PE Primary MSG Beach Soccer Boys - Official Guidelines
Age Category (Year 5 & 6)

Please read these rules carefully to ensure everyone has a wonderful and safe event.

General Principles:

- **Sportsmanship is Key:** Treat everyone – teammates, opponents, coaches, referees, officials, volunteers, and spectators – with respect and kindness. Applaud good play from all teams.
- **Safety First:** Always listen to event officials and referees. Follow their instructions carefully. Your safety is our most important consideration. Be mindful of the sand surface and other players.
- **Fair Play:** Compete honestly, follow the rules of the game and the spirit of fair play, and always give your best effort for your team. Respect the referee's decisions. Disagreements may happen, but schools are expected to promote fair play and manage any reactions that may trigger poor conduct from students. Adults must model respectful behaviour at all times.
- **Have Fun!** Enjoy the game, playing with your team on the beach, and the spirit of participation.
- **Respectful Behaviour:** This is a school event for children. Unacceptable behaviour (e.g., arguing, aggression, disrespect) from any adult (educator, parent, staff, spectator) or player will not be tolerated.

Team & Player Eligibility:

- **Date of Birth:** Players must be born in **2015 & 2016**
- **Age Category:** All participating players must meet the age requirements for the category they are playing in, as specified for this event.
- **School Enrollment:** All players must be officially enrolled students at the school/college they are representing.
- **Player Line-up:** Only those registered for the event with the MEYR Centre for PE & Sport for this event may participate. Last minute changes will not be allowed.
- **Coaches:** Teams may have up to two designated educators as coaches, who must be from the participating school.

Rules for Participants (Players):

- **Team Kit & Equipment:**

- Wear the designated team kit.
- Each school should bring **one set of bibs** in case of a colour clash requiring a change.
- Keepers have to wear a different coloured shirt from the rest of the team.
- **Footwear:** Players **must play barefoot**. Socks, bandages, or any kind of foot covering are not allowed, **unless specifically permitted by the referee for a medical reason (subject to safety check).**
- No jewellery/watches are allowed.

- **The Pitch / Field of Play:**
- Stay within the marked boundaries of the sand pitch.
- Respect all pitch markings.

- **Before the Match:**
- Be ready with your team at the designated time.
- Listen carefully to the referee's instructions.

- **Match Format:**
- Team Size: 5 players per team are allowed on the court at any one time.
- Playing Time: Matches will be played according to the official fixtures, typically **3 periods of 5 minutes each (3 x 5 min)** with no stopping time during periods, unless directed otherwise by the referee for significant delays or injuries.

- **Key Rules:**
- Match Rules: Basic beach soccer rules will be followed. Key rules include:

- **Substitutions: Flying substitutions** are allowed (players can enter/exit the pitch during play according to designated zones/procedures).
- **Goalkeeper Back Pass:** A pass back to the goalkeeper is allowed. However, if the goalkeeper receives the ball from a teammate via a deliberate pass, they **cannot touch the ball with their hands** and must play the ball again using their feet **within 4 seconds**.
- **Out Balls:** When the ball goes out of play over the sidelines or goal lines, play is restarted with a **kick-in** from the point where it went out (or from the corner for corner kicks). The 4-second rule may apply to restarts.
- **Free Kicks:** Free kicks awarded for fouls are generally **direct** (can score directly) and must be **taken by the player who was fouled**, unless they are injured. **No defensive barrier is allowed.**

- **Player Conduct:** Play the ball, not the opponent. Dangerous play (high kicks near players), tackles from behind, pushing, holding, tripping, dissent, taunting, rough play, or any form of aggressive or unsportsmanlike behaviour like sand throwing or kicking up are not allowed and may result in warnings, free kicks, or sending off.
- **Referee Authority:** Respect all decisions made by the referee, even if you disagree. Their decisions are **final** and cannot be contested. Only the team captain may approach the referee respectfully for clarification if needed and permitted by the referee.
- Play fairly and honestly – no diving or feigning injury.
- Follow rules for restarts correctly and promptly.
- Do not handle the ball deliberately (unless you are the goalkeeper in your designated area, following the back-pass rule).
- If unwell or injured, stop safely and inform the referee or coach immediately.

- **After the Match:**
- Thank the opposing team and the referee.
- Listen to your coach for post-match instructions.
- Leave the pitch promptly.

