

## **Tantasqua Regional Youth (T.R.Y.) Soccer League, LLC. Rules of the Game and Interpretations**

### **Prologue:**

It is the intention and main objective of this League to teach the youth of the Tantasqua Regional School District the rules, regulations, and fundamentals of the sport of soccer.

The Laws of the International Football Association Board (F.I.F.A.), in reference to the latest edition, as modified here, will be used.

### **Law One: The Field of Play**

1. Existing lines are used regardless of the straightness or clarity. The “Touch Lines” are considered to be part of the playing field.
2. The “Field of Play” for the Bantam division includes a “**no shot**” area, similar to the “goal area” for other divisions. The intent of the “no shot” area is to protect the goalie.
3. Coaching:
  - a. Pee Wee division will allow **a maximum of one coach, from either team**, to be on the “Field of Play” if no referee is available. His/her presence is to act as referee.
  - b. In all other divisions coaching is permitted only from the area along the “Touch Lines”. The referee may require that the coaching area be limited within specified points if, in his or her judgment, the coaching is causing undue interference with the progress of the game or with the coaching of the opposing team.
4. Spectators, substitute players and coaches must remain approximately five feet away from the “Touch Lines”. Coaches are responsible for helping to enforce this rule. Spectators must be located on the opposite side of the field from both teams. No one is permitted behind the “Goal Line”.
5. Dimensions of the “Field of Play”:
  - a. Pee Wee Division: 20yds x 30yds, half line, 3 yard center circle radius
  - b. Bantam Division: 20yds x 30yds, 3 yards from goal line x 2 yards on either side of goal “no shot” box, half line, 4 yard center circle radius, 1 yard corner arcs
  - c. Freshmen Division: 30yds x 45yds, 5 x 8 yard goal area, 10 x 24 yard penalty area, 8 yard penalty spot, 9 inch diameter penalty spot, 8 yard penalty spot radius, half line, 6 yard center circle radius, 1 yard corner arcs
  - d. Sophomore Division: 45yds x 75yds, 6 x 16 yard goal area, 14 x 32 yard penalty area, 10 yard penalty spot, 9 inch diameter penalty spot, 8 yard penalty spot radius, half line, 8 yard center circle radius, 1 yard corner arcs
  - e. Junior/Senior Division: 75yds x 112yds, 6 yard goal area, 18 yard penalty area, 12 yard penalty spot, 9 inch diameter penalty spot, 10 yard penalty spot radius, half line, 10 yard center circle radius, 1 yard corner arcs.

**Law Two: The Ball**

1. The correct game ball will be provided by each team.
  - a. Pee Wee and Bantam divisions will use size #3.
  - b. Freshmen and Sophomore divisions will use size #4.
  - c. Junior/Senior division will use size #5.

**Law Three: Number of Players**

1. Teams may use all assigned players as substitutes.
2. At the discretion of the referee both teams may substitute under the following conditions **only**:
  - a. Injury.
  - b. At the request of the player.
  - c. When given a warning by the coach or referee (Pee Wee division) or shown a yellow card by the referee (all other divisions).
  - d. At the end of each quarter or half.
  - e. Pee Wee division only: At the discretion of the coach.
  - f. All other divisions: After a goal, on a goal kick, or when either team has possession for throw-in and is substituting.

**Note:** Any player who is bleeding shall be required to leave the game until the bleeding has stopped or the injury bandaged to the approval of the referee.

3. Substitutes must be at the half line and ready to enter the field of play. The coach must get the attention of the referee and wait for the referee's signal before any substitute player enters the field. **Exception:** At the end of a quarter or at halftime.
4. All players on a team are to be given an equitable opportunity to play during the game/season. As a minimum, each player must play the equivalent of one complete half of each game when he or she is present.
  - a. Pee Wee and Bantam divisions: Every player must have played in the previous three quarters of the game before any player is allowed to play a fourth quarter, on penalty of forfeit.
  - b. Freshmen, Sophomore and Junior/Senior divisions: Every player must play at least half a game before any player is allowed to play a complete game, on penalty of forfeit.

**Exception:** A coach may override this rule for disciplinary reasons, but that coach must inform the opposing coach and the referee prior to the start of play. Coaches are responsible for enforcing this rule.

5. No player may play more than one half of any game in the same basic position (i.e. forward, halfback, fullback or goalie) on penalty of forfeit.

**Exception: Sophomore and Jr/Sr Divisions.**

**Law Three: Number of Players** (continued)

6. Pee Wee division will consist of two, four player teams. Goalkeepers are not used in this division. Games will not be started with fewer than three players fielded per team. When a team fields only the minimum number of players, the opposing team may field only one additional player. However, when an opposing team is unable to field a second team at the minimum number of players, the team with the majority of players **must** supply a player(s) to the opposing team so that both teams will have two teams of “equal” strength. In this case, pennies must be worn to distinguish opposing teams.
  - a. Once a player scores a goal that player must wear a “Alternate color” penny to distinguish them as being the playmaker and they may not score again until someone else on their team scores. The penny is then given to the new scorer who becomes the playmaker for their team. The intent is to develop playmakers rather than one player who will score all the goals for their team. At the start of a new quarter neither team is required to wear the “Alternate color” penny. Also, the team that is losing by more than 2 goals does not have to wear the penny until they are back within 2 goals.

