



U8 MODIFIED LAWS

Law I – The Field

- A. Field Size: 40 yd x 25 yd
- B. Goal Size: 6' x 12'

Law II – The Ball

- A. Ball Size: three (3)

Law III – The Number of Players

- A. On Field: 4 players (4 v. 4)
- B. No goalkeepers in this age division
- C. The coach must remain on the coach's side of the field. Only the coach and an assistant coach are permitted on the player's bench side of the field during the game.
- D. Coaches should refrain from talking to the referee during the game. If the coach has a question, he/she should wait for half time or the conclusion of the game. The referee will not stop the game or the clock to talk to a coach.
- E. Substitutions may occur on the fly, one-for-one substitutions with the permission of the referee.
- F. All players should play at least half the game.

Law IV – Player's Equipment

- A. Footwear: Soccer cleats or tennis shoes (cleats are preferred). Baseball or Football cleats (cleats which contain a single cleat at the toe or very front of the shoe) are not allowed.
- B. Shin guards are required to be worn underneath the sock. The sock must completely cover the shin guards at all times. Players are not permitted to take the field without shin guards (this includes practice).
- C. ALL items of jewelry are strictly forbidden and must be removed prior to game time. Using tape or band-aids to cover jewelry is NOT acceptable – the item must be removed.

Law V – The Referee

- A. Certified or league approved Referee. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law VI – The Assistant Referees

- A. Not used for this age group

Law VII – The Duration of the Match

- A. Length: The game shall be divided into 4 equal quarters of 10 minutes each.
- B. Breaks: There shall be a 2 minute break between the first and second quarter and the third and fourth quarter and a 5 minute half-time break.
- C. Teams shall switch goals at half time.

Law VIII – The Start of Play

- A. The referee shall determine the team that kicks off with a coin flip or referee discretion.
- B. Opponents must be at least 5 yards from the center mark while the kick-off is in progress. The ball is in play when it is kicked or played forward into the opponent's half of the field.
- C. The player kicking the ball on a kick-off must not kick the ball again before another player touches the ball.

Law IX – Ball in and out of play

- A. The ball is out of play when it has wholly crossed the goal line or the touch line. The ball is in play at all other times.

Law X – Method of Scoring

- A. A goal is scored when the whole of the ball crosses the goal line, between the goal posts and under the crossbar, provided that no infringement of the Modified Laws has been committed by the team scoring the goal.
- B. There are no scores kept in this age division.

Law XI – Offside

- A. There is no offside offense in this age division.

Law XII – Fouls and Misconduct

- A. Fouls in this age group shall be called with an understanding of the age of the players. Fouls shall generally be limited to: a) handballs and b) excessive, dangerous, abusive, or violent conduct directed at another player.
- B. All fouls shall result in an INDIRECT FREE KICK.
- C. The referee and/or coach shall explain all infractions to the offending player.
- D. There shall be NO SLIDE TACKLES.

Law XIII- Free Kicks

- A. Conform to FIFA law.
- B. All kicks are indirect and opponents are at least 4 yards from the ball until it is played.

Law XIV – The Penalty Kick

- A. There are no penalty kicks in this age division.

Law XV – Throw-Ins

- A. Conform to FIFA law. A throw-in is necessary when the ball goes out of play across a touchline. The thrower must face the field when delivering the ball and part of each foot shall be on the touchline or on the ground outside the touchline. The thrower shall use both hands and shall deliver the ball from directly behind and over his or her head.
- B. A goal may not be scored directly from a throw-in.
- C. A second throw in shall be allowed if the initial attempt is improper.

Law XVI – Goal Kick

- A. Conform to FIFA law. The goal kick may be taken anywhere on the goal box line.
- B. Opposing players must be 4 yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law XVII – Corner Kick

- A. Conform to FIFA law.
- B. Opposing players must be 4 yards from the ball until it is in play.