Rules for Parents & Guardians:

1. **Be Positive Role Models:** Cheer positively for *all* children. Focus on effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Avoid criticising players, coaches, or referees. Model respectful behaviour.
2. **Spectator Zones:** Parents and supporters must stay in designated viewing areas. You are strictly not permitted to approach or enter the pitch, technical areas (coach/substitute benches), official's areas, or go behind the goals during matches. Be mindful of staying clear of the playing boundaries on the sand.
3. **No Sideline Coaching or Interference:** Do not shout instructions to players. Do not interfere with the game. Crucially, do not approach the referee or officials during or after the game to question decisions. Disputes are not tolerated.
4. **Respect Officials & Volunteers:** Treat all event staff with courtesy. Address significant concerns to the designated event information point away from active matches. Remember, referee decisions are final.
5. **Keep it Fun:** Maintain a positive, encouraging atmosphere. Let the children play and enjoy the beach soccer experience.
6. **Preparation:** Ensure your child has their kit, plenty of water/drinks, **sunscreen, a hat, and**

sunglasses for when they are not playing. Remember **no footwear** is needed for playing. A beach towel and beach sandals/sliders/flip-flops are recommended.

Rules for Coaches / Educators:

1. **Coaching Staff Limit:** Each team may be coached and supervised by no more than two designated educators from their school/college. No other adults (including non-designated coaches or parents) are permitted on or near the bench/technical area.
2. **Uphold Sportsmanship:** Instil and model fair play, respect for opponents and officials, and gracious conduct. You are a key role model. Promote fair play and manage any student reactions to disagreements with respect.
3. **Technical Area Conduct:** Remain within your designated technical area (often marked on the sand). Only one coach should stand to give instructions at a time, if permitted.
4. **Pitch Access:** Do not enter the field of play during a match without the referee's permission, except only for serious injuries.
5. **Appropriate Coaching:** Provide positive, constructive instructions. Communicate respectfully. Avoid excessive shouting or criticism. Do not incite players against opponents or officials.
6. **Respect Officials & Procedures:** Respect the referee's authority and decisions as final. Communicate necessary clarifications calmly and respectfully only at appropriate times or through official channels. Do not engage in arguments or disputes.
7. **Team Management:** Ensure players understand the beach soccer rules and event regulations. Manage substitutions correctly. Keep team areas tidy.
8. **Player Welfare & Conduct:** Prioritise player safety (hydration, sun protection, awareness of sand conditions). Ensure players adhere to conduct rules.
9. **Team Responsibility:** Each school is responsible for the behaviour of its players, designated educators, and supporters.

Important Event Information:

- **Safety & First Aid:** A qualified first aid team will be present. Coaches should alert event staff or first aid immediately if a player is injured, distressed, or requires medical attention. Note the First Aid station location. Be aware of potential hazards like hot sand or sharp objects buried in the sand
- **Results/Fixtures & Points:** Information provided by organisers. Points system: **Win = 3 points, Draw = 1 point, Win by penalty shoot-out = 2 points**.

- **Draw Resolution:** In case of a draw in matches where a winner is needed (e.g., for final classification if teams are on equal points), a **penalty shoot-out (initially 3 penalties per team**, followed by sudden death if still tied) will take place.
- **Awards/Recognition:** Details provided by organisers.

organisers.

Photography During MSG Events

Important Information:

- **Photos will be taken in a general manner, and we regret to inform you that we will not be able to remove or edit any images upon request.**
- **It is essential that every student participating in any MSG event has a signed consent form from their parent or guardian.**
- **It is the responsibility of each school to ensure that consent forms are collected and properly managed.**

Commitment & Scheduling

- **Schools must fully commit to participation.**
- **Withdrawals after preparations are unfair and discouraged.**
- **Schools are responsible for their own transport arrangements and costs.**
- **No individual emails requesting date changes or indicating unavailability will be accepted.**
- **Event dates cannot be altered.**
- **Postponements will only occur in cases of severe weather or uncontrollable circumstances.**
- **Events will proceed in case of isolated showers.**
- **Schools will be notified via email about any postponements or cancellations.**
- **Late registrations will not be accepted.**

Consequences:

- **Players:** Failure to comply may result in warnings, free kicks awarded against their team, temporary suspensions, or dismissal from the game, according to the rules applied by the

referee.

- **Adults (Coaches, Parents, Spectators):** Unacceptable behaviour or failure to follow rules (especially regarding referee respect and spectator zones) will not be tolerated and may result in warnings or removal from the event venue.
- **Team Responsibility:** Persistent inappropriate behaviour by a school's players, educators, or supporters may result in removal from the current event or disqualification from future participation.
- **Final Authority:** The decisions of the referee regarding incidents on the field of play are final. The decisions of the head event official or Event Director regarding overall rule enforcement and event management are final.

Access to Events – Important Notice

Parents and guardians will only be permitted outside the beach soccer area, behind the fence.

No one is allowed inside the venue under any circumstances.

We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring the safety and smooth running of the event.

Registration & Further Details

A Microsoft Form will be sent to all schools that express interest in participating in the event. This form will be used to: Confirm participation and Submit Players details.

Further event details, including schedules, grouping, and final instructions, will be shared with registered schools following confirmation.

Late registrations will not be Accepted.