

# ***Greater Longview Soccer Association***

## **Controlling High Scoring Games Policy**

Every player who signs up to play soccer, even those who have never played, gets to play at least half of every game. Occasionally, therefore, highly experienced / talented teams meet highly inexperienced / untalented teams.

GLSA's goal is to insure our children enjoy the game of soccer through the experience of competitiveness, teamwork and sportsmanship. Coaches should always keep in mind the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning.

Losing by big margins can result in players and their coaches giving up the game and it's pretty obvious that scoring goals virtually at will is not going to do anything for the development of the players on the winning team.

In an effort to maintain a positive and meaningful experience for the youth of our association, the GLSA Board of Directors has established the following policy, to be effective with the beginning of the fall 2015 Season. The policy shall be effective for U-9 and above age groups, and does not apply to the U-5 through U-8 age groups.

The policy is defined as follows:

1. When a team gets a 10 point lead in a game, the score will be frozen. Any other goals scored by either team, will not count in the final outcome of the game.
2. The intent of this policy is to encourage coaches of teams that are dominating the game to use the opportunity to create a more valuable learning experience for their players. A coach that can get his players to pull back on scoring by creative methods, such as: 1-touch, pass backs, requiring header goals only, put someone new in goal, only left footed kicks on goal, right foot kicks only from outside the 18, etc.; will find out that these techniques will not only allow the game to play out to the end of the allotted time, but will also help improve the skill levels of their players.
3. Once a 6-goal differential between two teams is achieved, the referee will let the official clock run during injuries, penalty kicks, after goals and during referee disciplinary actions.

Fall 2015