



Mad River Youth Soccer League

Laws of the Game

Last updated Monday, June 25, 2018

Quick Glance Summary

	U5 & U6	U7* (only if pure U7*)	U8 (mixed U7 & U8)	U9 & U10	U11 & U12	U13 & U14	U15 & older
Field Size Ranges (yds)	15 x 20	25-35 x 15-25	25-35 x 15-25	55-65 x 35-45	45-55 x 70-80	75 x 112	45-55 x 70-80
Ball Size	3	3	3	4	4	5	5
Goal Area (yds)	None	None	None	8 x 4	18 x 6	20 x 8	18 x 6
Penalty Area	n/a	n/a	n/a	34 x 12	34 x 14	44 x 18	34 x 14
Players	1 – 2	3 v 3	4 v 4	7 v 7 (min 4)	9 v 9 (min 7)	11 v 11 (min 7)	6 v 6
Goal Size (ft)	Cones 4-5 apart	4 x 6 or smaller	4 x 6 or smaller	6 x 18	7 x 21 or 6 x 18	8 x 24 or 7 x 21	7 x 21 or 8 x 24
Game Time	30-min individual games; 30-min 2 v 2 mini game	4 x 10 min; 3-5 min break between quarters	4 x 10 min; 3-5 min break between quarters	2 x 25 min; 5-min halftime	2 x 30 min; 5-min halftime	2 x 35 min; 5-min halftime	2 x 35 min; 5-min halftime
Offside	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Opponents Kick-off Distance	n/a	5 yds	5 yds	8 yds	8 yds	10 yds	8 yds
Restart	Coach rolls "new ball"	Player's choice: kick/pass in, dribble in only	Player's choice: kick/pass in, dribble in only	Throw-in, corner kick, goal kick – as appropriate	Throw-in, corner kick, goal kick – as appropriate	Throw-in, corner kick, goal kick – as appropriate	Throw-in, corner kick, goal kick – as appropriate
Free Kicks	n/a	Indirect only	Indirect only	As per Law 12	As per Law 12	As per Law 12	As per Law 12
Referees	None	1/field	1/field	2	1 + 2 OR 2	1 + 2	1 + 2 OR 2

* Age-pure U7 teams may or may not be created each year depending on number of players. If teams are combined U7/U8, follow U8 rules.

- No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, marijuana, or illegal drugs are allowed on or near the field.
- Opposing coaches and players must shake hands before and after each match, per MRYSL's Game Day Respect policy.
- Any player suspected of sustaining a concussion or any type of head injury may not return to play or practice until the player has been cleared to return by a medical professional trained in



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concussions and head injuries, and also cleared to return by CYSA/Cal North. **Referees have the authority to end any game where a player suspected of sustaining a concussion fails to leave the field, or a coach refuses to remove the player from the field.**

- Coaches and players who are not on the field must remain in the team's technical area.
- Parents and spectators must remain on the spectator's side of the field, which is on the touchline opposite of the team technical areas.
- Any spectator, coach or other person who fails to comply with the MRYSL Game Day respect rules may be ordered to leave the area by the referee or league field marshal.
- All players get equal playing time
- Slide tackling is not allowed at any age
- Short Sides: If one of the teams is short a full side, then:
 - Option 1: The team that has enough players will agree to play short so the sides are equal.
 - Option 2: The team that has enough players will agree to lend players from its side to the side that is short so both sides are equal. Especially important if one side is very short and the other side is flush with subs.
 - THE SHORT-SIDE RULE IS MANDATORY FOR MRYSL TEAMS – A MRYSL COACH MAY NOT REFUSE TO LEND PLAYERS OR REFUSE TO PLAY SHORT
- At no time will any player that is not on either team's roster be allowed to play in the game.

U5/U6 Mad Skillz Saturday Game Rules

On Mad Skillz Saturday, both teams will participate together with the coaches of both teams cooperatively guiding the kids through the warm up and the fun dribbling game portion.

For the first half hour of game time, players and coaches should warm up together and play cooperative games. After the halftime break, coaches will divide their kids into two squads, and with the help of the asst coaches run 2 minute 2v2 mini games on adjacent fields. Every two minutes coaches should change out resting players (subs) for active players. Players may be subbed across fields if desired. At the conclusion of each mini-game participating players should high five.

At no time should there ever be more than 2 players per side, (like 3v3) **please adhere to the 2v2 format.**

There is no score kept. There should be no emphasis placed on winning or losing. Both coaches should be sensitive to the needs of children on both teams and do their best to provide a **good experience for all the children.**

It is not necessary that teams remain separated during the second phase of the hour on Saturday. Mixing teams promotes sportsmanship and the idea we are all playing together, learning together.

Mad Skillz Saturday is a huge opportunity for coaches to share ideas and learn from each other.



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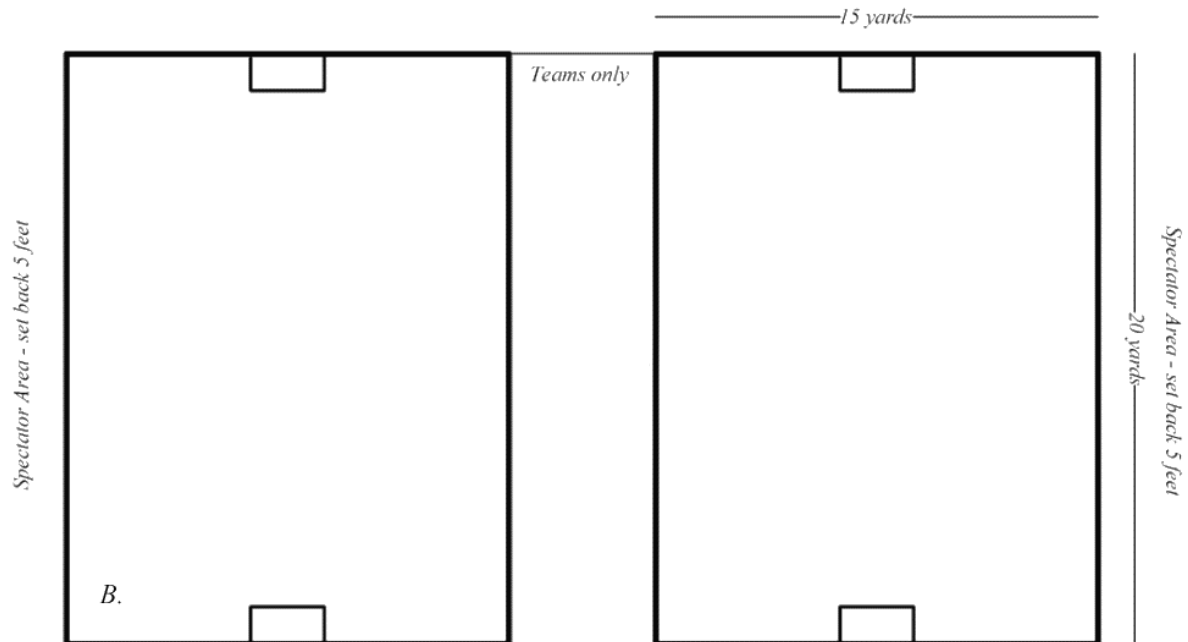
Law 1 – The Field of Play

All Ages

- Spectators/Parents are not allowed in the technical/team area.
- Goals must be properly anchored to the ground.

U5/U6

Field Size and Set Up



Field Markings

- Midfield (halfway) line: optional
- Goal area: none
- Penalty Area: none
- Penalty Mark: none
- Penalty Arc: none
- Center Circle: none
- Spectators Line: 5 – 10 ft setback from field
- Technical/Team Areas: The entire area between the double fields.
- Corners: none
- No other field markings.



