



U6 LAWS OF THE GAME - MODIFIED

Meridian PAL Soccer

Law 1 - The Field of Play

Field Size	Goal Size	Penalty Box Size	Goal Box Size
20 yds X 15 yds	6 ft by 18 ft	none	none

Law 2 - The Ball

Size three (3).

Law 3 - The Number of Players

A game is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than 4 players. There are no goalkeepers. In the event that your team does not have enough players to play, the opposing team may “donate” some of their players to allow the game to continue.

Law 4 - The Player's Equipment

Meridian PAL provides a shirt for each player. In addition, the player is to provide shin guards and appropriate shoes (tennis shoes or soccer cleats). If the team is playing a team wearing the same color, pinnies will be provided to differentiate teams. Look for these hanging on nearby stands.

Shin guards are mandatory and must be completely covered by socks. Cleat may not be made of metal and cannot have a toe cleat. No jewelry may be worn; No earrings may be worn, even if they are taped.

Law 5 - The Referee

There is no need for a referee to manage U6 games. Both head coaches, if desired, can be on the field during games to act as co-referees and to provide guidance on the field.

Law 6 - The other Match Officials

None

Law 7 - The Duration of the Match

The match shall be divided into four (4) periods of not more than 10 minutes, based on the energy and motivation of the players. The length of the match should be determined before the match starts by both coaches. There shall be a maximum of a five (5) minute break between each period.

Law 8 - The Start of Play

Two halves will start with a kick-off at the center of the field. The game will be re-started from the center after every score. The ball does NOT have to move forward at kick-off to start the ball in play. The player who kicks off is not allowed to touch it a second time until another player touches the ball. Each player must be on her or her half of the field. Kickoffs are direct kicks (you can score from a kick-off without someone else touching the ball first).

Law 9 - The Ball In and Out of Play

The ball is out of play when it COMPLETELY goes over the goal line or touch-line regardless if it is in the air or on the ground.

Law 10 - The Method of Scoring

The ball must COMPLETELY cross the line into the goal.

Law 11 - Offside

Offside will not be called.

Law 12 - Fouls and Misconduct

At the youth level, most fouls are due to pushing, holding or tripping, and result in a free kick. Other ones to watch for are handballs. A handball infraction occurs when a player handles the ball deliberately. Instinctive, self-protective reactions are not penalized at this young age. Accidental contact (ball striking hand or arm) is not an offense and should not be penalized.

Law 13 - Free Kicks

There are two types of free kicks, direct and indirect. At this level, all free kicks are classified as indirect. This means a goal may not be scored until the ball has been touched by a second player on either team. Players should be 4 yards away from the kicker.

Law 14 - The Penalty Kick

None

Law 15 - The Throw - In/Kick - In

A throw in is awarded when the attacking team kicks the ball over the sideline. The ball is awarded to the defending team.

Players must have both feet on the ground, two hands on the ball, and the ball must come from behind the player's head. A goal may not be scored on the throw in until touched by another player. When an improper throw-in occurs, players are given another opportunity.

Optionally, players may kick in the ball. When the ball goes out of bounds, a ball will be placed on the sideline near where the ball exited. Players may kick the ball in. Coaches should work together to give opportunities for all players to kick or throw in the ball.

Law 16 - The Goal Kick

A goal kick is granted when the attacking team kicks the ball over the goal line.

The goal kick shall be taken on the touchline near where the ball went out of play. The kicker may not touch the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player on either team. The ball is in play as soon as it is touched/clearly moves.

Law 17 - The Corner kick

A corner kick is granted when the defending team kicks the ball over the goal line.

The corner kick shall be taken on the corner near where the ball went out of play. The kicker may not touch the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player on either team. The ball is in play as soon as it is touched/clearly moves.

Substitutions

Substitutions may occur at any time (on the fly).