



U/5 – U/6 RULES

Law 1 – The Field of Play:

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line. Length: minimum 25 yards maximum 35 yards Width: minimum 15 yards maximum 25 yards **Field Markings:** Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line.

The Goal Area: No ball contact allowed within the goal area, however, any player may pass through the goal area. If the ball comes to rest in the goal area, a goal kick is awarded regardless of who touched the ball last. Any part of the ball or player's body on the line is considered in the goal area and is an extension of such. Once the ball has broken the line of the goal area, if the ball is touched by the defensive team, a goal will be awarded if a legitimate goal scoring opportunity is prevented. If an offensive player touches the ball after it has broken the plane, a goal kick will be awarded. The plane of the goal area extends upward.

The Penalty Area: None.

The Corner Arc: None.

Law 2 – Size three (3) soccer ball

Law 3 – The Number of Players A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than four (4) players. There are NO goalkeepers.

Substitutions: At any stoppage of play and unlimited.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. It is the coach's responsibility to enforce this rule. The preferred team roster size is eight (8) or less but exceptions may be allowed

Law 4 – The Players Equipment Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must distinguish teams. Shinguards are MANDATORY for both practices and games, and must be covered entirely by socks. If needed, teams can be distinguished by scrimmage vests.

Safety A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry; with the exception of a medical alert bracelet).

Law 5 – The Referee: There is no need for fully qualified referees to manage U5/U6 games. One or both of the coaches should officiate / manage the game. The games are intended to be an opportunity for our young players to experience the fun of playing. Minimal rules are needed and should be applied with a generous amount of flexibility. Let the players have the freedom to play with little interruption. All infringements should be briefly explained to the players.

Law 6 – Match Officials: None. Parents/Coaches can help referee.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: Teams will practice for the first 20-30 minutes of the scheduled time. Game Play: The match shall be divided into two (2) halves of not more than 8 minutes. There shall be a maximum of a five (5) minute halftime.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play Conform to FIFA Laws of the Game, with the exception that the defending team is at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play. Remember, let them play and do not interfere for technicalities.

Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play - Conform to FIFA Laws of the Game.

Law 10 – The Method of Scoring Conform to FIFA Laws of the Game with the exception the ball may only be scored from a touch (offensive or defensive) within a team's offensive half of the field.

Law 11 – Off-side None.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct - Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game with the exception that deliberate heading is not allowed in 4 vs. 4 games. In all instances explain the infraction to the player. All free kicks shall be indirect. No cards will be shown in this age group.

Law 13 – Free Kicks - Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game, with the exception that all free kicks are indirect and the opponents are to be at least four (4) yards away from the ball until it is kicked.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick None.

Law 15 – The Throw-In - Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game, a second chance given if a throw-in is improperly performed.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick - The ball shall be placed on or within the goal area. Opposing players must be no closer than the midline until the ball is kicked.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick None. A goal kick is awarded to the defensive team regardless of who last contacted the ball

Law 18 – Match Time - The game will be split into two halves. Each half will be 12 minutes in length with a 3 minute halftime.