



Recreational Soccer Game Rules

FC BRANDYWINE

GENERAL RULES (applies to ALL age groups)

- **All games MUST keep to the schedule.** We play several games back-to-back so it is very important that games start and end on time.
- Coaches should have their players arrive at least 15 minutes before the game start time
- Both coaches can agree to adjust rules, (re: number of players, game length/time, etc.) to create the best possible environment for players.
- **COACHES**
 - Coaches at older age groups are not allowed on the field during the game unless there is an injury and the referee signals the coach onto the field.
 - Coaches may make player substitutions on any kick-in or goal kick, and after goals.
 - No excessive sideline coaching (at older player levels)
- **PLAYER SAFETY**
 - Plyers are required to wear shin guards covered by high socks. No exceptions.
 - NO JEWELRY may be worn during play, including watches and earrings
 - No dangerous or unsportsmanlike conduct
 - No heading (results in indirect kick or drop ball, depending on intent). Referee's call.
 - No slide tackling or tripping (results in direct or indirect kick, at referee discretion)
 - No excessive celebrating or unsportsman-like behavior
- **PARENTS**
 - Parents may not coach from the sidelines. You are encouraged to cheer for all players.
 - Parents are not permitted on the field or behind the goals during games. Parents are only permitted to be along the side of the field opposite from their child's team.
- **GOALKEEPERS (GK)**
 - GK should wear a scrimmage vest of different color from their team and opponent
 - Pass back to GK is allowed, and they (GK) can pick ball up.
- **TECHNICAL RULES**
 - Handballs will be called. The ball changes possession to the other team.
 - Offside rule enforced when deliberate use of being offside gains an advantage; called by referee. This will be introduced at 1st/2nd grade level.

SOCCKER TERMS EXPLAINED

Goal Line. The boundary lines running along the width of the field, where the goals are located.

Penalty Box. The large rectangular area in front of the goal.

Handball. "Intentional/deliberate" use of hands will be called as a handball

Offside. A player is offside if they are closer to the opponent's goal than both the ball and the second-to-last defender (usually the last non-goalie defender) when the ball is passed to them.

Throw-Ins. This occurs when the ball goes out of bounds along the field line (long sides), In a proper throw in, the ball is thrown with both hands over the player's head, back to front, with both feet on the ground. Body must move forward only, not sideways or twisted.

Corner Kick: Awarded to the attacking team when the ball crosses the goal line, last touched by a defending player.

Free Kick: A kick awarded after a foul is committed. At the Rec level, free kicks will be indirect, which means the ball must touch another player before a goal can be scored. We will not be using penalty kicks ("PKs") or direct kicks (a shot on goal is allowed)

PRE-K

# PLAYERS	3 v. 3 (no goalies)
PLAYING TIME	Four (4) quarters. Each quarter is 8-minutes per referee's central clock
BALL	Size 3 soccer ball
OUT-OF-BOUNDS	Kick-In from the spot where the ball crossed the line
GOAL KICKS	The defending team retreats behind mid-field line.
FOULS	All fouls will be awarded an (indirect) free kick. No direct shots on goal or penalty kicks
OFF-SIDES	Not called
REFEREES	Coaches will jointly officiate the game, including correcting players and deciding re-starts.
TEACHING	For most of the season coaches may be on the field if needed.

KINDERGARTEN

# PLAYERS	4 v. 4 (no goalies)
PLAYING TIME	Four (4) quarters. Each quarter is 10-minutes per referee's central clock
BALL	Size 3 soccer ball
OUT-OF-BOUNDS	Kick-In from the spot where the ball crossed the line
GOAL KICKS	The defending team retreats behind mid-field line.
FOULS	All fouls will be awarded an (indirect) free kick. No direct shots on goal or penalty kicks
OFF-SIDES	Not called
REFEREES	An FCB referee will officiate the game or coaches may ref the game
TEACHING	For half of the season coaches may be on the field if needed.

1st & 2nd GRADE

# PLAYERS	7 v. 7 = 6 field players + 1 goalie (wears different color or pinny)
PLAYING TIME	Two, 20-minute halves via continuous clock (referee)
HALF-TIME	5 minutes
BALL	Size 4 soccer ball
OUT-OF-BOUNDS	Throw-in from the spot where the ball crossed the line
GOAL KICKS	The defending team retreats behind mid-field line.
FOULS	Fouls will be penalized as-appropriate. Penalty shots will be awarded.
SPACE ON KICKS	All opposing players MUST be at least 10 yards away on restarts for both direct and indirect kicks.
OFF-SIDES	Will be called Initially referees will warn players and explain the concept.
REFEREES	An FCB referee will officiate the game

3rd & 4th GRADE

# PLAYERS	7 v. 7 = 6 field players + 1 goalie (wears different color or pinny)
PLAYING TIME	Two, 20 or 25-minute (Coaches agree) halves via continuous clock (referee)
HALF-TIME	5 minutes
BALL	Size 4 soccer ball
OUT-OF-BOUNDS	Throw-in from the spot where the ball crossed the line
GOAL KICKS	The defending team retreats behind mid-field line.
FOULS	Fouls will be penalized as-appropriate. Penalty shots will be awarded.
SPACE ON KICKS	All opposing players MUST be at least 10 yards away on restarts for both direct and indirect kicks.
OFF-SIDES	Will be called after a few warnings
REFEREES	An FCB referee will officiate the game

5th & 6th GRADE

# PLAYERS	11v11 or 9v9 including 1 goalie (wears different color or pinny)
PLAYING TIME	Two, 25-minute halves via continuous clock (referee)
HALF-TIME	5 minutes
BALL	Size 5 soccer ball
<i>All laws of the game will be followed.</i>	
OUT-OF-BOUNDS	Throw-in from the spot where the ball crossed the line
FOULS	Fouls will be penalized as-appropriate. Penalty shots will be awarded.
SPACE ON KICKS	All opposing players MUST be at least 10 yards away on restarts for both direct and indirect kicks.
OFF-SIDES	Will be enforced
REFEREES	An FCB referee will officiate the game