



**U.S. Youth Soccer
4 v 4 Under Eight Program
Official Laws
(As amended by GCSA)**

Law I - The Field of Play:

- A. Field Dimensions: The field of play shall be rectangular, its length being not more than fifty (50) yards nor less than forty (40) yards and its width not more than thirty (30) yards nor less than twenty (20) yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width.
U.S. Youth Soccer Recommendations: Length - fifty (50) yards; width - thirty (30) yards.
- B. Field Markings:
 1. Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide.
 2. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field.
 3. A center circle with a five (5) yard radius.
 4. Four corner arcs with a two (2) foot radius.
 5. Goal Area: Three (3) yards from each goal post and three (3) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line.
- C. Goals: The size of hockey goals or 6' x 12'.

Law II - The Ball: Size Three (3).

Law III - Number of Players:

- A. Maximum number of players on the field at any one time shall be four (4). No player is allowed to use his or her hands, except for throw-ins. There are NO goalkeepers. The match shall not start if either team consists of fewer than three (3) players. *
- B. Maximum number of players on the roster shall be a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6). The Club may elect to extend the maximum number of players on the roster to eight (8). *
- C. Substitutions:
 1. Injuries.
 2. See Law VII.
- D. Playing Time: Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.
- E. Teams and games may be coed.

Law IV - Player's Equipment: Conform to FIFA, with the following exceptions:

- A. Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes.
- B. Shinguards: MANDATORY. *

Law V - Referees:

- A. Registered or Associate Referee.
- B. Parent/coach or assistant.
- C. All rule infractions shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law VI - Assistant Referees: Use Club Assistant Referees.

Law VII - Duration of the Game:

- A. The game shall be divided into four (4) equal ten (10) minute quarters. *
- B. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarters one and two and another two (2) minute break between quarters three and four.
- C. There shall be a half-time break of five (5) minutes.

Law VIII - The Start of Play: Conform to FIFA, with the following exceptions:

- A. Opponents must be five (5) yards from the center mark while kick-offs are in progress.
- B. A goal may not be scored directly from the kick off. *

Law IX - Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law X - Method of scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law XI - Off-Side: There shall be no off-side. *

Law XII - Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA, with the following exceptions:

- A. All fouls shall result in an indirect free kick with the opponent five (5) yards away. *
- B. The coach/parent must explain ALL infractions to the offending player. *

Law XIII - Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA, with the following exceptions:

- A. Shall be classified under one heading - INDIRECT.
- B. A goal may not be scored until the ball has been played or touched by a second player of either team. *
- C. No kicks are to be taken by the attacking team within the defending team's goal box.
- D. Opponents must be five (5) yards away before kick is allowed. *

Law XIV - Penalty Kick: No penalty kicks are to be taken during these games.

Law XV - Throw-In / Kick-In:

- A. A kick-in is considered as an indirect free kick with the opponent five (5) yards away from the ball.
- B. If a throw-in is used, a second throw-in must be allowed if the player commits a foul on the initial attempt. The referee shall explain the proper method before allowing the player to re-throw.

Law XVI - Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA, with the following exceptions:

- A. Goal kick is taken any where within the goal box.
- B. Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball.
- C. A goal may not be scored directly from a goal kick. *

Law XVII - Corner-Kick: Conform to FIFA, with the following exception:

- A. Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball.

* GCSA amendment.