The intent of the In-House (recreational) program of the Baldwin Whitehall Soccer Association is to provide a safe soccer learning experience for the members of the association, with an emphasis on the word “recreation.”

No scores or standings are kept.

Parents:

- Please try to arrive at the field 10 minutes in advance of each game.
- Please stay on the side of the field opposite of the coaches. **No standing behind the goals.**
- Cheer positively for both teams – good job, good save, go purple, go white, etc.
- Avoid calling your child’s name/instructing – “Get the ball _____”
- Let the coaches and other players call out names/instruct
- Remember the main objective is for the kids to have fun!!!

General Rules:

- Ball size:
- U5 & U6 co-ed (grasshoppers) – size #3
- U8 boys (pee-wee) – size #4
- U8 girls (pee-wee) – size #4
- U11 boys (intermediate) – size #4
- U11 girls (intermediate) – size #4
- U14 co-ed (seniors) – size #5

Number of Players:

- U5 & U6 co-ed (grasshoppers) – 4 v 4 – **NO GOALKEEPER-NO "STOPPER." The idea is to maximize time with the ball and goal scoring while limiting the physical contact aspect of the game.**
- U8 boys (pee-wee) – 6 v 6 – includes goalkeeper
- U8 girls (pee-wee) – 6 v 6 – includes goalkeeper
- U11 boys (intermediate) – 7 v 7 – includes goalkeeper
- U11 girls (intermediate) – 7 v 7 – includes goalkeeper
- U14 co-ed (seniors) – 7 v 7 – includes goalkeeper
- Notes:
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- In the event a team does not have the required number of players to have one sub, the opposing team must share players (preferably share players so that each team has the same number of players and all get equal playing time).
- In the event that the teams are not evenly matched, please swap players as necessary.

Player's Equipment (all age groups):

- **Shirt:** All players, except goalkeepers, are required to wear an official BWSA shirt that is clearly visible to all players, coaches, and referees. Other shirts (i.e., sweatshirts, under armor, etc.) may be worn, but must be worn under the uniform shirt.
- Goalkeepers must wear a shirt of a different color than his/her teammates and opponents (pinnies are provided by BWSA)
- **Shin Guards:** All players are required to wear shin guards. Shin guards must be worn under and be entirely covered by the stockings.
- **Shorts:** (preferably purple or black) are recommended, but not mandatory.
- **Shoes:** Spikes may be worn but are not mandatory. Spikes must be a permanent non-replaceable rubber type. Baseball or football spikes (spike at the front tip of the shoe) are not permitted.
- Note: Insurance regulations prohibit the participation of any player who is wearing any garment or adornment which could be considered dangerous to themselves, teammates, or opponents. This includes, but is not limited to, clothes with zippers, grippers, buckles and/or studs. Also prohibited are earrings, hard hair barrettes and headbands, watches, bracelets and necklaces. **No Jewelry is allowed.**
- Casts are permitted provided that the cast is covered with a softening material (such as bubble wrap) and the player does not use the cast to his/her advantage
- Matters of equipment will be reviewed by the referee prior to each game, during the line-up. Rulings of eligibility of equipment by the referee are final. Any player not permitted to play because of equipment will be allowed to adjust equipment to conform to the laws. However, that player will not be permitted to play until the equipment is reviewed again and approved by the referee.

Duration of the Game:

- U5 & U6 co-ed (grasshoppers) – Two 16 minute halves, 1 – 5 minute half-time
- U8 boys (pee-wee) – Two 20 minute halves, 1 – 5 minute half-time
- U8 girls (pee-wee) – Two 20 minute halves, 1 – 5 minute half-time
- U11 boys (intermediate) – Two 25 minute halves, 1 – 5 minute half-time
- U11 girls (intermediate) – Two 25 minute halves, 1 – 5 minute half-time
- U14 co-ed (seniors) – Two 25 minute halves, 1 – 5 minute half-time
- Notes:
- U5 & U6 games are slotted for one hour. First 20 minutes will be team practice, followed

by the game detailed above

- Due to time constraints, game times may have to be shortened to maintain schedules.

- All players, coaches and referees are required to arrive at their fields 10 minutes in advance of their scheduled starting times to allow for the pre-game preparation.
- All games, whether or not started on time, will end on time.

Throw-in:

- The thrower, at the moment of delivering the ball, must face the field of play and part of each foot shall either be on or outside the touchline. The thrower shall use both hands and deliver the ball from behind and over his/her head. The ball shall be in play immediately when it enters the field of play, but the thrower shall not again play the ball until it has been touched or played by another player. A goal shall not be scored direct from a throw-in.
- U5 & U6 (grasshoppers) – continuous play is maintained with the help of spectators and coaches returning an out of play ball quickly back into play.
- U8 boys (pee wee) – Two chances to successfully complete a throw-in, then the other team gets the ball to throw-in.
- U8 girls (pee wee) – Two chances to successfully complete a throw-in, then the other team gets the ball to throw-in.
- U11 boys (intermediate), U11 girls (intermediate), U14 co-ed (seniors) – One chance to successfully complete a throw-in, then the other team gets the ball to throw-in.
- ***(Referees shall advise the player taking the throw-in, the reason for not successfully completing the throw-in.)***