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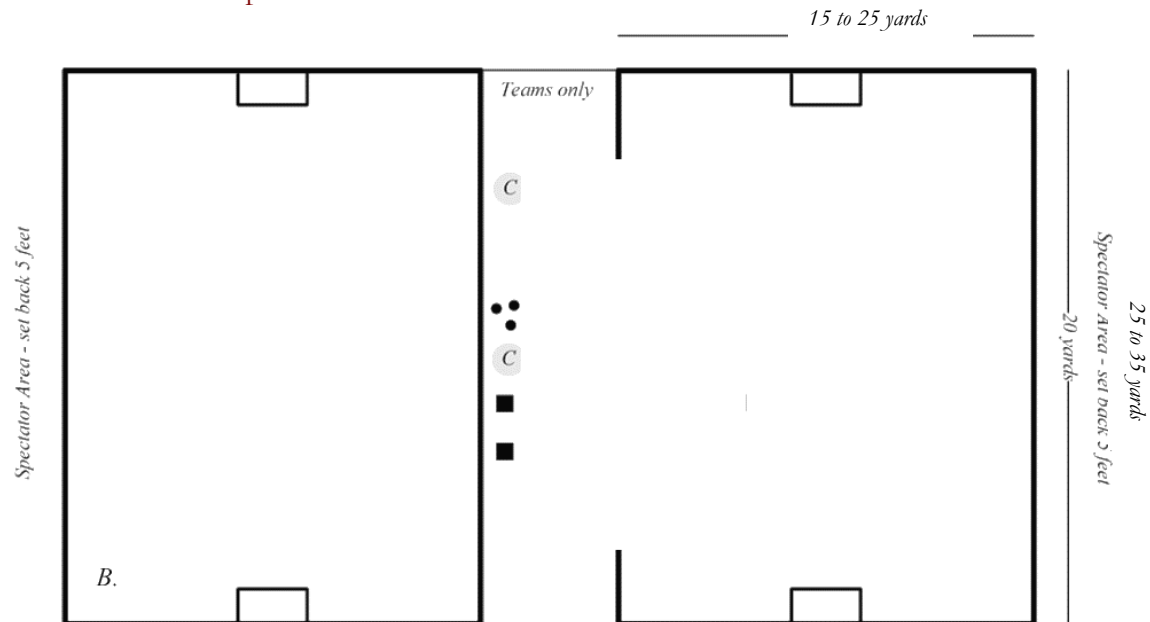
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Goals:

- Cones set 4 to 5 feet apart

U7/U8

Field Size and Set Up:



Field Markings:

- Midfield (halfway) line
- Goal area: none
- Penalty Area: none
- Penalty Mark: none
- Penalty Arc: none
- Center Circle: none
- Spectators Line: 5 – 10 ft setback from field
- Technical/Team Areas: The entire area between the double fields.
- Corners: none
- No other field markings.

Goals:

- 4 ft x 6 ft or smaller.
- All goals must be properly anchored to the ground.



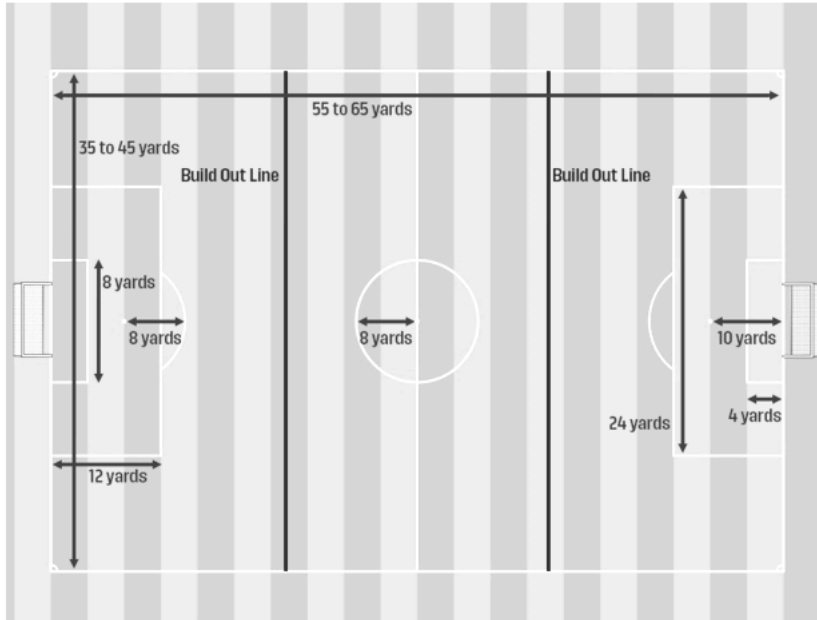
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U9/U10

Field Size and Set Up:



Field Markings:

- The field of play must be rectangular and marked with continuous lines. These lines belong to the areas of which they are boundaries.
- Goal area: 8 yds w x 4 yds deep
- Penalty Area: 34 yds w x 12 yds deep
- Penalty Mark: 10 yds from goal line
- Penalty Arc: 8 yds from Penalty Mark
- Build Out Line: Half way between the goal line and the halfway line.
- Center Circle: 8 yds radius
- Spectators Line: 3 yds min from touchline, one side only
- Technical/Team Areas: 1yd min from touchline, 20 yds long x 3 yds deep
- Corners: 1 yd radius
- Flags at each corner, each flag must be at least 5 ft high with a non-pointed top. Flags may also be placed at the halfway line, at least 1 yard outside the touchline, but are not required.
- Lines must be of the same width, and not be more than 5 inches wide.

Goals:

- 6 or 6.5 ft x 18 or 18.5 ft.
- All goals must be properly anchored to the ground.



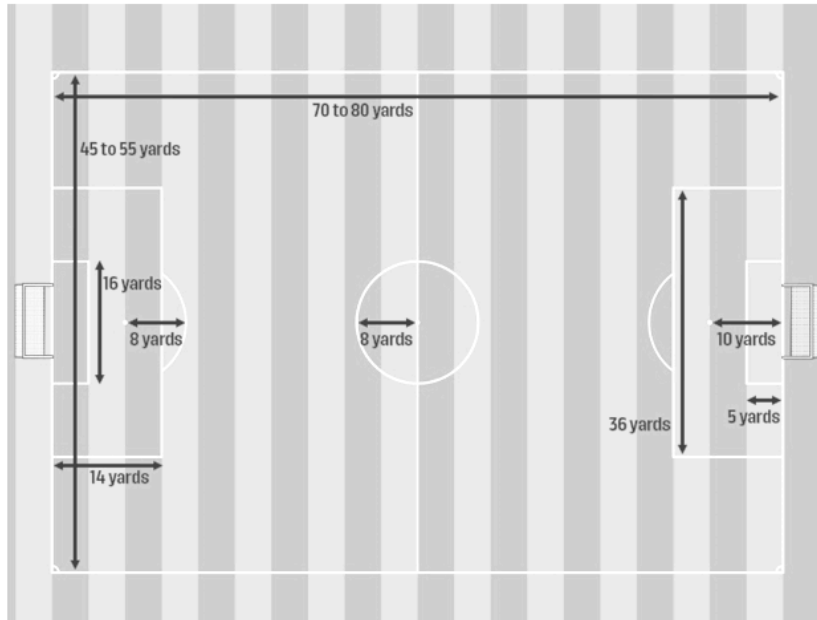
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U11/U12

Field Size and Set Up:



Field Markings:

- The field of play must be rectangular and marked with continuous lines. These lines belong to the areas of which they are boundaries.
- Goal area: 18 yds w x 6 yds deep
- Penalty Area: 34 yds w x 14 yds deep
- Penalty Mark: 10 yds from goal line
- Penalty Arc: 8 yds from Penalty Mark
- Center Circle: 8 yds radius
- Spectators Line: 3 yds min from touchline, one side only
- Technical/Team Areas: 1 yd min from touchline, 20 yds long x 3 yds deep
- Corners: 1 yd radius
- Flags at each corner, each flag must be at least 5 ft high with a non-pointed top. Flags may also be placed at the halfway line, at least 1 yard outside the touchline, but are not required.
- Lines must be of the same width, not be more than 5 inches wide.

Goals:

- 7ft x 21ft are preferred, 6x18 are OK.
- All goals must be properly anchored to the ground.
- The goal posts are placed on the goal line.



