additional documentation or clarification from the applicant. Scholarships are considered only for registration fees and standard uniform costs. They are not available for travel, tournaments, non-standard uniforms, or other team-related expenses.

- **5.5.3. Attendance and Conduct** In addition to financial need, the MSC Board will consider the applicant's prior attendance and conduct—both player and family—as part of the scholarship review process. Poor attendance, failure to comply with team expectations, or prior disciplinary issues involving the player or family may result in denial of a scholarship application. Good standing within the Club is a requirement for continued eligibility.
- **5.5.4. Confidentiality** All scholarship applications and financial documentation submitted will be treated as confidential and will be accessible only to the MSC Board. Board members are expected to maintain the confidentiality of all applicant information in accordance with MSC's policies and applicable laws.
- **5.5.5. Board Discretion** The MSC Board of Directors, in its sole discretion, may deviate from the provisions of this scholarship policy when it determines such action is in the best interest of the Club.

## 6. UNIFORMS

## **Uniform Policy**

All competitive teams are required to purchase a new uniform for their first season to match the Club or upon the adoption of a new style by the MSC. Uniforms must be purchased and used in league/tournament play for each team's representative CSA season immediately following the uniform launch. Uniforms can be reworn from season to season so long as they remain in good condition.

All MSC players must wear the official MSC uniform kit during all league and tournament game play, including all national and international games and tournaments.

# 6.1. Shin guards

All players must wear shin guards at practice and in games. No exceptions. These are CSA regulations and international soccer requirements. At this time, those shin guards do not need to be NOCSAE certified, but possible state and national rule changes may require such certification in the future

#### 6.2. Cost

PAYMENT IS DUE IN FULL PRIOR TO TAKING DELIVERY OF THE REQUIRED UNIFORM.

## 7. GAMES

MSC teams will receive game schedules shortly before the beginning of each season. The schedules can be accessed through links on the Club website at <a href="https://www.montroseavalanche.org">www.montroseavalanche.org</a> and through the PlayMetrics app.

MSC teams are expected to honor the schedule and any other games they commit to play. All Coaches are expected to schedule other games only if they are reasonably certain they can play.

MSC players should plan on coming to the field or traveling to an away game if those games are on the schedule. Players should not assume postponements or cancellations due to weather, as the Team manager or Coach will notify them.

## 7.1. Lightning Postponements or Unsafe Conditions

If the fields are cleared due to lightning, all players, Coaches, referees and spectators must leave the fields and wait in their cars or other safe locations near the fields until the center referee or other Club official who has made the decision to clear the fields, has determined it is safe to resume play. Generally, fields will be cleared for 30 minutes when thunder follows an observed lightning strike within 10 miles. This time restarts each time a strike meeting these criteria is observed. Players are expected to stay until the Coach has released the team.

The CSA criteria and policy on lightning threats will be adhered to for MSC events. Lightning is a serious threat to soccer players and precautionary measures taken by referees and MSC officials shall be adhered to by all MSC members --- parents and players.

In the event there is a need to cancel or delay games due to lightning or adverse weather conditions that render the playing field unsafe, the outcome of the game will be determined based on the Laws of the Game or CSA regulations.

At any time, the center referee can make the decision to clear their field if they feel that the conditions are unsafe. Determinations whether to end the game or restart should be done in consultation with Coaches and MSC Board members if they are available.

If the game is not one requiring referees or is a practice session, the decision regarding unsafe

conditions must be made by the Coaches. If at any time a parent feels that their child is endangered due to weather during a scrimmage (game with no referees) or practice session, we recommend that they take their child to the nearest shelter. MSC would ask parents to respect the authority of the center referee during games regarding unsafe conditions, but parents should always take any action they deem appropriate for the safety of their children.

## 7.2. Make-up, "tba" Games, and Rescheduling Games

The Club/Registrar is responsible for rescheduling home games that have been postponed.

CSA league games shown on the schedule as "tba" will be scheduled by the Club/Registrar.

