

EYSA U-8 RULES

These Rules are an addendum to the EYSA Rules of the Games. Any rules not covered in this addendum shall be covered under the EYSA Rules of the Game and/or FIFA.

Field: To be rectangular in shape. The length of the field shall be greater than the width.

- **Width: 33 yards (100 feet)** however can be a maximum 35 yards (105 feet) Minimum 25 yards (75 feet) The field is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line with a **10 yards (30 feet)** diameter circle centered on the midpoint.
- **Length: 50 yards (150 feet)** however can be a maximum 55 yards (165 feet) Minimum 45 yards (135 feet).
- **The Goal Area:** The goal area shall consist of 2 rectangular boxes centered on the goal. The smaller box a line shall be drawn normal to the goal line **12 yards (36 feet) wide) from the outside of the goal post and should go 4 yards (12 feet deep)**. The goal box shall be drawn normal to the goal **22 yards (66 feet) from the outside of the goal post and should go 9 yards (27 feet) deep**. An arc is drawn outside the goal box, whose axis (center) shall be centered on the goal and measured **7 yards (21 feet)** from the goal line, with a radius of **5 yards (15 feet)**.
- **Penalty Kick Mark:** An approximate 8 inch diameter circle shall be marked **7 yards (21 feet)** from the goal line and centered on the goal. Not required during the season, but should be marked during tournaments. This will only be used in a tie-breaking situation during the tournament.
- **Flag posts:** as available.
- **Corner Arc:** per FIFA standards.
- **Goals:** 6 x 12 feet

Ball Size: #3

Duration: (4) 12 minute quarters with 2 minute breaks between each quarter and a 5 minute break at halftime.

Equipment:

- A) All players must have approved shin guards
- B) All cleats must be soccer cleats. Tennis shoes are acceptable.
- C) No Jewelry of any kind is acceptable. No hard clasps, beads, and/or berets are allowed in the hair.

- D) All players will have matching jerseys, short's, and sock's. During inclement weather, players are allowed to wear tights and undergarments granted they are of the dominant color and/or plain black or white.
- E) Goalkeepers jersey must distinguish him/her from other players of both teams
- F) If two teams have jerseys similar in color the home team is responsible to remedy the problem. Pennies or t-shirts of the same color are acceptable

Roster/Play Size: The Roster size shall be 8 - 11 players. The playing format is 6 vs. 6 with a goalkeeper. A minimum of 5 players is required for a soccer match to begin. A team will be allowed a 10-minute grace period from the scheduled start time to field a team. At the end of the grace period, the game is forfeited.

Age: Player has not reached their eighth (8th) birthday before August 1st of the Seasonal Year.

Substitution Procedure:

- A) A coach may substitute an unlimited number of players on their possession of a throw in or a goal kick by either team provided that the players are ready to enter the field of play at **midfield**.
- B) A coach may substitute an unlimited number of players after a goal has been scored by either team, between quarters, or during an injury from the player/coaching area
- C) No substitutions on corner kicks or in-direct kicks.
- D) A goalkeeper change must be made during a stoppage in play, and the referee must be made aware of the change.
- E) Prior to any and all substitutions the referee must be notified. The substitutes must wait for the referee to acknowledge them and may only enter the field after the player they are replacing has fully left the field or until the referee calls the player onto the field.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.

Offside: No offside in U-8.

Free Kicks: All free kicks shall be in-direct.

The Penalty Kick: No penalty kicks in U-8

Throw-Ins: All throw ins shall be according to FIFA rules with the exception that an improperly performed throw-in can be re-taken once.

Heading the Ball: Per US Soccer Federation rules, heading is no longer allowed at U11 and under. No training sessions can incorporate heading at the U8 age group. Any player that the referee feels deliberately attempts to head the ball will result in an indirect kick at the location where the infraction occurred.

Goal Kick: The goal kick can be taken along any point of the small goal box. Opposing players must be outside the goalie box. The ball must leave the goalie box before any player can touch the ball. If the ball does not leave the goal box another goal kick is awarded. Only the opposing team must be outside of the goalie box before the kick.

The Corner Kick: per FIFA standards.

Forfeits/No Show: If your team forfeits a game either through not showing up or not having enough players to field a team, your team will be charged a **\$25 fee**. Please consider the other coaches, players, and parents. If you do not think your team will make a game please contact your EYSA Age Director so we can notify the other team.

Overtime: Overtime is only used in Tournament Play; In the event of a tie during tournament play; at the end of regulation another coin toss will be held to determine the order of which team kicks first (home team calls this coin toss). This order is maintained throughout the entire session of kicks. The referee determines which goal to use. The kicks will alternate between the two teams. The keeper is eligible to participate in these kicks and can also be replaced by any eligible player (not severely injured). It is allowable for the opposing goalkeeper to be on the end line but outside the penalty area while his/her team is taking a kick. If no winner has not been determined at the end of the first session then new players (who did not kick in session one; do not have to be ones on field at end of regulation) must be selected for session two. Session three becomes sudden death; meaning if after each kicker has participated, and one kick scores and the other does not the team that scores wins.

Five players who were on the field at the end of regulation will be the players taking the first set of kicks for each team. There will be a goalkeeper and the kicks will be taken from the penalty mark. At the end of session one, five new players must be selected for the second set of kicks. If one team does not have five additional players then session two will consist of the same amount of players from each team that did not kick in session one. If the score is tied at the end of session two then any five players that did not participate in session two is eligible. The kicks then go to a sudden death format.

Additional Rules:

- A) No Slide tackling is allowed. The referee will first warn the player. If it continues the referee will make the player sit for a quarter.
- B) Players and Coaches will be located on the opposite side of the field to the spectators. It is the responsibility of the coaches to make sure all their parents, and spectators stay on the opposite side. If another teams parent has come to the Coaches/Players side please contact the referee and they will ask the parents to move.
- C) No coaches, players, or parents shall be located behind the goal.
- D) It is strongly recommended all coaches take the Free U6/U8 Youth Module 1 course.
- E) There is NO smoking or consumption of alcohol to take place on or near the field area, including the parking lots.
- F) There is NO such thing as a mercy rule where a contest can end if the goal differential gets larger than ten goals. The game must be played in its entirety. However, it is stronger suggested the winning coach do whatever possible to maintain good sportsmanship. This can be done by quietly removing a player, minimum number of passes before going to goal, or reducing the number of attacking players, etc. Please remember this is Recreational soccer and letting the kid's have fun and learn the game of soccer is the emphasis
- G) EYSA Soccer fields are located on State Property – there is absolutely no firearms of any sort permitted.