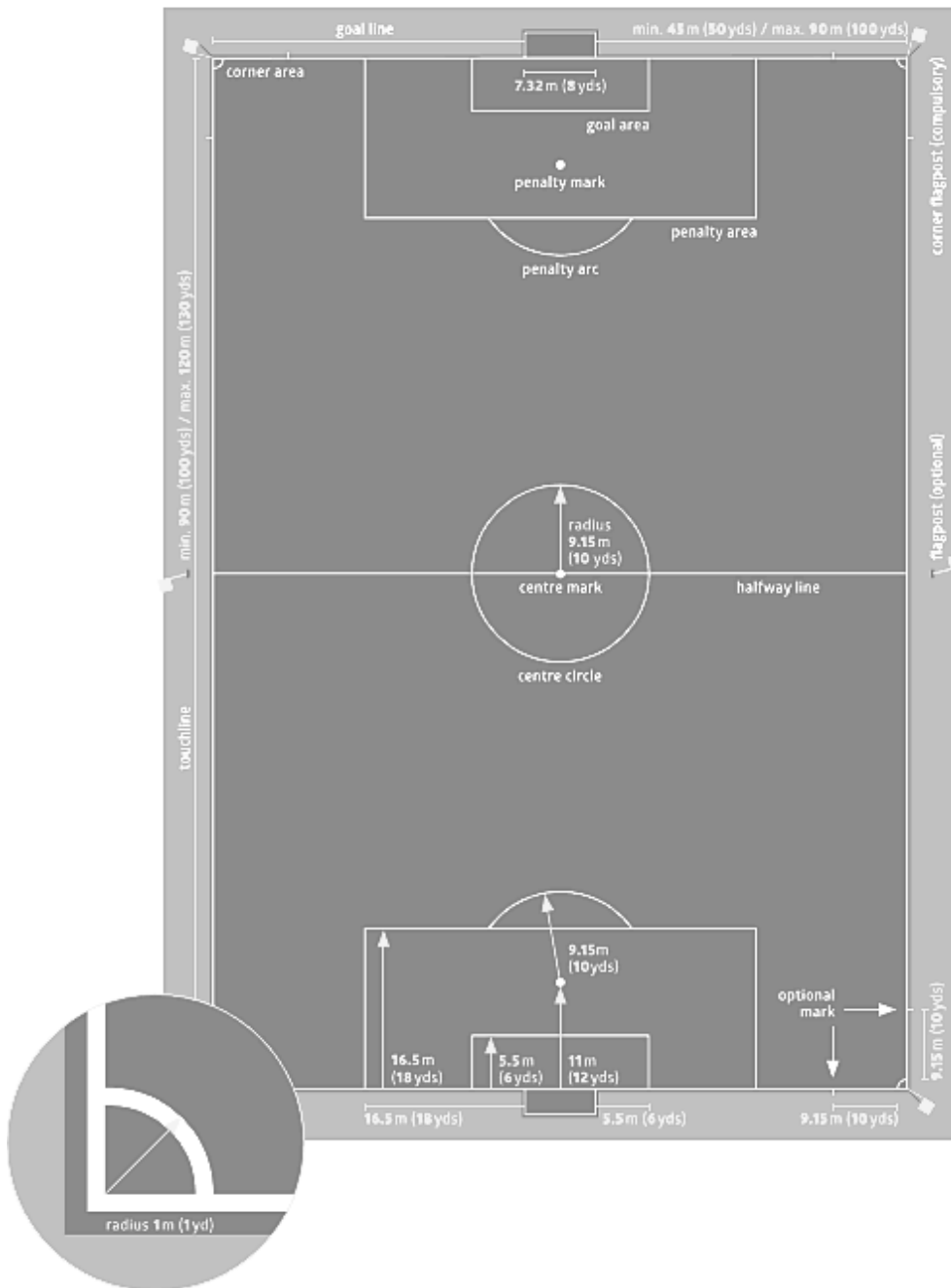
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U13/U14

Field Size and Set Up:



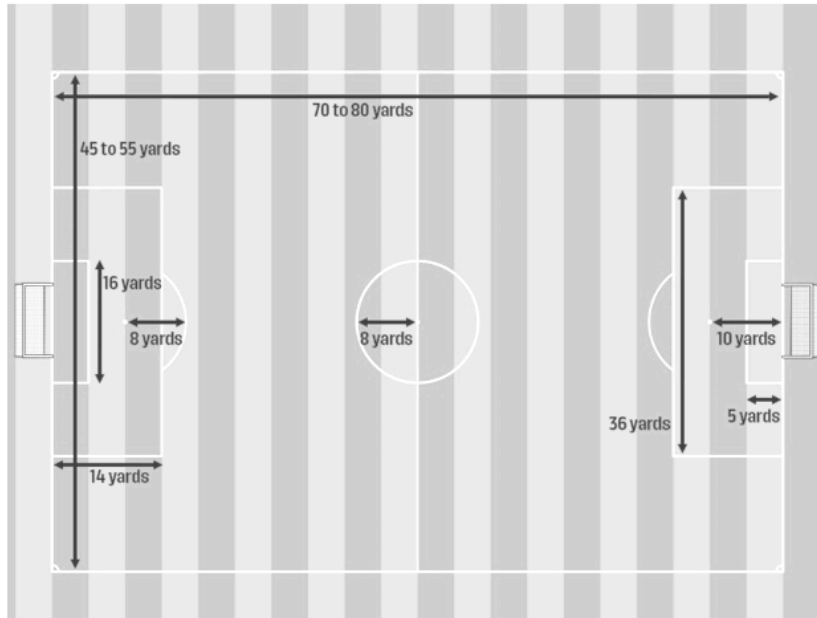


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U15 and up



Law 2 – The Ball

All Ages:

Qualities and measurements

All balls must be:

- spherical
- made of suitable material

Replacement of a defective ball (if applicable)

If the ball becomes defective:

- play is stopped and
- restarted by dropping the replacement ball where the original ball became defective
- If the ball becomes defective at a kick-off, goal kick, corner kick, free kick, penalty kick or throw-in the restart is re-taken.
- If the ball becomes defective during a penalty kick or kicks from the penalty mark as it moves forward and before it touches a player, crossbar or goalposts the penalty kick is retaken.
- The ball may not be changed during the match without the referee's permission.

Additional balls

- Additional balls which meet the requirements of Law 2 may be placed around the field of play and their use is under the referee's control.



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U5/U6

- Ball size 3

U7/U8

- Ball size 3

U9/U10

- Ball size 4

U11/U12

- Ball size 4

U13/U14

- Ball size 5

U15 and up

- Ball size 5

Law 3 – The Players

U5/U6

- For the first half, both teams and coaches play one player per ball games together across the width of both fields
- For the second half, teams will be divided into two squads and play two-minute 2 v 2 mini games concurrently on adjacent fields.

U7*

- * Age-pure U7 teams may or may not be created each year depending on the number of registered players. If teams are combined U7/U8, follow U8 rules.

Number of Players:

- 3 field players
- no goalies

Substitutions:

- Unlimited, at any time.

Roster Size:

8 to 9 players (for game day, each team splits into two squads of 4 or 5 players each)



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U8

Number of Players:

- 4 field players
- no goalies

Substitutions:

- Unlimited, at any time.

Roster Size:

8 to 9 players (for game day, each team splits into two squads of 4 or 5 players each)

U9/U10

Number of Players:

- Maximum 7, including goalie

Substitutions:

- Unlimited, at any stoppage

Roster Size:

- 9 to 11 players

U11/U12

Number of Players:

- Maximum on the field is 9, including goalie; minimum 7

Substitutions:

- Unlimited, at any stoppage
- Unlimited return substitutions are allowed.
- Substitutes should enter the field at the halfway line, and only with the referee's permission. The player leaving the field may leave at any point along the touchline.

Roster Size:

11 to 13 players

U13/U14

Number of Players:

- Maximum on the field is 11, including goalie; minimum 7

Substitutions:

- Unlimited, at any stoppage
- Substitutes should enter and exit the field at the halfway line, and only with the referee's permission.



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Roster Size:

- 12 to 15 players recommended

U15 and up

Number of Players:

- Maximum on the field is 6, including goalie
- Coed: Minimum 2 girls on roster for each team; 3 or more is recommended.
 - Two girls must be on the field during the entire game if a team has at least 3 girls at a game.
 - If less than 3 girls at a game, then 1 girl must be on the field playing is ok, but the team must play 1 person down should the girl be subbed out.
 - If a team has only 1 girl at a game, but the other team has more than 3, the other team should lend one girl to the team which is short on girls.

Substitutions:

- Unlimited, any stoppage and on the fly.

Roster Size:

- 8 to 10 players

All Ages:

Changing the goalkeeper (if applicable)

- Any of the players may change places with the goalkeeper if:
 - the referee is informed before the change is made
 - the change is made during a stoppage in play

Extra persons on the field of play

The coach and other officials named on the team list (with the exception of players or substitutes) are team officials.

Anyone not named on the team list as a player, substitute or team official is an outside agent.

If a team official, substitute, substituted or sent off player or outside agent enters the field of play the referee must:

- only stop play if there is interference with play
- have the person removed when play stops
- take appropriate disciplinary action

If play is stopped and the interference was by:

- a team official, substitute, substituted or sent off player, play restarts with a direct free kick or penalty kick
- an outside agent, play restarts with a dropped ball



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If a ball is going into the goal and the interference does not prevent a defending player playing the ball, the goal is awarded if the ball enters the goal (even if contact was made with the ball) unless the ball enters the opponents' goal.

Player outside the field of play

If a player who requires the referee's permission to re-enter the field of play re-enters without the referee's permission, the referee must:

- stop play (not immediately if the player does not interfere with play
- or a match official or if the advantage can be applied) caution the player for entering the field of play without permission

If the referee stops play, it must be restarted:

- with a direct free kick from the position of the interference
- with an indirect free kick from the position of the ball when play was stopped if there was no interference

A player who crosses a boundary line as part of a playing movement, does not commit an offence.

