

Frequently asked questions

1. How do I register players during the season

Players can register at any time during normal office hours and be eligible to play as soon as they've completed the registration process. That process includes having your team upload your information and picture into the team folder, going to the office to sign the passcard and paying the fee.

2. How do I transfer to another team?

League rules allow a player to transfer once per season and stop the transfer process at the halfway point of the season. That means players can transfer to another team through the 5th game of the fall season and the 4th game of the spring season. A player must sit out a game after completing the transfer. To transfer, a player must complete the following steps:

1. Return the current player passcard
2. Obtain a signed Player Release form from the team representative of the team from which the player is transferring
3. Complete the same process in item 1 to be added to the new team's folder.
4. Pay a \$10 transfer fee
5. The League holds the player passcard for the next game regardless of the player's story that he didn't play the previous game

3. What if it rains or snows?

We use three separate complexes. The Pius and ADO fields are city parks and the League makes the determination whether we will play. Because the fields are ten miles apart, weather conditions at one may be significantly different than the other. We inspect both complexes if weather is bad. The manager of the complex in Bernalillo will also inspect the fields there. When we've accumulated that information, we post it on the rainout phone line at 341-5015. We may only postpone early games, so it's important that you actually listen to the full message, as conditions may change such that we can play games later in the day. If games are postponed, we aren't going to send you a makeup game date, time and location on the same day.

4. What are the office hours

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Normal office hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. We are reinstating Thursday evening office hours from 5:30 to 6:30. The office isn't open on Friday at all.

5. How do I know what uniform color the other team wears?

We request that each team provide us their primary uniform shirt colors. Most do. To find your opponents uniform colors, go to the folder titled Teams on the left of the front page, click the link and then click the team link. It will show the uniform colors the team wears.

6. Who changes uniforms if they don't clash?

The home team does. We have pullover jerseys available to borrow **and return** at the office and the ASL field manager, Jack Houston, has them at the complex. For those of you who don't bother to check until you get to the field, Jack's cell phone number is 480-5392. If you have the problem at Pius or ADO, you're out of luck.

7. Do have insurance if we get injured?

Every player who is properly registered is covered with an accident policy as part of the League's insurance coverage. The coverage details and claim forms are available at our web site or by contacting the office. The insurance only covers injuries incurred for participation in sanctioned practice (meaning you reserved a field for practice through the ASL registration process) and ASL games. It does not cover injuries incurred if you play in Ligoalato, Libertadores Soccer league, Albuquerque Futsal, Eduardo's league, or any of the indoor facilities. Each of those leagues is eligible to join NMSSA and participate in the same insurance program we do and all have elected not to offer you that coverage.

8. Why do we play so far out of town?

The simple answer is that's where the fields are. The simpler answer is that the city and county have generally elected not to build recreational facilities for adult soccer since they completed Arroyo del Oso in the early 1980s. We don't use the neighborhood fields in the city because of the historical behavior pattern of our players when we have used them.

In addition, we actually are owners of the complex in Bernalillo, which means we control the use and maintenance of the fields, which is why they're in better shape than the fields in town generally are.

9. How do I read the standings?

We keep the following team statistics:

Games	W	Lose	Tie	GF	GA	GD	Points	GAA	Yellow Cards	Red Cards
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W is the number of games you've won, Lose is the number of losses, tie is the number of ties. Each win is worth 3 points, each tie is worth 1 point and each loss is worth 0 points. There are no extra points for scoring goals.

GF is Goals For, meaning goals your team has scored. GA is goals allowed, meaning the goals your team as allowed. GD is goal differential, which is GF-GA. GAA is goals against average, which is the number of goals you've allowed, divided by the number of games played.

In each division we include a summary of every team's individual results by game using the same headings as described above. If your team wins, you get a "1" in the win column. If you lose, you get a "1" in that column. If you tie, you get a "1" in that column and the totals are tabulated and carried to the summary standings.

