

Whitehorse Coed Soccer

2004 Philosophy

April 2004



Why a League Philosophy?

Coed Soccer, as we enjoy it, has a different atmosphere from most other team or competitive sports. Winning is not the most important thing. This can be a difficult concept for many people. We have to be as clear as possible about this ahead of time.

The main principle to keep in mind, is to always maintain the well being of the league above the well being of the team. When difficulties arise, try to resolve them in the way that best supports the league. This may mean losing the game, but keeping your self-respect.

For example, at some unevenly matched games, players may change sides during the game to even the competition. A player may appear in the paper as having scored for both teams in the same game. This is a good thing, not a contradiction. The player is committing an act of generosity, not treason.

There are competitive Men's and Women's leagues in Whitehorse. If Coed philosophy troubles you, please play in those leagues.

Some features of the league for summer 2004:

- Fun and exercise. Positive, friendly atmosphere. No macho stuff.
- Equal time regardless of skill level.
- Players will uphold the good of the league over the good of their team.
- No Men's League players. The league runs same night as Men's league, so men have to choose one or the other.
- No contact. (See our Special League Rules sheet.)
- Two goals per player limit. Scorers serve the next ten minutes as goalkeeper.
- Draft format. This lets everyone make new acquaintances and helps to break up potentially troublesome groups. Two persons, such as a man and wife, can register on one form and be drafted to the same team.
- Adults 18 and over. There is a minor program for youth 18 and under. Youth 16 years old may play if their parent is also playing at the same time.
- No referees. We are self-policing.
- We keep score. This helps with sponsorship. Concerted efforts are made to email results into both papers, with sponsors' and scorers' names. All players are asked to help with this.
- Players must be fair to their team mates and sub off when it is their turn. They should not delay until they think they are tired.
- Team reps and others who have coed experience play an important role in managing the attitudes of their players and maintaining a positive atmosphere on the field. All players should actively support them in this role.
- So far, always two social events. Likely this season again two nacho nights at Sanchez Cantina.
- One free test drive for uncertain newcomers. Returning players must register before playing.