Goal scored with an extra person on the field of play

If, after a goal is scored, the referee realises, before play restarts, an extra person was on the field of play when the goal was scored:

- the referee must disallow the goal if the extra person was:
 - a player, substitute, substituted player, sent off player or team official of the team that scored the goal; play is restarted with a direct free kick from the position of the extra person
 - an outside agent who interfered with play unless a goal results as outlined above in 'extra persons on the field of play'; play is restarted with a dropped ball
- the referee must allow the goal if the extra person was:
 - a player, substitute, substituted player, sent off player or team official of the team that conceded the goal
 - an outside agent who did not interfere with play

In all cases, the referee must have the extra person removed from the field of play.

If, after a goal is scored and play has restarted, the referee realises an extra person was on the field of play when the goal was scored, the goal cannot be disallowed. If the extra person is still on the field the referee must:

- stop play
- have the extra person removed
- restart with a dropped ball or free kick as appropriate
- The referee must report the incident to the appropriate authority.



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Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

All Ages

1. Safety

All items of jewellery (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands, etc.) are forbidden and must be removed. Using tape to cover jewellery is **not** permitted.

The players must be inspected before the start of the match and substitutes before they enter the field of play. If a player is wearing or using unauthorised/ dangerous equipment or jewellery the referee must order the player to:

- remove the item
- leave the field of play at the next stoppage if the player is unable or unwilling to comply

A player who refuses to comply or wears the item again must be cautioned.

The compulsory equipment of a player comprises the following separate items:

2. Compulsory equipment

- a shirt with sleeves, shorts, socks – tape or any material applied or worn externally must be the same colour as that part of the sock it is applied to or covers
- shin guards – these must be made of a suitable material to provide reasonable protection and covered by the socks
- footwear

Goalkeepers may wear tracksuit bottoms.

A player whose footwear or shin guard is lost accidentally must replace it as soon as possible and no later than when the ball next goes out of play; if before doing so the player plays the ball and/or scores a goal, the goal is awarded.

3. Colours

- The two teams must wear colours that distinguish them from each other and the match officials
- Each goalkeeper must wear colours that are distinguishable from the other players and the match officials
- If the two goalkeepers' shirts are the same colour and neither has another shirt, the referee allows the match to be played

4. Other equipment

Non-dangerous protective equipment, for example headgear, facemasks and knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight padded material is permitted as are goalkeepers' caps and sports spectacles.

Head Covers

Where head covers (excluding goalkeepers' caps) are worn, they must:



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- not be dangerous to the player wearing it or any other player (e.g. opening/ closing mechanism around neck) not have any part(s) extending out from the surface (protruding elements)

Electronic communication

- Players (including substitutes/substituted and sent off players) are not permitted to wear or use any form of electronic or communication equipment.
- The use of any form of electronic communication by team officials is not permitted except where it directly relates to player welfare or safety.

5. Slogans, statement, images and advertising

Equipment must not have any political, religious or personal slogans, statements or images.

6. Offences and sanctions

For any offence play need not be stopped and the player:

- is instructed by the referee to leave the field of play to correct the equipment
- leaves when play stops, unless the equipment has already been corrected

A player who leaves the field of play to correct or change equipment must:

- have the equipment checked by a match official before being allowed to re-enter
- only re-enter with the referee's permission (which may be given during play)

U7/U8 & older

A player who enters without permission must be cautioned and if play is stopped to issue the caution, an indirect free kick is awarded from the position of the ball when play was stopped

Law 5 – The Referee

U5/U6

Law does not apply

All other ages

1. The authority of the referee

Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match.

2. Decisions of the referee

Decisions will be made to the best of the referee's ability according to the Laws of the Game and the 'spirit of the game' and will be based on the opinion of the referee who has the discretion to take appropriate action within the framework of the Laws of the Game.



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The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final. **The decisions of the referee, and all other match officials, must always be respected.**

The referee may not change a decision on realising that it is incorrect or on the advice of another match official if play has restarted or the referee has signalled the end of the first or second half (including extra time) and left the field of play or terminated the match.

If a referee is incapacitated, play may continue under the supervision of the other match officials until the ball is next out of play.

3. Powers and duties

The referee:

- enforces the Laws of the Game
- controls the match in cooperation with the other match officials
- acts as timekeeper, keeps a record of the match and provides the appropriate authorities with a match report, including information on disciplinary action and any other incidents that occurred before, during or after the match
- supervises and/or indicates the restart of play

Advantage

Allows play to continue when an offence occurs and the non-offending team will benefit from the advantage and penalizes the offence if the anticipated advantage does not ensue at that time or within a few seconds

Disciplinary action

- punishes the more serious offence, in terms of sanction, restart, physical severity and tactical impact, when more than one offence occurs at the same time
- takes disciplinary action against players guilty of cautionable and sending-off offences
- has the authority to take disciplinary action from entering the field of play for the pre-match inspection until leaving the field of play after the match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark). If, before entering the field of play at the start of the match, a player commits a sending-off offence, the referee has the authority to prevent the player taking part in the match ; the referee will report any other misconduct
- has the power to show yellow or red cards and, where competition rules permit, temporarily dismiss a player, from entering the field of play at the start of the match until after the match has ended, including during the half-time interval, extra time and kicks from the penalty mark
- takes action against team officials who fail to act in a responsible manner and may expel them from the field of play and its immediate surrounds; a medical team official who commits a dismissible offence may remain if the team has no other medical person available, and act if a player needs medical attention.
- acts on the advice of other match officials regarding incidents that the referee has not seen



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Injuries

- allows play to continue until the ball is out of play if a player is only slightly injured
- stops play if a player is seriously injured and ensures that the player is removed from the field of play and may only re-enter after play has restarted; if the ball is in play, re-entry must be from the touchline but if the ball is out of play, it may be from any boundary line. Exceptions to the requirement to leave the field of play are only when:
 - a goalkeeper is injured
 - a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need attention
 - players from the same team have collided and need attention
 - a severe injury has occurred
 - a player is injured as the result of a physical offence for which the opponent is cautioned or sent off (e.g. reckless or serious foul challenge), if the assessment/treatment is completed quickly
- ensures that any player bleeding leaves the field of play. The player may only re-enter on receiving a signal from the referee, who must be satisfied that the bleeding has stopped and there is no blood on the equipment
- if the referee has authorised the doctors and /or stretcher bearers to enter the field of play, the player must leave on a stretcher or on foot. A player who does not comply, must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour
- if the referee has decided to caution or send off a player who is injured and has to leave the field of play for treatment, the card must be shown before the player leaves
- if play has not been stopped for another reason, or if an injury suffered by a player is not the result of an offence, play is restarted with a dropped ball

Outside interference

- stops, suspends or abandons the match for any offences or because of outside interference e.g. if:
 - the floodlights are inadequate
 - an object thrown by a spectator hits a match official, a player or team official, the referee may allow the match to continue, or stop, suspend or abandon it depending on the severity of the incident
 - a spectator blows a whistle which interferes with play – play is stopped and restarted with a dropped ball
 - an extra ball, other object or animal enters the field of play during the match, the referee must:
 - – stop play (and restart with a dropped ball) only if it interferes with play unless the ball is going into the goal and the interference does not prevent a defending player playing the ball, the goal is awarded if the ball enters the goal (even if contact was made with the ball) unless the ball enters the opponents' goal
 - – allow play to continue if it does not interfere with play and have it removed at the earliest possible opportunity
 - • allows no unauthorised persons to enter the field of play



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4. Referee's equipment

Compulsory equipment

Referees must have the following equipment:

- Whistle(s)
- Watch(es)
- Red and yellow cards
- Notebook (or other means of keeping a record of the match)

Other equipment

Referees may be permitted to use:

- Equipment for communicating with other match officials – buzzer/beep flags, headsets etc.
- EPTS or other fitness monitoring equipment

Referees and other match officials are prohibited from wearing jewellery or any other electronic equipment.

5. Referee signals

Refer to graphics for approved referee signals.

In addition to the current 'two armed' signal for an advantage, a similar 'one arm' signal is now permitted as it is not always easy for referees to run with both arms extended.



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Indirect free kick



Direct free kick



Advantage (1)



Advantage (2)



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Penalty kick



Red and Yellow card



Corner kick



Goal kick



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6. Liability of Match Officials

A referee or other match official is not held liable for:

- any kind of injury suffered by a player, official or spectator
- any damage to property of any kind
- any other loss suffered by any individual, club, company, association or other body, which is due or which may be due to any decision taken under the terms of the Laws of the Game or in respect of the normal procedures required to hold, play and control a match.

