

BLACK HILLS RAPIDS SOCCER CLUB

REC SOCCER GAMEDAY – U7/U8



WHERE: Dakota Fields Complex, 3737 N Elk Vale Road, Rapid City, SD

WHEN: Your schedules are posted on your Sports Engine account. Login to your account at blackhillsrapids.com. On the left-side of your account homepage there is a schedule tab.

UNIFORM: The home team wears their burgundy top, the away team wears white. We recommend bringing both shirts to every game.

GAME LENGTH: There will be four 10-minute quarters. There should be a 5-minute break between quarters, coaches can mutually agree on a longer halftime if desired. Substitutions should occur every 5 minutes.

HOW MANY PLAYERS ON THE FIELD?

Ideally, we play 4v4 at this age. If one of the teams has 9 players at the game we recommend playing 5v5.

ARE THERE OFFICIALS?

No, there are no officials for these games. We want there to be flexibility for coaches and players to make the game as enjoyable as possible! Coaches, at times, should be on the field as an official would be. This can allow them to better direct their players and to keep the game flowing.

There is not a real need for foul calls at this age. Coaches just need to call blatant handballs as well as give direction on throw-ins. There are no penalty kicks and the offside rule does not apply. There is no heading of the ball at this age to assure player safety. If a ball goes over the end-line we resume play with a goal kick or corner kick, depending on which team last touched the ball.

The buildout line is used at this age. When there is a goal kick, or the ball is in the goalkeepers hands, the opposing team must drop back behind the midfield line. When the goalkeeper puts the ball into play the opposition can then apply pressure.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COACH:

The two coaches should talk prior to the game to make sure their expectations are aligned. Coaches will also be responsible to keep track of time.

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P.O. Box 273 | Rapid City, South Dakota | 57709