10. Why aren't my team's results in the standings?

Because no one on your team bothers to respond to our weekly request to report your scores. We get game reports from the referee paymaster about two weeks after the games and update when we get them. If you want current standings, have someone from your team respond to our weekly e-mail request or call and leave them at the office.

As an aside, we often get three different scores reported for the same game. You might check with the referee at the end of the game and see what official result he or she has.

11. How do I postpone or reschedule a game?

Our ability to reschedule games is very limited due to the heavy use of all of the available fields and the shortage of referees.

If you wish to postpone a game, you obtain the consent of your opponent and submit a \$25 fee for rescheduling. It is your responsibility to contact your opponent. The League office doesn't perform that service. It is your opponent's option to agree to postpone or to take a forfeit and a 1-0 victory. We do not reschedule the game if we do not receive the \$25 payment.

12. How do I get a refund?

As soon as you register, we pass \$25 on for your state and national affiliation fees, your insurance, and our time to register you. The remainder is refunded on a pro-rata basis based on when you return your passcard to the office and complete the drop and refund process. We don't process any refund until your passcard is returned and refunds are made only to the person whose name is on the passcard. We do not refund to the team rep or anyone else. If you elect to pay for someone else to play soccer, that's a transaction between the two of you.

13. What happens when I get a red card?

As soon as you are sent off, you collect your belongings and immediately leave the field and you don't return. If you do return, the referee is directed to terminate the game and file a report at the office. You then meet with the Executive Committee and we determine what additional actions will be taken regarding your behavior.

The following suspensions and fines are levied for red cards:

Reds cards issued for 2nd yellow card, denying a goal scoring opportunity by handling the ball or fouling, foul language directed at another player, spitting at anyone other than the referee:

\$10 fine and 1 game suspension

Serious Foul Play:

\$25 fine and 2 game suspension

Violent Conduct or Referee Abuse:

\$50 fine, \$50 bond for one year, 3 game suspension

14. How do I protest my red card?

You have three days after your game to file a protest at the office. That means if your game is on Sunday, as most are, you have until close of business at 2 p.m. on Wednesday immediately following your game to file a written protest and paying a \$25 protest fee. Anyone can file the protest for you and pay the fee, so your claimed inability to get to the office does not extend the deadline.

Your protest will be heard the following evening, Thursday, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the office by an appeals committee made up of team representatives who rotate the committee membership every week.

Sending an e-mail to the league demanding that your red card be overturned isn't a protest and generates no action whatsoever.

15. How do I get a practice field?

Each team is provided information on arranging a practice field in its team registration package. The League has a users permit with the City of Albuquerque that provides us access to certain City and APS fields. It does not include any high school fields or any fields located at private schools.

You are not guaranteed space at a field and every field will likely have a lot of people on it. That's because there are a lot more children and adults engaged in sports than the city has arranged facilities to accommodate. We include your field request to the city. If a park monitor shows up and asks for your team name, you should provide your team name and that you are an ASL team. If you have not provided us your requested practice field, you will not be on the list the park monitor has and will be asked to leave.

16. What do we do with the nets at the end of the day?

If you are the last team on the field at Pius or ADO, each team takes a net down and puts it in the duffle bag. Each team also collects two of the corner flags and leaves them with the bag. We pay someone to deliver and pickup nets each week so your team doesn't have to pick them up and deliver them back to the office. If the person we pay has to take the net down because your team doesn't, then we send you a letter or e-mail fining you \$25 and give the money to the net person. If you don't pay the fine, we suspend your team until you do.

17. How do we change the team representative?

Notify the office that you will have a new team representative and complete the team information form for the new person. The new team representative is responsible for all of the information provided at the preseason meeting and must attend the next preseason meeting in prior to the spring season.

18. What if I lose my passcard?

You cannot play without a passcard. If the referee reports that your card was lost by the referee crew, we will replace the card at no charge. If we have no such report, a replacement card can be obtained for \$10.

