



**INNER CITY SUPER LEAGUE**

**2026 RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## CONTENTS

1	BACKGROUND .....	3
1.1	Guiding Principles.....	3
2	REGISTRATION.....	3
2.1	Team Registration .....	3
2.2	Player Registration .....	3
3	SCHEDULE.....	4
3.1	Change in Fixtures .....	4
3.2	Forfeits .....	5
3.2.1	Forfeit Procedure.....	5
4	FORMAT .....	5
4.1	Regular Season .....	5
4.1.1	Log Calculation.....	5
4.2	Playoffs .....	6
5	PROMOTION AND RELEGATION FOR 2026 SEASON .....	6
6	RULES AND POLICIES .....	7
7	CLOSING .....	7
8	INNER CITY SUPER LEAGUE MANAGEMENT .....	7
8.1	Communication .....	7

## 1 BACKGROUND

The Inner City Super League (“**ICSL**”) is a club league run for all basketball clubs in South Africa. The aim of ICSL is to provide a basketball environment that is competitive, fair and fun whilst maintaining a level of sustainability backed by solid management.

### 1.1 Guiding Principles

ICSL intends to put together a basketball product that all stakeholders from management, players and spectators are happy to be associated with. There must be full awareness from all stakeholders about the significant role that they play towards developing that product and to this effect are all expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting that significance.

## 2 REGISTRATION

### 2.1 Team Registration

- I. All teams must complete a Club Registration Form (“**Form**”) at the time of registering for ICSL. No team shall be allowed to participate without this Form.
- II. Teams are requested to provide **ALL** information listed in the Form as and when prescribed by ICSL Management.
- III. Each team must have a designated manager that will be the contact person for all communication sent out by ICSL management. It is up to teams to ensure that the contact details of this designated manager are kept up to date and that ICSL is aware of any changes to such details.

### 2.2 Player Registration

- I. A team may have a maximum of **20 (twenty)** players registered in ICSL who all must be registered on the Form, prior to each team participating in ICSL. Teams must submit an initial form prior to the start of ICSL with a final form (of 20 (twenty) players) to be submitted on or before **28 March 2025**. Any player listed on either the initial or final form may not be replaced by another player. [See 2.2.II and III below in this regard.]
- II. With regards to player transfers – THIS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED!! Once a player has been listed on a particular team, they are bound to that team for the duration of the season, regardless of whether they play or not.

- III. No deregistration of players shall be permitted, after a Form has been submitted.
- IV. In the event that a coach wishes to participate as a player on his/her team, he/she must be listed both as a player and as a coach on their respective Form, provided further that the 20 (twenty) player *quota* may not be exceeded.
- V. In the event of any player duplication on multiple Forms, ICSL management will enquire directly with the player to determine which team he/she wishes to participate on for the season. The player's decision will be final and binding, once all relevant parties have been contacted.
- VI. All teams are expected to plan their roster management carefully before the start of the season.

### **3 SCHEDULE**

- I. The fixture for the entire season will be made available to all teams (and spectators) on ICSL's website ([www.icsl.co.za](http://www.icsl.co.za)) and various social media sites throughout the season.
- II. Matches are scheduled to be played at: (a) Hall 29, West Campus, University of the Witwatersrand; the University of Johannesburg (Soweto Campus); (c) Brixton Multipurpose Centre; and (d) Emeris Sandon, as well as any other venue communicated by ICSL Management. Notwithstanding the above, ICSL will communicate any changes to these locations (where required), in writing, to affected teams.
- III. Match days shall occur throughout the week –we therefore reiterate that teams pay careful attention to their respective matches and plan accordingly. Any changes to this arrangement will be communicated by ICSL Management.

#### **3.1 Change in Fixtures**

- I. No changes in fixture will occur for the accommodation of teams once the season has started. Teams are requested to take note of the playing days and times and plan accordingly.
- II. The only changes permitted will be those as required by the venue owners or those which are beyond our control.
- III. Teams are requested to make plans accordingly at the beginning of the season to ensure that they have enough players to honour their games.
- IV. Particular attention should be put on Saturday or Sunday games or games that occur during a public holiday or over "long" weekends, where players are likely to be travelling.

### **3.2 Forfeits**

Team will be charged a forfeit for the following reasons:

- I. it refuses to play after being instructed by the referee;
- II. its actions prevent the game from being played;
- III. 15 (fifteen) minutes after the scheduled start time, the team is not present or it is not able to field 5 (five) players to start the game; and
- IV. the team plays with a non-registered, expelled or suspended player(s).

