



**U-12 In-house
Official Rules
Revised Fall 2016**

(This Instructional Program conforms to all FIFA Official Rules unless indicated below. This set of rules supersedes all other rules.)

I. The Field

- A The field size (in yards) shall be: 75L x 55W
- B Distinctive lines not more than 5 inches wide shall mark the field.
- C A halfway line shall be marked out across the field and a center circle drawn with a minimum 3 yard/maximum 5 yard radius.
- D Four corner arcs shall be marked with a 2 foot radius.
- E The goals shall be no more than 12 feet wide by 6 feet tall.
- F The goal area shall be marked with a goal box measuring 4 yards from each goal post and 6 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line.

II. The Ball

Size 4

III. Number of Players

- A The game shall be played 8v8 (7 field players and a goalkeeper).
- B The maximum number of players recommended on the team roster should not exceed 14.
- C The teams and games may be co-ed.

IV. Substitutions

Substitutions: At any time with the permission of the referee, generally: prior to a throw-ins, prior to a goal kick, by either team, after a goal by either team, after an injury by either team, when the referee stops the play, and at half-time.

V. Playing Time

- A Each player shall play at least 50% of the total playing time during each game.
- B All children should spend an equal amount of time during the season playing offense, defense and goalie.

VI. Player's Equipment

- A Every player must wear athletic shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes. Baseball or other cleats are not allowed. No cleat may contain a front center spike.
- B Shin guards are mandatory. They must be covered by the sock.

VII. Referee

The referee shall be a registered or associate referee or someone as deemed appropriate by the *club*. The referee may be a parent/coach or assistant.

VIII. Linesmen

Two linemen will be required.

IX. Duration of Game

- A The game shall be divided into two equal halves with each half being 30 minutes in duration.
- B There shall be a 5 minute break at the half.

X. Start of Play

At the start of play (i.e. beginning of game, after a goal has been scored, and after every quarter) opponents must be outside the center circle on their half of the field. The ball is in play once it is touched.

XI. Ball In and Out of Play

- A If a ball exits the playing field, it must be thrown back into play.
- B If a player throws the ball into play incorrectly, he or she may be given another chance to throw the ball into play. It is the referee's discretion.
- C The referee can instruct the player on the correct technique.

XII. Off-Sides

There shall be no off-sides.

XIII. Method of Scoring

- A. A goal is scored when the ball enters the goal after completely crossing the goal line.
- B. No goal shall be scored directly from a kick-off. If a goal is scored in such a manner then the kick-off will be redone.

XIV. Fouls and Misconduct

Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA

XV. Free Kicks

Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the following exception: Opponents must be eight (8) yards away before kick is allowed.

XVI. Penalty Kicks

Conform to FIFA with the following exception: Opponents must be eight (8) yards away before kick is allowed.

XVII. Goal Kicks/Goalie Punting

Goal kicks should be taken from the side of the goal the ball exited the playing field. All opponents should be 8 yards away from the ball.

XVIII. Corner Kicks

Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the following exception: Opponents must be eight (8) yards away from the ball.

XIX. Age of Players

- A Players should be 10 or 11 years old on or before July 31 to play in this division.
- B The *club* reserves the right to make exceptions to this rule as necessary to secure the best interests of the players.

XX. Conclusion of Game

At the conclusion of the game, players and coaches should shake hands with the opposing team.

XXI. Miscellaneous

- A All games are complete and a score will be kept.
- B Slaughter rule: any team that is up by more than 9 points at any time during the game will result in a loss.
- C The club reserves the right to assess and amend the outcome of a game that ends in a loss/win due to the slaughter rule.
- D All games are competitive. Players may receive a participation award as determined by the club.
- E Coaches shall not smoke or consume alcoholic beverages in the park.
- F Spectators shall be at least one yard away from the side lines and markings should be placed indicating same.
- G Coaches, parents, and spectators shall conform to the code of conduct as indicated in the Club's By-laws.
- H Jewelry of any kind is not allowed at any practice or game. This includes but is not limited to **EARRINGS**, necklaces, rings, and bracelets.

XXII. Headers

Headers are not allowed. Any header will result in a turnover at the point of the header and an indirect kick for the opposing team.

XXIII Mandatory Penalties

- A. Unnecessary delay of game-One(1) game suspension
- B. Unsportsmanlike conduct(i.e. profanity,obscenity,verbal or gesture)-One(1) game suspension
- C. Striking a player-Three(3)games suspension & Disciplinary Committee Review
- D. Subsequent Player(s) involvement-One(1) year suspension and Disciplinary Committee Review
- E. Striking a Referee – Two(2) year Suspension

XXIV Red Cards – Game Ejection

- A. A player ejected from a game shall be suspended from the next game.
- B. A player who receives a second ejection during a playing season shall also be suspended for the next two (2) games.

- C. A player who receives a third ejection during a playing season shall be suspended from the remainder of the scheduled seasons, including tournament play.
- D. Ejection of a Coach, Assistant, or Manager shall result in suspension for the next two (2) games.
- E. A Coach, Assistant, or Manager ejected for a second time during a playing season shall not be allowed to return to their Team until reviewed by the Disciplinary Committee.
- F. Any individual receiving a Red Card on the last session play date, including Tournament play, shall serve their suspension at their next scheduled NWISL game.

XXV Yellow Cards – Cautions

- A. Three (3) Yellow Cards in one season shall result in a One (1) Game suspension for the game following the third card.
- B. A Fourth Yellow Card received shall result in an additional One (1) Game suspension for the next scheduled game.
- C. A Fifth Yellow Card issued in a playing season shall result in a suspension for the remainder of the playing season.
- D. Two (2) Yellow Cards issued within the same game shall result in ejection for the remainder of that game, plus suspension from the next scheduled or rescheduled game. The ejection will not be counted in the accumulation of Red Cards, but will be counted as Two (2) Yellow Cards.
- E. Any Player receiving a Yellow Card may be substituted for. The carded player may return into the game, if eligible, at the next substitution opportunity, with permission of the Referee.