Such decisions may include a decision:

- that the condition of the field of play or its surrounds or that the weather conditions are such as to allow or not to allow a match to take place
- to abandon a match for whatever reason
- as to the suitability of the field equipment and ball used during a match
- to stop or not to stop a match due to spectator interference or any problem in spectator areas
- to stop or not to stop play to allow an injured player to be removed from the field of play for treatment
- to require an injured player to be removed from the field of play for treatment
- to allow or not to allow a player to wear certain clothing or equipment
- where the referee has the authority, to allow or not to allow any persons (including team or stadium officials, security officers, photographers or other media representatives) to be present in the vicinity of the field of play
- any other decision taken in accordance with the Laws of the Game or in conformity with their duties under the terms of FIFA, confederation, national football association or competition rules or regulations under which the match is played

Law 6 – The Other Match Officials

U5/U6

Law does not apply

U7/U8

One official per game

All other ages

Other match officials (two assistant referees, fourth official, two additional assistant referees and reserve assistant referee) may be appointed to matches. They will assist the referee in controlling the match in accordance with the Laws of the Game but the final decision will always be taken by the referee.

The match officials operate under the direction of the referee. In the event of undue interference or improper conduct, the referee will relieve them of their duties and make a report to the appropriate authorities.



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With the exception of the reserve assistant referee, they assist the referee with offences when they have a clearer view than the referee and they must submit a report to the appropriate authorities on any serious misconduct or other incident that occurred out of the view of the referee and the other match officials. They must advise the referee and other match officials of any report being made.

The match officials assist the referee with inspecting the field of play, the balls and players' equipment (including if problems have been resolved) and maintaining records of time, goals, misconduct etc.

1. Assistant referees (when present in addition to the referee)

They indicate when:

- the whole of the ball leaves the field of play and which team is entitled to a corner kick, goal kick or throw-in
- a player in an offside position may be penalised
- a substitution is requested
- at penalty kicks, the goalkeeper moves off the goal line before the ball is kicked and if the ball crosses the line; if additional assistant referees have been appointed the assistant referee takes a position in line with the penalty mark

The assistant referee's assistance also includes monitoring the substitution procedure.

The assistant referee may enter the field of play to help control the 9.15m (10 yards) distance.

2. Fourth official

MRYSL does not use a fourth official, but may do so in an appropriate situation, at MRYSL's discretion.

3. Additional assistant referees

MRYSL does not use additional assistant referees, but may do so in an appropriate situation, at MRYSL's discretion.

The additional assistant referees may indicate:

- when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, including when a goal is scored
- which team is entitled to a corner kick or goal kick
- whether, at penalty kicks, the goalkeeper moves off the goal line before the ball is kicked and if the ball crosses the line

4. Reserve assistant referee

The only duty of a reserve assistant referee is to replace an assistant referee or fourth official who is unable to continue.



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5. Assistant referee signals



Substitution



Attacking free kicks



Defending free kicks



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Throw-in for **attacker**



Throw-in for **defender**



Corner kick



Goal kick



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Offside



**Offside on the
near side** of the field



**Offside in the
middle** of the field



**Offside on the
far side** of the field



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Law 7 – The Duration of the Match

All Ages

All players are entitled an interval at half-time. Additionally, players may receive a 2-minute water break during hot weather in each period or half.

No allowances will be made for time lost. I.e., no stoppage time will be added.

Time may be reduced equally between halves if games start late.

U5/U6

30-min individual games;

30-min 2 v 2 mini game

U7/U8

4 x 10 min;

3-5 min break between quarters

U9/U10

2 x 25 min;

5-min halftime

U11/U12

2 x 30 min;

5-min halftime

U13/U14

2 x 35 min;

5-min halftime

U15 and older

2 x 35 min;

5-min halftime

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play

U5/U6

Individual games at coaches' discretion for the first half.

Two v 2 mini-games for second half – coach roll in “ball” start.



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U7/U8 and older

A kick-off starts both halves of a match, both halves of extra time and restarts play after a goal has been scored. Free kicks (direct or indirect), penalty kicks, throw-ins, goal kicks and corner kicks are other restarts (see Laws 13–17). A dropped ball is the restart when the referee stops play and the Law does not require one of the above restarts.

If an offence occurs when the ball is not in play this does not change how play is restarted.

1. Kick-off

Procedure

- the team that wins the toss of a coin decides which goal it will attack in the first half
- their opponents take the kick-off
- the team that wins the toss takes the kick-off to start the second half
- for the second half, the teams change ends and attack the opposite goals
- after a team scores a goal, the kick-off is taken by their opponents

For every kick-off:

- all players, except the player taking the kick-off, must be in their own half of the field of play
- the opponents of the team taking the kick-off must be at least
 - 5 yds at U7/U8
 - 8 yds at U9 through U12
 - 10 yds at U13/U14
 - 8 yds at U15 and older

from the ball until it is in play

- the ball must be stationary on the centre mark
- the referee gives a signal
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves
- a goal may be scored directly against the opponents from the kick-off; if the ball directly enters the kicker's goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents

Infringements and sanctions

If the player taking the kick-off touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick, or for deliberate handball a direct free kick, is awarded.

In the event of any other infringement of the kick-off procedure the kick-off is retaken.

3. Dropped ball

Procedure

The referee drops the ball at the position where it was when play was stopped, unless play was stopped inside the goal area in which case the ball is dropped on the goal area line which is parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was when play was stopped.

The ball is in play when it touches the ground.



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Any number of players may contest a dropped ball (including the goalkeepers, if any); the referee cannot decide who may contest a dropped ball or its outcome.

Infringements and sanctions

The ball is dropped again if it:

- touches a player before it touches the ground
- leaves the field of play after it touches the ground, without touching a player

If a dropped ball enters the goal without touching at least two players play is restarted with:

- a goal kick if it enters the opponents' goal
- a corner kick if it enters the team's goal

Law 9 – The Ball in and out of Play

All ages

1. Ball out of play

- it has wholly passed over the goal line or touchline on the ground or in the air
- play has been stopped by the referee

2. Ball in play

The ball is in play at all other times, including when it rebounds off a match official, goalpost, crossbar or corner flagpost and remains in the field of play.

Law 10 – Determining the Outcome of a Match

All Ages

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, provided that no offence has been committed by the team scoring the goal.

U5/U6

Scores are not kept, and no team will be declared a winner.

U7/U8

Scores are not kept, and no team will be declared a winner

U9/U10

The number of goals scored by each team may be kept by the referee. The team that scores the most goals is the winner. Ties or draws stand; there are no penalty kicks or extra time to determine a winner. Scores are not publicized, and standings are not kept.



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U11/U12

The number of goals scored by each team may be kept by the referee. The team that scores the most goals is the winner. Ties or draws stand; there are no penalty kicks or extra time to determine a winner. Scores are not publicized, and standings are not kept.

U13/U14

The number of goals scored by each team may be kept by the referee. The team that scores the most goals is the winner. Ties or draws stand; there are no penalty kicks or extra time to determine a winner. Scores are not publicized, and standings are not kept.

U15 and older

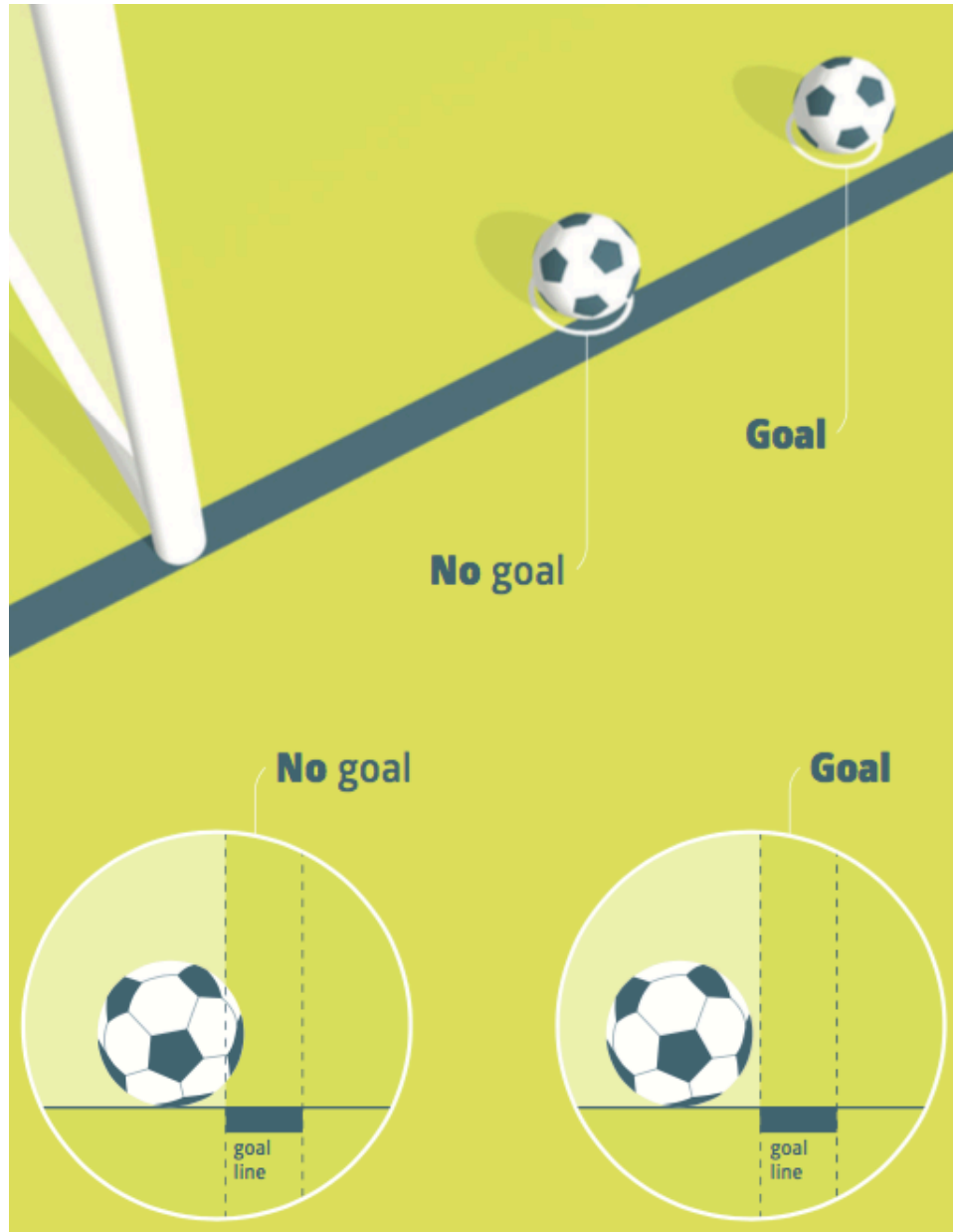
The number of goals scored by each team may be kept by the referee. The team that scores the most goals is the winner. Ties or draws stand; there are no penalty kicks or extra time to determine a winner. Scores are not publicized, and standings are not kept.