Pending the issuance of the replacement card, a Missing Card Form can be used once. It must be presented to the referee along with a government issued picture ID card. Due to a few people cheating with these forms, we will now only issue them at the office. We will no longer fax or e-mail them. The Missing Card form will now be dated and issued with a red colored stamp to avoid having it used multiple times. The referee will keep the form and return it with his or her game report to the League.

19. What happens if we use an unregistered player or someone else's passcard?

Fairly simply, if you get caught using someone else's passcard, we suspend you and everyone else who is responsible, including the Team Representative, from the league for a full year and prohibit any of the responsible parties from serving in the role of team representative permanently. If you attempt to enter the game using someone else's passcard or cannot produce ID proving you are the person on the passcard, the referee is directed to retain the passcard and report the incident to the league. The Executive Committee will then take the appropriate action based on the circumstances.

20. How do I register my child on my team?

First, you need to understand this is not a youth soccer league. It's an adult league and there are no shortage of opportunities for children to play soccer at the youth level in Albuquerque and the surrounding area. If you insist on your child playing, then the child's parent or guardian must sign the registration form and liability waiver. If the child also plays youth soccer in a league other than AYSO or high school, you need to contact NM Youth Soccer Association to obtain a permission form to complete to insure that their youth soccer eligibility is maintained.

21. How many male and female players do we need for coed?

Sometimes we seem to have confusion regarding the number of men and women that can be on the field at any given time during an ASL coed game. In order to reduce that confusion, we are providing a handy little table below that tells you how many women can be on the field at any given time and how many men can be on the field at any given time. Each of these tables assumes that no one has been sent off for a red card, in which case your team plays short by the gender of the person sent off. If the person red carded is a substitute who was not in the game, it is irrelevant as to how the players on the field are counted, because nothing has changed on the field. While we attempt to make this as easy as humanly possible, we may yet have problems, so please show this to the referee if there is any dispute.

If your team has more than 6 men, meaning one is playing goalkeeper, the remaining men are allowed to stand on the sideline and act as "substitutes." The game should not be canceled because your team has too many men. If your team has more than 6 women (assuming it has 5 men), the remaining women are also allowed to function in the role of "substitute." Again, the game should not be canceled because you have too many women.

Please note that the goalkeeper may be either male or female. Excluding the goalkeeper, you may have a maximum of 5 men on the field. Excluding the goalkeeper, you may up to ten women on the field. FIFA Laws mandate that you may have no more than 11 players on the field.

If Your Team Has This Many Women Players	Then Your Team Can Have This Many Men Players	Resulting In This Many Total Players On the Field
1 woman	5 men + goalkeeper	7
2 women	5 men + goalkeeper	8
3 women	5 men + goalkeeper	9
4 women	5 men + goalkeeper	10
5 women	5 men + goalkeeper	11

If Your Team Has This Many Men Players	Then Your Team Can Have This Many Women Players	Resulting In This Many Total Players On the Field
1 man	10 women, including goalkeeper	11
2 men	9 women, including goalkeeper	11
3 men	8 women, including goalkeeper	11
4 men	7 women, including goalkeeper	11
5 men	6 women, including goalkeeper	11

22. Is it OK to treat the office staff like dirt?

No. They get paid \$10 an hour to make your life easy. They don't make policy decisions. The League officers handle that. If you don't like the rules, the fees, your red card or the fact that soccer was free where you lived last year, then come in on Thursday night and you can tell a real live officer in person. Pending that, we'd appreciate you showing common courtesy to the people behind the counter. If that's too much to ask, we'll arrange a meeting with you or your player and the Executive Committee and assist you in finding you a different soccer League to play in.

23. I've called the office every minute for the last half hour and no one has answered the phone. How come?

The office staff deals with people in the office first. If they don't answer when you call, leave a message and they'll call you back. They fully realize that your call is the single most important event in soccer on the planet. In fact, they realize it on your first try. By your fourth try, you're simply acting like a jerk.