# **Rescheduling Procedure**

- Game change requests are to be made as soon as possible, but no later than the Tuesday prior to the scheduled game (if on a Saturday or Sunday).
- Coach contacts the opposing team (and includes the Registrar on communication) to discuss possible options (date/time) via PlayMetrics.
- Club/Registrar will email the Ref Assignor with a heads up.
- Club/Registrar will submit a formal "Request Schedule Change" in PlayMetrics and notify the Coach/Team Manager and the Ref Assignor when the change is approved.
- The Ref Assignor cannot assign refs to the game until it is updated with the state, which must be done no later than NOON on WEDNESDAY prior to that weekend's game.

## 7.3. Penalties for Cancelled Games

Any team refusing to take the field at a scheduled league game or with a history of repeated cancellations, or refusing to travel may face Club disciplinary action. MSC teams that cancel CSA league games can subject the Club to monetary sanctions by the league. In the event MSC is sanctioned by CSA for failure to play a scheduled game, the Club will assess the team the monetary fine.

## 8. FIELDS

MSC Sunset Mesa fields are property of the City of Montrose and are used under the provisions set forth in the Club's 1998 lease with the City. MSC must schedule with the City Clerk's office for use of the fields prior to the beginning of the soccer seasons in the fall and spring.

MSC will paint lines on the fields prior to the start of league play each season and will re-paint during the season as needed. MSC will also provide and maintain the goals and nets for the Sunset Mesa soccer fields. The MSC will provide corner flags, but MSC Coaches will be responsible for setting and removing corner flags for their team's home games.

Along with the City of Montrose, maintaining the turf in good condition is the responsibility of all MSC members. Coaches should use good judgment when practicing on the fields so that their actions do not unnecessarily damage the turf.

# 9. TEAM/CLUB FUNDS

## 9.1. Team Fundraising

Individual teams are encouraged to explore options for team fundraising. The Team Manager or Coach is responsible for overseeing team fundraising activities using parent volunteers as needed. Each team may decide on the types of fundraising activities they want to engage in but must be approved by the MSC Board. MSC retains ownership, copyrights, and control usage of the MSC logo, and its usage must be approved by the Board.

Fundraising for additional tournaments beyond the tournament allowance is the responsibility of each team. MSC will hold and manage the funds raised by MSC teams and make those funds available upon request to pay entrance fee; or other tournament or team related expenses.

MSC reserves the right to forbid or terminate any fundraising activity deemed inappropriate or inconsistent with the image and goals of the Club. The MSC Board must approve the use of the MSC name and logo on appropriate merchandise or other items. Approval requires advance notice to the MSC Board of the nature of the merchandise and an information copy of the artwork. All sales promotions must contain a disclaimer to the effect that the MSC provides no express or implied warranty.

## 9.2. Team Sponsorship

Individual MSC teams may solicit or accept corporate sponsorship or corporate donations for tournament or league play, but the team/players may not attach the sponsor's logo or other reference to the sponsor on their MSC uniforms or cover their MSC uniforms with vests displaying the sponsor's logo. Wearing T-shirts, hats, pins, warm- ups, and/or like apparel displaying sponsor's logos by MSC players before or after games is allowed.

MSC teams receiving sponsorship shall notify and disclose to the MSC Board of those financial arrangements. The MSC Board reserves the right to forbid or terminate sponsorship deals for MSC teams if they are deemed to be inappropriate or inconsistent with the Club's image or goals.

## 9.3. Club Fundraising and Sponsorship

The MSC Board may engage in the solicitation for and the acceptance of corporate sponsorship or to receive corporate donations. Such actions must be approved by a majority of the Board before any agreements or contracts for sponsorship can be entered into by the President or any MSC Board member.

## 10. CLUB EVENTS

The MSC Bylaws call for an annual meeting of the Club members. At the annual meeting there will be a state of the Club report given by the MSC President as well as financial reports. Typically, that annual meeting will be held in May each year. Club members are comprised of Board members, Coaches, Team Managers, certified referees, players and parents or guardians of players.

MSC Board memberships can be filled upon vacancy by a vote of the sitting Board at a regular Board meeting. Board meetings are open to all members of the Club and the public but are not considered public meetings requiring public notice. Any Club member may nominate persons to the Board to fill vacancies. There is a minimum of 5 and maximum of 9 Board members pursuant to the Club Bylaws. The MSC President may appoint volunteers or members to various committees or positions as needed to manage and operate the MSC.

Origination Date: 8/24/2013 Revised: 7/19/2025