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Law 11 – Offside

Summary: Offside foul occurs when a player is in an offside position when the ball is passed or kicked by a teammate *and* the player is actively involved in the play. Offside is not called on:

- a goal kick
- a throw-in
- a corner kick



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Details

1. Offside position

It is not an offence to be in an offside position.

A player is in an offside position if:

- any part of the head, body or feet is in the opponents' half (excluding the halfway line) and
- any part of the head, body or feet is nearer to the opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second-last opponent

The hands and arms of all players, including the goalkeepers, are not considered.

A player is not in an offside position if level with the:

- second-last opponent or
- last two opponents

2. Offside offence

A player in an offside position at the moment the ball is played or touched by a team-mate is only penalized on becoming involved in active play by:

- interfering with play by playing or touching a ball passed or touched by a team-mate or
- interfering with an opponent by:
 - preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent's line of vision or
 - challenging an opponent for the ball or
 - clearly attempting to play a ball which is close to him when this action impacts on an opponent or
 - making an obvious action which clearly impacts on the ability of an opponent to play the ball or
- gaining an advantage by playing the ball or interfering with an opponent when it has:
 - rebounded or been deflected off the goalpost, crossbar, match official or an opponent
 - been deliberately saved by any opponent

3. No offence

There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:

- a goal kick
- a throw-in
- a corner kick

4. Offences and sanctions

If an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick where the offense occurred, including if it is in the player's own half of the field of play.

U5/U6

Offside is not called at this age group



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U7/U8

Offside is not called at this age group

U9/U10

A player is in an offside position when the player is between the opponents' goal and opponents' build out line (not the midfield line) and there is no defender between the opponent's goalie and the player.

When offside is called, Referees should stop play and explain the penalty to the players.

U11/U12

Offside is called.

U13/U14

Offside is called.

U15 and up

Offside is called.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

U5/U6

Law does not apply. There are no fouls or misconduct called by an official, and no free kicks are awarded.

U7/U8

- **All kicks are indirect**
- If a player intentionally heads or intentionally attempts to head a ball, the opposing team will be awarded an indirect free kick from the spot of the offense.
- There are no goal kicks since there are no goalkeepers
- A player who intentionally commits a slide tackle shall be shown a red card, and the restart is a direct free kick.

U9/U10

- **All kicks are indirect**
- If a player intentionally heads or intentionally attempts to head a ball, the opposing team will be awarded an indirect free kick from the spot of the offense.
- Opposing players must be 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked (the radius of the center circle).
- Goalies may not punt or drop kick the ball. An indirect free kick from the spot of the foul shall be awarded, unless the punt or drop kick occurs within the goal area, in which case the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line.
- A player who intentionally commits a slide tackle shall be shown a red card, and the restart is a direct free kick.



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U11/U12

- Opposing players must be 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked (the radius of the center circle).
- If a player intentionally heads or intentionally attempts to head a ball, the opposing team will be awarded an indirect free kick.
- A player who intentionally commits a slide tackle shall be shown a red card, and the restart is an indirect free kick.

U13/U14

- If a player intentionally heads or intentionally attempts to head a ball, the opposing team will be awarded an indirect free kick from the spot of the offense
- A player who intentionally commits a slide tackle shall be shown a red card, and the restart is a direct free kick.

All ages

Direct and indirect free kicks and penalty kicks can only be awarded for offences committed when the ball is in play.

1. Direct free kick

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences against an opponent in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- charges
- jumps at
- kicks or attempts to kick
- pushes
- strikes or attempts to strike (including head-butt)
- tackles or challenges
- trips or attempts to trip

If an offense involves contact it is penalized by a direct free kick or penalty kick.

- Careless is when a player shows a lack of attention or consideration when making a challenge or acts without precaution. No disciplinary sanction is needed
- Reckless is when a player acts with disregard to the danger to, or consequences for, an opponent and must be cautioned
- Using excessive force is when a player exceeds the necessary use of force and/or endangers the safety of an opponent and must be sent off

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offenses:

- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- holds an opponent
- impedes an opponent with contact



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- spits at an opponent

See also offences in Law 3

Handling the ball

Handling the ball involves a deliberate act of a player making contact with the ball with the hand or arm.

The following must be considered:

- the movement of the hand towards the ball (not the ball towards the hand)
- the distance between the opponent and the ball (unexpected ball)
- the position of the hand does not necessarily mean that there is an offence
- touching the ball with an object held in the hand (clothing, shin guard, etc.) is an offence
- hitting the ball with a thrown object (boot, shin guard, etc.) is an offence

The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area. Inside their penalty area, the goalkeeper cannot be guilty of a handling offence incurring a direct free kick or any related sanction but can be guilty of handling offences that incur an indirect free kick.

2. Indirect free kick

An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent without any contact being made
- is guilty of dissent, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or other verbal offences
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from the hands or kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing it
- commits any other offence, not mentioned in the Laws, for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player

An indirect free kick is awarded if a goalkeeper, inside their penalty area, commits any of the following offences:

- controls the ball with the hands for more than six seconds before releasing it
- touches the ball with the hands after:
 - releasing it and before it has touched another player
 - it has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a team-mate
 - receiving it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate

A goalkeeper is considered to be in control of the ball when:

- the ball is between the hands or between the hand and any surface (e.g. ground, own body) or by touching it with any part of the hands or arms except if the ball rebounds accidentally from the goalkeeper or the goalkeeper has made a save
- holding the ball in the outstretched open hand
- bouncing it on the ground or throwing it in the air



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A goalkeeper cannot be challenged by an opponent when in control of the ball with the hands.

Playing in a dangerous manner

Playing in a dangerous manner is any action that, while trying to play the ball, threatens injury to someone (including the player themselves) and includes preventing a nearby opponent from playing the ball for fear of injury.

A scissors or bicycle kick is permissible provided that it is not dangerous to an opponent.

Impeding the progress of an opponent without contact

Impeding the progress of an opponent means moving into the opponent's path to obstruct, block, slow down or force a change of direction when the ball is not within playing distance of either player.

All players have a right to their position on the field of play; being in the way of an opponent is not the same as moving into the way of an opponent.

A player may shield the ball by taking a position between an opponent and the ball if the ball is within playing distance and the opponent is not held off with the arms or body. If the ball is within playing distance, the player may be fairly charged by an opponent.

3. Disciplinary action

The referee has the authority to take disciplinary action from entering the field of play for the pre-match inspection until leaving the field of play after the match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark).

If, before entering the field of play at the start of the match, a player commits a sending-off offence, the referee has the authority to prevent the player taking part in the match (see Law 3.6); the referee will report any other misconduct.

A player who commits a cautionable or sending-off offence, either on or off the field of play, against an opponent, a team-mate, a match official or any other person or the Laws of the Game, is disciplined according to the offence.