**Note:** 'Own Goal', no change in playmaker, no goal is recorded. Restart – Throwin.
  - b. When the ball goes out of bounds, the game shall be restarted by a throw-in from the nearest touch line regardless of where it went out.
7. Bantam division will consist of two, five player teams. Games will not be started with fewer than four players fielded per team. When a team fields only the minimum number of players, the opposing team may field only one additional player. However, when an opposing team is unable to field a second team at the minimum number of players, the team with the majority of players **must** supply a player(s) to the opposing team so that both teams will have two teams of “equal” strength. In this case, pennies must be worn to distinguish opposing teams.
8. Freshmen division is to be played with seven player teams. Games will not be started with fewer than five players fielded per team.
9. Sophomore division is to be played with nine player teams. Games will not be started with fewer than six players on a team
10. Junior/Senior division is to be played with eleven player teams. Games will not be started with fewer than seven players on a team.

**Law Three: Number of Players (continued)**

11. Freshmen, Sophomore and Junior/Senior divisions only:

When a team fields **less than** the maximum number of players,

- a. The opposing team may field only one additional player, or
- b. The team with the majority of players may supply any mutually agreed upon number of players to the opposing team.

When a team **cannot** field a minimum number of players the team with the majority of players **must** supply players to the opposing team so that both teams will have teams of 'equal' strength. No other method of 'borrowing' players is allowed. Pennies must be worn to distinguish opposing teams.

**Law Four: Player's Equipment**

1. Mandatory player equipment: Team jersey, shinguards, shorts, stockings and soccer cleats or turf shoe. A player is **not** allowed to play without their team jersey, shinguards nor with any cleats other than soccer cleats. Shinguards must be completely covered by the player's stockings.

**Exception:** Pee Wee division **only**, sneakers or soccer cleats may be worn.

2. Players will NOT be allowed to play while wearing a cast, splint or brace. Exception: Approved knee brace or elastic type brace that does not contain any hard material.
3. **Prohibitive player wear: Earrings, necklaces, bracelets, watches, rings, metal or hard plastic hair clips, long pants, hats, visors, etc. are not permitted. Player safety is the first concern.**

**Law Five: Referees**

1. Two or three referees will normally be assigned to each game, *when possible*.

**Law Six: Linesmen**

1. When only one referee is available, each team must provide one linesman to assist the referee if requested by the referee.

**Law Seven: Duration of the Game**

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Pee Wee division:       | 2. Bantam division:      |
| 6 minutes per quarter      | 20 minutes per half      |
| 2 minutes between quarters | 5 minutes between halves |
| 5 minutes between halves   | 2 halves of play         |
| 4 quarters of play         |                          |

3. Freshmen division:  
25 minutes per half  
5 minutes between halves  
2 halves of play
4. Sophomore and Junior/Senior division:  
30 minutes per half  
5 minutes between halves  
2 halves of play
5. The referee will keep time in all divisions. The time will not be extended for any reason. However, time may be shortened to meet scheduling requirements.
6. Should a game have to be stopped or the duration lessened because of weather, it will be considered final upon completion of the first half of play.

**Law Eight: The Start of Play**

1. At the beginning of the game, the team captains and the referee meet in the center of the field. One captain is asked to call as the referee makes the coin toss. The winner of the toss chooses direction of play (goal), the loser is given the kickoff (possession).

**Note:** Prior to the start of play, the referee must verify compliance of Law Four by both teams. Also, team kickoffs alternate each quarter or half and change ends at the half.

**Exception:** Pee Wee Division does not switch ends at the quarter or half.

**Law Nine: Ball in and out of Play**

1. No modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.

**Law Ten: Method of Scoring**

1. Bantam division: No goal is scored if the ball was played inside the “**no shot**” area.
2. All other divisions: No modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.

**Law Eleven: Off-side**

1. Pee Wee and Bantam divisions: No Off-side rule.
2. All other divisions: No modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.

**Law Twelve: Fouls and Misconduct**

1. Slide tackles committed against an opponent, in control of the ball, are NOT allowed and therefore considered a foul.
  - a. Slide tackles committed by any player (other than the goalkeeper inside his own penalty area) shall result in a direct free-kick being awarded to the opposing team and the offending player shown a yellow card. (Pee Wee division will issue only a warning.)

- b. Slide tackles from behind, shall be considered serious foul play and shall result in a direct free kick being awarded to the opposing team and the offending player sent off the “Field of Play” and shown a red card.
2. Fighting is considered violent conduct. Any player initiating a fight shall be sent off the “Field of Play” and shown a red card. A direct free-kick shall be awarded at the point of the foul. The player shall be suspended for the remainder of that game and the next scheduled game. The incident shall be reported in writing to both the Head Referee and the Commissioner of the League by the game’s Referee within two days of the incident. A repeat offense will be cause for expulsion for the remainder of the season.
3. The goalkeeper may not be interfered with or impeded in any manner when he or she has possession of the ball. One hand on the ball shall be considered possession. Interference with the goalkeeper may result in a caution, indirect free-kick, or no goal being awarded. When in doubt, the call goes in favor of the goalkeeper.
4. No other modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.
5. The T.R.Y. Soccer League Board of Directors reserves the right to impose further penalties against any player’s, coach’s or parent’s misconduct after review of the incident.

**Law Thirteen: Free-kick**

1. See Law Twelve, 1a and 1b, above.
2. No other modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.

**Law Fourteen: Penalty-kick**

1. See Law Twelve, 1a and 1b, above.
2. No other modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.

**Law Fifteen: Throw-in**

1. No modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.

**Law Sixteen: Goal-kick**

1. No modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.

**Law Seventeen: Corner-kick**

1. No modifications to the F.I.F.A. rules.