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## Rule Highlights - 6U

The following Laws have been modified by Soccer Association for Youth (SAY) and UVSA with the goal of introducing more touches, while being developmentally appropriate for $4,5, \& 6$ year old players. These modifications are intended to be guidelines for players, parents and coaches and are not intended to be the letter of the law as enforced by the referees on the field.

| Field of Play | - $\quad 12$ yd. wide by $\sim 18$ yd. (may be adjusted as needed by UVSA) |
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| The Ball | - Size \#3 ball is used |
| Players \& Substitutions | - 4-on-4 and there are NO goaltenders <br> - Unlimited substitutions may occur anytime the ball goes out of play, there is an injury, or a goal is scored |
| Player's <br> Equipment | - Shin guards are required to be worn at ALL 6U activities <br> - Additional game day required attire includes league provided jerseys \& socks, as well black shorts (long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts, as well as pants may be worn under the uniform, weather dependent) <br> - Cleats MAY be worn but cannot have metal spikes or sharp edges |
| Referees | - No official referee in the 6U age group, coaches/parents will officiate scrimmages |
| Assistant Referees | - See above |
| Duration of Game | - Practice Day sessions \& frequency are determined by the coach, but are typically 45-60 minutes in duration, 1-2 times per week <br> - Game Day sessions are typically 35-45 minutes in duration <br> - The first 15-20 minutes are practice <br> - Followed by a scrimmage consisting of two 10 -minute halves, $\mathrm{w} / \mathrm{a}$ continuous clock |
| Start \& Restart of Play | - All starts and restarts of play occur at the beginning of a quarter and after a goal is scored <br> - They will take place in the area between the offensive team's goal and the center line <br> - The defense will start at their end of the field near their goal |
| Ball In \& Out of Play | - The ball is considered out of play when it COMPLETELY crosses a goal line or touch line regardless of whether the ball is on the ground or in the air |


| Method of Scoring | - A goal is awarded when the ball completely crosses the portion of the goal line enclosed by the uprights of the soccer goal <br> - Score is not kept in the 6 U age group |
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| Offside | - Offside rule does NOT apply |
| Fouls \& Misconduct | - The most common fouls for 6 U players are due to pushing, holding, tripping, charging and handballs <br> - These should be called and explained to all players, not just the offending player |
| Free Kick | - ALL free kicks are INDIRECT, meaning a goal cannot be scored until the ball is played by another player on either team |
| Penalty Kick | - Since there are no penalty areas on the 6U field, no penalty kicks will be awarded, ALL infractions will follow the Free Kick rule |
| Throw-In | - To help solidify the idea of a player not using his/her hands, no throw-ins will be awarded <br> - Instead, an indirect free kick will be awarded at the place the ball crossed the touch line |
| Goal Kick | - Awarded to the defense when the ball is last played by the offense before going out of play along the defensive goal line. <br> - Since there are no goal boxes on the 6 U field, the defense will be awarded an indirect free kick at the place where the ball went out of play |
| Corner Kick | - Awarded to the offense when the ball is last played by the defense before going out of play along the defensive goal line <br> - Since there are no corner arcs on the 6U field, the offense will be awarded an indirect free kick from the corner closest to the place where the ball went out of play |