The yellow card communicates a caution and the red card communicates a sending-off.

Only a player, substitute or substituted player may be shown the red or yellow card.

Delaying the restart of play to show a card:

Once the referee has decided to caution or send off a player, play must not be restarted until the sanction has been administered.

Advantage

If the referee plays the advantage for an offence for which a caution / sendoff would have been issued had play been stopped, this caution / sendoff must be issued when the ball is next out of play, except when the denial of an obvious goal-scoring opportunity results in a goal the player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

Advantage should not be applied in situations involving serious foul play, violent conduct or a second cautionable offence unless there is a clear opportunity to score a goal. The referee must send off the



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player when the ball is next out of play but if the player plays the ball or challenges/interferes with an opponent, the referee will stop play, send off the player and restart with an indirect free kick, unless the player committed a more serious offence.

If a defender starts holding an attacker outside the penalty area and continues holding inside the penalty area, the referee must award a penalty kick.

Cautionable offences

A player is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play
- dissent by word or action
- entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission
- failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in
- persistent offences (no specific number or pattern of offences constitutes "persistent")
- unsporting behavior

A substitute or substituted player is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play
- dissent by word or action
- entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
- unsporting behaviour

Cautions for unsporting behaviour

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour including if a player:

- attempts to deceive the referee e.g. by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled (simulation)
- changes places with the goalkeeper during play or without the referee's permission
- commits in a reckless manner a direct free kick offence
- handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack commits a foul which interferes with or stops a promising attack except where the referee awards a penalty kick for an offence which was an attempt to play the ball
- denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by an offence which was an attempt to play the ball and the referee awards a penalty kick
- handles the ball in an attempt to score a goal (whether or not the attempt is successful) or in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent a goal
- makes unauthorised marks on the field of play
- plays the ball when leaving the field of play after being given permission to leave
- shows a lack of respect for the game



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- uses a deliberate trick to pass the ball (including from a free kick) to the goalkeeper with the head, chest, knee etc. to circumvent the Law, whether or not the goalkeeper touches the ball with the hands
- verbally distracts an opponent during play or at a restart

Celebration of a goal

Players can celebrate when a goal is scored, but the celebration must not be excessive; choreographed celebrations are not encouraged and must not cause excessive time-wasting.

Leaving the field of play to celebrate a goal is not a cautionable offence but players should return as soon as possible.

A player must be cautioned for:

- climbing onto a perimeter fence and/or approaching the spectators in a manner which causes safety and/or security issues
- gesturing or acting in a provocative, derisory or inflammatory way
- covering the head or face with a mask or other similar item
- removing the shirt or covering the head with the shirt

Delaying the restart of play

Referees must caution players who delay the restart of play by:

- appearing to take a throw-in but suddenly leaving it to a team-mate to take
- delaying leaving the field of play when being substituted
- excessively delaying a restart
- kicking or carrying the ball away, or provoking a confrontation by deliberately touching the ball after the referee has stopped play
- taking a free kick from the wrong position to force a retake

Sending-off offences

A player, substitute or substituted player who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick (unless as outlined below).
- serious foul play
- spitting at an opponent or any other person
- violent conduct
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- receiving a second caution in the same match

A player, substitute or substituted player who has been sent off must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area.



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Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity

Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a deliberate handball offence the player is sent off wherever the offence occurs.

Where a player commits an offence against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned if the offence was an attempt to play the ball; in all other circumstances (e.g. holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball etc.) the offending player must be sent off.

A player, sent off player, substitute or substituted player who enters the field of play without the required referee's permission and interferes with play or an opponent and denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity is guilty of a sending-off offence. The following must be considered:

- distance between the offence and the goal
- general direction of the play
- likelihood of keeping or gaining control of the ball
- location and number of defenders

Serious foul play

A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

Any player who lunges at an opponent in challenging for the ball from the front, from the side or from behind using one or both legs, with excessive force or endangers the safety of an opponent is guilty of serious foul play.

Violent conduct

Violent conduct is when a player uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, team official, match official, spectator or any other person, regardless of whether contact is made.

In addition, a player who, when not challenging for the ball, deliberately strikes an opponent or any other person on the head or face with the hand or arm, is guilty of violent conduct unless the force used was negligible.

Offences where an object (or the ball) is thrown

In all cases, the referee takes the appropriate disciplinary action:

- reckless – caution the offender for unsporting behaviour
- using excessive force – send off the offender for violent conduct.

4. Restart of play after fouls and misconduct

- If the ball is out of play, play is restarted according to the previous decision
- If the ball is in play and a player commits an offence inside the field of play against:
 - an opponent – indirect or direct free kick or penalty kick



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- a team-mate, substitute, substituted or sent off player, team official or a match official – a direct free kick or penalty kick
- any other person – a dropped ball
- If, when the ball is in play:
 - a player commits an offense against a match official or an opposing player, substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official outside the field of play or
 - a substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official commits an offence against, or interferes with, an opposing player or match official outside the field of play,

play is restarted with a free kick on the boundary line nearest to where the offence/interference occurred; a penalty kick is awarded if this is a direct free kick offence within the offender's penalty area.

If a player standing on or off the field of play throws an object (including the ball) at an opposing player, substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official, match official or the ball, play is restarted with a direct free kick from the position where the object struck or would have struck the person or the ball. If this position is off the field of play, the free kick is taken on the nearest point on the boundary line; a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area.

If a substitute, substituted or sent off player, player temporarily off the field of play or team official throws or kicks an object onto the field of play and it interferes with play, an opponent or match official, play is restarted with a direct free kick (or penalty kick) where the object interfered with play or struck or would have struck the opponent, match official or the ball.

Law 13 – Free Kicks

1. Types of free kick

Direct and indirect free kicks are awarded to the opposing team of a player guilty of an offence. Please see Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct for more information.

Indirect free kick signal

The referee indicates an indirect free kick by raising the arm above the head; this signal is maintained until the kick has been taken and the ball touches another player or goes out of play.

An indirect free kick must be retaken if the referee fails to signal that the kick is indirect and the ball is kicked directly into the goal.

Ball enters the goal

- if a direct free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal is awarded
- if an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded
- if a direct or indirect free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded

2. Procedure

All free kicks are taken from the place where the offence occurred, except:



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- indirect free kicks to the attacking team for an offence inside the opponents' goal area are taken from the nearest point on the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal line
- free kicks to the defending team in their goal area may be taken from anywhere in that area
- free kicks for offences involving a player entering, re-entering or leaving the field of play without permission are taken from the position of the ball when play was stopped. However, if a player leaves the field of play as part of play and commits an offence against another player, play is restarted with a free kick taken on the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred; for direct free kick offences a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area
- the Law designates another position (see Laws 3, 11, 12)

The ball:

- must be stationary and the kicker must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player
- is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves except for a free kick to the defending team in their penalty area where the ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area

Until the ball is in play all opponents must remain:

- at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball, unless they are on their own goal line between the goalposts
- outside the penalty area for free kicks inside the opponents' penalty area

A free kick can be taken by lifting the ball with a foot or both feet simultaneously.

Feinting to take a free kick to confuse opponents is permitted as part of football.

If a player, while correctly taking a free kick, intentionally kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but not in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

3. Offences and sanctions

If, when a free kick is taken, an opponent is closer to the ball than the required distance, the kick is retaken unless the advantage can be applied; but if a player takes a free kick quickly and an opponent who is less than 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball intercepts it, the referee allows play to continue. However, an opponent who deliberately prevents a free kick being taken quickly must be cautioned for delaying the restart of play.

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team from inside its penalty area, any opponents are inside the penalty area because they did not have time to leave, the referee allows play to continue. If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the free kick is taken, or enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it has touched another player, the free kick is retaken.

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team inside its penalty area, the ball is not kicked directly out of the penalty area the kick is retaken.

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded, if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:



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- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

U5/U6

Law does not apply. No free kicks are awarded.

U7/U8

All free kicks awarded are indirect; opposing players must be 5 yards away from the ball until it is kicked (the radius of the center circle).

U9/U10

Opposing players must be 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked (the radius of the center circle).

U11/U12

Opposing players must be 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked (the radius of the center circle).

U13/U14

Opposing players must be 10 yards away from the ball until it is kicked (the radius of the center circle).

U15 and up

Opposing players must be 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked (the radius of the center circle).

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick

A penalty kick is awarded if a player commits a direct free kick offence inside their penalty area or off the field as part of play as outlined in Laws 12 and 13.

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.

1. Procedure

The ball must be stationary on the penalty mark.

The player taking the penalty kick must be clearly identified.

The defending goalkeeper must remain on the goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked.

