

MODIFIED LAWS OF THE GAME

U4 THROUGH U6 (Revised 08/22)

FIFA RULES COVER ALL GAPS IN THESE LAWS

<http://www.fifa.com/aboutfifa/footballdevelopment/technicalsupport/refereeing/laws-of-the-game/index.html>

Law I--FIELD OF PLAY

The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Coaching & Spectator Area—Coaches and spectators are to stay on their designated side of the field (not behind the goals) and in the area designated as the coaching/spectator area. The purpose of this area is to prevent individuals from interfering with play.

Law II--THE BALL

Size 3 soccer balls are used.

Home team is expected to supply a properly inflated good condition game ball.

Law III--NUMBER OF PLAYERS

4 v 4--A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than four (4) players. The required minimum number of players is three (3) for each team to play an official match.

Team roster size will be 4 minimum and 8 maximum.

Substitutions can be throughout the game. Substitutions are allowed during play for injuries or player fatigue. Game time does not stop for injuries. Coaches should be understanding and tolerant of substitutions as many players in this age group cannot complete a full quarter. Encourage your players to practice good sportsmanship.

There are NO goalkeepers.

Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time of each game attended.

Law IV--PLAYER'S EQUIPMENT

Conform to FIFA – Shinguards are MANDATORY and shall be worn under the sock next to the skin. Non-uniform clothing is allowed (under uniform jersey/shorts) based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams. Players may wear tennis shoes or soccer specific cleats. Cleats for football or baseball have a toe cleat and are not permitted.

A player shall not wear anything that is dangerous to another player (i.e., watches,

necklaces, earrings, rings, unpadded casts, hair clasps, hair feathers with metal clips, hair beads, plastic barrettes, bracelets, rubber wrist bands, etc.). Hair ribbons are allowed as long as they do not have solid clasps or clips. Hair clasps and earrings may not be taped over – no exceptions!

Law V—REFEREES

Conform to FIFA except:

Coaches act as referees. Both coaches are on field at the same time. Coaches should agree on a division of functions. One coach will keep the game time. One coach will be designated for restarting play using the “new ball” method. The coach keeping time will collect balls that go outside of the field of play.

Law VI--ASSISTANT REFEREES

No Assistant Referee will be required.

Law VII--DURATION OF THE GAME

The match shall be divided into four (4) equal, eight (8) minute quarters. Two minutes will be allowed between quarters and a five-minute halftime will be allowed between the second and third quarters. Please end play before the next scheduled game. To ensure games do not overlap, please start your game on time according to your schedule.

Law VIII--START OF PLAY

Conform to FIFA except:

Visitors will kick off to start the first and third quarters. Home team will kick off to start the second and fourth quarters.

Law IX--BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

Conform to FIFA. Ball must completely cross line to be out of play.

We will be using the “New Ball” method for balls that go out of bounds. The coach designated for restarts will hold the ball up and say “new ball.” This will gain the attention of the players on the field and alert them to the restart. The coach will then roll the new ball back into play to a neutral position between the two teams. This method of restart is not intended to aid a particular player or team in scoring or gaining an advantage in the game. This method of restart is designed to decrease the amount of time the ball is out of bounds while increasing the speed of play and maximizing the number of touches for each player. The success of this restart method is contingent upon all coaches having a common understanding of its purpose and being consistent in its administration.

Law X--METHOD OF SCORING

Conform to FIFA. Ball must completely cross goal line between the posts and beneath the crossbar to count.

Law XI--OFF-SIDE

No off-side will be called.

Law XII--FOULS AND MISCONDUCTS

Conform to FIFA except:

No slide tackles will be allowed. Coaches should use discretion when calling fouls in this age group. Play should not be stopped except for serious misconduct or to instruct a player that handles the ball continuously.

Law XIII--FREE KICK

Conform to FIFA. Players should be at least 4 yards from the ball.

Law XIV--PENALTY KICK

No penalty kicks. Conform to free kick rules.

Law XV--THROW IN

There will be no throw-ins at this age group. Players will use the new ball method for all restarts except kick offs.

Law XVI--GOAL KICK

There will be no goal kicks at this age group. Players will use the new ball method for all restarts except kick offs.

Law XVII--CORNER KICK

There will be no corner kicks at this age group. Players will use the new ball method for all restarts except kick offs.