

## U 10-12 MSA RECREATIONAL SOCCER LAWS MODIFICATIONS (7/14/25)

**Special note:** Goalkeepers will not play more than a half. Referees have been instructed to protect the goalkeepers inside of the goal area. Coaches are requested to instruct their players not to charge the goalkeepers. Goalkeepers must release the ball within 5 seconds of controlling the ball. Coaches are not permitted on the field unless signaled onto the field by the referee.

**Heading is not allowed in ages U8, U9, U10, U11, and U12. If in the referees opinion a player intentionally heads the ball the result shall be an indirect free kick awarded to the opponent at the spot of the infraction. If the header is in the penalty area, it will result in an indirect free kick just outside of the penalty area.**

- A. Except as listed below, the FIFA "Laws of the Game" published by the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) shall govern the play within Medina Soccer Association.
- B. Exceptions
  - **Law 1 Field of Play** - The field of play will be assigned by the Association and will be played as marked. All field markings will be sized proportion to the field, including the goals.
  - **Law 2 Ball Size** - The ball size will be #4.
  - **Law 3 Number of Players and Substitutions**
    1. The starting number of players on the field will be seven. (six field players and a goalie)
    2. **As a courtesy to the other players and coaches, a team should only field the number of players that its opponents are able to field.**
    3. A team down 4 goals or more may elect to add an additional player as long as the four-goal difference exists.
    4. Substitution allowed during:
      - a) On own throw or corners
      - b) On opponents throw or corner if opponent is subbing.
      - c) On all goal kicks
      - d) after any score and at half
      - e) 1 for 1 on injury
    5. Each player SHALL play minimum of 50% of total playing time.
  - **Law 4 Players Equipment** – nothing dangerous allowed on the field, this includes jewelry
    1. Shin guards covered completely by stockings are required.
    2. footwear
    3. matching team shirt worn over any extra inclement weather clothing.
  - **Law 5 Referee**
    1. The referee will be assigned by MSA.
    2. If the assigned referee does not appear for the game and no substitute can be found, the two coaches will jointly referee the game.
    3. The referee will take into consideration the age group in his/her judgement calls. The spirit of the game should not be abridged by the excessive calling of penalties.
  - **Law 6 The Linesman** - Linesmen are not assigned by MSA.
  - **Law 7 Duration of the Game**
    1. Time of play shall be two 25 minute halves with a 5 minutes halftime.
  - 2. To keep games on schedule, the referee may shorten the time of play.
  - **Law 8 Start of Play** -
    1. Team winning coin toss, decides which goal to attack first half, other team gets kick off for the first half. Teams switch sides at half and alternate kick off at quarters.
    2. Opponents must remain 8 yds from ball until it is put into play
  - **Law 9 Ball in/out of Play** - No exceptions.
  - **Law 10 Method of Scoring** - No exceptions.
  - **Law 11 Offside** – player can be no closer to goal than second to last opponent or the ball which ever is closer (indirect free kick from spot of foul).
  - **Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct**
    1. Coaches can be carded.
    2. On a yellow card, the coach may substitute for the player with a one for one exchange.
    3. On a red card the player is not permitted to play the rest of the game, nor can he/she be substituted for in that game. The player given the red card will not be permitted to play the next scheduled game. The referee must report each red card, to the Director of Referees. The Discipline committee will view each red card incident.
    4. Misconduct is not restricted duration of the game. Cards can be issued from the time players/coaches arrive at the fields until the time players/coaches depart the fields.
  - **Law 13 Free Kicks** - All free kicks will follow FIFA rules. (Direct and Indirect). The ball must touch at least two players prior to scoring from an indirect kick. Kicker may not touch the ball until touched by another player.
  - **Law 14 Penalty Kicks** - Penalty kicks will be awarded.
  - **Law 15 Throw-Ins** - Players will be permitted only one attempt at throw-ins.
  - **Law 16 Goal Kicks** - Goal kicks will be taken from within goal area. Ball is not in play until it leaves the penalty area.
  - **Law 17 Corner Kicks** - Corner kicks will be taken from the corner arc.

**MSA does not permit slide tackling**