The players other than the kicker and goalkeeper must be:

- at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the penalty mark
- behind the penalty mark
- inside the field of play
- outside the penalty area



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After the players have taken positions in accordance with this Law, the referee signals for the penalty kick to be taken.

The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forward; back heeling is permitted provided the ball moves forward.

The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.

The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.

The penalty kick is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play or the referee stops play for any offence.

Additional time is allowed for a penalty kick to be taken and completed at the end of each half of the match or extra time. When additional time is allowed, the penalty kick is completed when, after the kick has been taken, the ball stops moving, goes out of play, is played by any player (including the kicker) other than the defending goalkeeper, or the referee stops play for an offence by the kicker or the kicker's team. If a defending team player (including the goalkeeper) commits an offence and the penalty is missed/saved, the penalty is retaken

2. Offences and sanctions

Once the referee has signaled for a penalty kick to be taken, the kick must be taken. If, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:

- the player taking the penalty kick or a team-mate offends:
 - if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken
 - if the ball does not enter the goal, the referee stops play and restarts with an indirect free kick
- except for the following when play will be stopped and restarted with an indirect free kick, regardless of whether or not a goal is scored:
 - a penalty kick is kicked backwards
 - a team-mate of the identified kicker takes the kick; the referee cautions the player who took the kick
 - feinting to kick the ball once the kicker has completed the run-up (feinting in the run-up is permitted); the referee cautions the kicker
- the goalkeeper or a team-mate offends:
 - if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
 - if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken; the goalkeeper is cautioned if responsible for the offence
- a player of both teams offends the Laws of the Game, the kick is retaken unless a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. illegal feinting); if both the goalkeeper and kicker commit an offence at the same time:
 - if the kick is missed or saved, the kick is retaken and both players cautioned
 - if the kick is scored, the goal is disallowed, the kicker is cautioned and play restarts with an indirect free kick to the defending team

If, after the penalty kick has been taken:



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- the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player:
 - an indirect free kick (or direct free kick for deliberate hand ball) is awarded
- the ball is touched by an outside agent as it moves forward:
 - the kick is retaken unless the ball is going into the goal and the interference does not prevent the goalkeeper or a defending player playing the ball, in which case the goal is awarded if the ball enters the goal (even if contact was made with the ball) unless the ball enters the opponents' goal.
- the ball rebounds into the field of play from the goalkeeper, the crossbar or the goalposts and is then touched by an outside agent:
 - the referee stops play
 - play is restarted with a dropped ball at the position where it touched the outside agent

3. Summary table

	Outcome of the penalty kick	
	Goal	No Goal
Encroachment by attacking player	Penalty is retaken	Indirect free kick
Encroachment by defending player	Goal	Penalty is retaken
Offence by goalkeeper	Goal	Penalty is retaken and caution for goalkeeper
Ball kicked backwards	Indirect free kick	Indirect free kick
Illegal feinting	Indirect free kick and caution for kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for kicker
Wrong kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for wrong kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for wrong kicker
<u>Goalkeeper and kicker at the same time</u>	<u>Indirect free kick and caution for kicker</u>	<u>Retake and caution for kicker and goalkeeper</u>

U5/U6

Law does not apply – no penalty kicks

U7/U8

Law does not apply – no penalty kicks



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U9/U10

- The penalty mark is 8 yards from the center of the goal line
- Players other than the kicker and defending goalkeeper must be at least 8 yards from the penalty mark.

Note: The distance of eight yards conforms to the radius of the center circle. The distance of eight yards from the center of the goalmouth for the penalty mark fits within the reduced dimensions of the penalty area and is a reasonable distance for the kick.

U11/U12

- The penalty mark is 8 yards from the center of the goal line
- Players other than the kicker and defending goalkeeper must be at least 8 yards from the penalty mark.

Note: The distance of eight yards conforms to the radius of the center circle. The distance of eight yards from the center of the goalmouth for the penalty mark fits within the reduced dimensions of the penalty area and is a reasonable distance for the kick.

U13/U14

No modifications

U15 and up

The penalty mark is 8 yards from the center of the goal line

Law 15 –The Throw-in

A throw-in is awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball passes over the touchline, on the ground or in the air.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in:

- if the ball enters the opponents' goal – a goal kick is awarded
- if the ball enters the thrower's goal – a corner kick is awarded

1. Procedure

At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower must:

- face the field of play
- have part of each foot on the touchline or on the ground outside the touchline
- throw the ball with both hands from behind and over the head from the point where it left the field of play

All opponents must stand at least 2 m (2 yds) from the point at which the throw-in is taken.



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The ball is in play when it enters the field of play. If the ball touches the ground before entering, the throw-in is retaken by the same team from the same position. If the throw-in is not taken correctly it is retaken by the opposing team.

If a player, while correctly taking a throw-in, intentionally throws the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but neither in a careless nor a reckless manner nor using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

The thrower must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

2. Offences and sanctions

If, after the ball is in play, the thrower touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the thrower deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the thrower's penalty area unless the ball was handled by the defending team's goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

An opponent who unfairly distracts or impedes the thrower (including moving closer than 2 m (2 yds) to the place where the throw-in is to be taken) is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and if the throw-in has been taken an indirect free kick is awarded.

For any other offence the throw-in is taken by a player of the opposing team.

U5/U6

Law does not apply – no throw ins

U7/U8

Law does not apply – no throw ins. Restart is a player's choice of kick/pass in, or dribble in.

U9/U10

This is the first age group at which throw-ins are used. When a throw-in is improperly taken, referees should explain the error to the player, and allow one retake before awarding the ball to the other team.

U11/U12

No modifications

U13/U14

No modifications

U15 and up

No modifications



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Law 16 – The Goal Kick

A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the attacking team, and a goal is not scored.

A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team; if the ball directly enters the kicker's goal a corner kick is awarded to the opponents if the ball left the penalty area.

1. Procedure

- The ball must be stationary and is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team
- The ball is in play when it leaves the penalty area
- Opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play

2. Offences and sanctions

If the ball does not leave the penalty area or is touched by a player before it leaves the penalty area the kick is retaken. If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the goal kick is taken, or enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it has touched another player, the goal kick is retaken.

If a player enters the penalty area before the ball is in play and fouls or is fouled by an opponent, the goal kick is retaken and the offender may be cautioned or sent off depending on the offence.

For any other offence the kick is retaken.

U5/U6

Law does not apply

U7/U8

Opponents must retreat to their own half until the ball is in play.

Note: the defending players must stand at least at the halfway line until the ball is in play. The position of the defending players is so that the attacking team has a chance to play the ball out of their area. Teams are encouraged to inter-pass the ball in order to advance up field.

U9/U10

- Opponents must retreat behind the build-out line until the ball is in play.
- The team taking the goal kick does not have to wait for the opposing team to retreat, but has the option to restart the game as soon as they wish.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area.



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- Goalies may not punt or drop kick the ball.

U11/U12

No modifications

U13/U14

No modifications

U15 and up

No modifications

Law 17 – The Corner Kick

A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the defending team, and a goal is not scored.

A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team; if the ball directly enters the kicker's goal a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.

1. Procedure

- The ball must be placed in the corner area nearest to the point where the ball passed over the goal line
- The ball must be stationary and is kicked by a player of the attacking team
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves; it does not need to leave the corner area
- The corner flagpost must not be moved
- Opponents must remain at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the corner arc until the ball is in play

2. Offences and sanctions

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

If a player, while correctly taking a corner kick, intentionally kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but not in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

For any other offence the kick is retaken.

U5/U6

Law does not apply

U7/U8

Law does not apply. Restart is a player's choice of kick/pass in, or dribble in.



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U9/U10

Opposing players must be 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked.

U11/U12

Opposing players must be 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked.

U13/U14

No modifications

U15 and up

No modifications

Additional Rules and Expectations

- No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, marijuana, or illegal drugs are allowed on or near the field.
- No slide tackles

U5/U6

- Coaches should watch for unsportsmanlike conduct, dangerous play or violent play.
- If such play is observed, the coaches should stop the game, and explain to the players why the conduct was improper.
- Direct, indirect and penalty kicks are not awarded.
- Players are not carded or ejected, but coaches may require any player to take a break from the activities for a short period of time.
- If the player continues with unsportsmanlike conduct, dangerous play or violent play, the coaches may take such action as is necessary to protect the other players from harm.

U7/U8

- All kicks are indirect.
- Cards are not to be shown to players, and players are not to be ejected.
- In the event a player engages in unsportsmanlike conduct, dangerous play or violent play, the referee may require any player to take a break from the activities for a short period of time.
- If the player continues with unsportsmanlike conduct, dangerous play or violent play, the referee may take such action as is necessary to protect the other players from harm.

U9/U10

All cautions and cards should be briefly explained to the player committing the foul.