#### **3.2.1 Forfeit Procedure**

- I. Teams committing forfeits will be expelled from ICSL for the remainder of the season.
- II. No refunds shall be paid to expelled teams.
- III. The entire record of an expelled team shall be expunged from ICSL's records for that season and such expulsion shall be communicated to the remainder of ICSL teams.

## **4 FORMAT**

### **4.1 Regular Season**

- I. The Men's Division 1 (D1) will play each other once during the regular season.
- II. The Men's Division 2 (D2) will play each other once during the regular season.
- III. The Women's Division 1 (W1) will play each other once during the regular season.
- IV. The Women's Division 2 (W2) will play each other once during the regular season.
- V. The Men's Division 3 (D3) will play each other once during the regular season within their respective "City" and "Super" pools.

### **4.2 Log Calculation**

- I. No points are awarded for wins and losses.
- II. The ICSL log will be determined by win percentage.
- III. Tie:
  1. Head-to-head record will determine the log standing between 2 (two) teams with the same win percentage.
  2. Should the head-to-head records of multiple teams that are tied not determine the seeding between the teams then seeding will be determined by producing a log taking into account

only the teams involved in the tie and their results against each other with win percentage determining seeding.

3. Should the above not determine seeding then goal average will further be added to the log standings involved in the tie.
4. If at any stage using the above criteria, a multiple tie is reduced to a tie involving only 2 (two) teams, the procedure in 4.1.1(II) will be applied.

#### **4.3 Playoffs**

- I. For the D1, D2, W1 and W2, the playoffs will consist of the top 4 (four) teams who will proceed to semi-finals, with the following classification: 1 vs. 4 and 2 vs. 3.
- II. For the D3, the playoffs will consist of the top (four) teams in each of the "City" and "Super" pools who will proceed to quarter-finals, with the following classification: C1 vs. S4, C2 vs. S3, S1 vs. C4 and S2 vs. C3. Thereafter, the winners of each quarter-final will proceed to semi-finals, with the following classification: C1S4 vs S2C3, S1C4 vs C2S3
- III. Quarter-Finals (as applicable), Semi-finals and Finals will be 1 (one) game "sudden death" matches for all divisions.

### **5 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION FOR 2026 SEASON**

Subject to approval from ICSL Management, promotion and relegation with respect to each Division, will take place as follows:

#### **5.1 Men's Divisions:**

- I. Promotion (for D2/D3)– on a 2-up basis whereby teams that finish first and second respectively in D2 and D3 (ie the finalists) will be promoted to D1 or D2 (as applicable). For D2 specifically, should the team that finishes first or second not wish to be promoted, ICSL Management may consider the team that finishes third or fourth. For the avoidance of doubt, no other team will be considered; and
- II. Relegation (for D1/D2) – on a 2-down (from D1) basis whereby the teams that finishes last and second last in D1 or D2 (as applicable) will be relegated to D2 or D3 (as applicable).
- III. For the 2027 season and provided there are sufficient numbers, the relegated D2 teams and remaining top D3 teams of the 2026 season will be placed in D3 and the remainder of the teams (including all new teams) will be placed in (a new) D4.

## **5.2 Women's Division:**

- I. Promotion (for W2)– on a 2-up basis whereby teams that finish first and second respectively in W2 (ie the finalists) will be promoted to W1. For W2 specifically, should the team that finishes first or second not wish to be promoted, ICSL Management *may* consider the team that finishes third or fourth. For the avoidance of doubt, no other team will be considered; and
- II. Relegation (for W1) – on a 2-down (from W1) basis whereby the teams that finishes last and second last in W1 will be relegated to W2.
- III. For the 2027 season and provided there are sufficient numbers, the relegated W1 teams and remaining top W2 teams of the 2026 season will be placed in W2 and the remainder of the teams (including all new teams) will be placed in (a new) W3.

## **6 RULES AND POLICIES**

For the avoidance of doubt, any rules and/or policies, imposed upon ICSL by the government and/or venue hosts shall be applicable to all stakeholders involved with ICSL.

## **7 CLOSING**

The Rules and Regulations of ICSL are designed to enhance the product. We implore all teams to fully understand ICSL's objectives and therefore the motivation behind all its policies. It is expected that all teams playing in ICSL accept and internalise all policies contained herein. These are not meant to make life difficult but instead ensure that with sound management by ICSL and teams, a fair playing environment is established.

## **8 INNER CITY SUPER LEAGUE MANAGEMENT**

### **8.1 Communication**

**Inner City Super League**

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