

**U.S. YOUTH SOCCER
4V4 OFFICIAL LAWS
WITH CSYSA MODIFICATIONS
UNDER 7/8**

LAW I - THE FIELD

- A. Dimensions:
The field of play shall be rectangular, its length being not more than 50 yards nor less than 40 yards and its width not more than 30 yards nor less than 20 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width.

**U.S. Youth Soccer Recommendation:
Length: 50 Yards Width: 30 Yards**

- B. 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 three (5) yard radius.
 4. Four corner arcs each 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 6x12 feet.

LAW II - THE BALL

Size three(3)

LAW III - NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- A. Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is four (4). **Game played without goalkeepers.**
- B. Maximum number of players on the roster should not exceed ten (10).
- C. Substitutions:
1. Injuries.
 2. Any dead ball (kick-in) with referee's permission.
- D. Playing Time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.
- E. Teams and games may be coed. All coed teams considered boy's teams.

LAW IV - PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

The basic equipment of a player consists of the following:

- A. A jersey or shirt (same color for all players on a team).
- B. Shorts – Jerseys/Shirts must be tucked into shorts.
- C. Stockings – must completely cover the shinguards, should be same color for all of team.
- D. Shinguards – **MANDATORY** for protective reasons.
- E. Footwear – tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes.

LAW V - THE REFEREE

- A. Registered or associate referee.
- B. Parent/Coach or assistant.
- C. All rule infractions shall be briefly explained to the offending player in a helpful, friendly and instructive manner.

LAW VI - LINESMAN

None.

LAW VII - DURATION OF THE GAME

- A. The game shall be divided into four (4) equal, twelve (12) 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

- A. At the start of the game, choice of field ends and kick-off determined by the flip of a coin.
- B. Opponent must be five (5) yards from the center mark until the ball has been kicked.
- C. The ball may not be touched again by the same player until it has been touched by another player of either team.
- D. The ball may not travel backward on the first touch.

LAW IX - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

The ball is out of play during the following circumstances:

- A. When it has completely crossed a boundary line (on the ground or in the air).
- B. When the game has been halted by an official.

LAW X - METHOD OF SCORING

- A. A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line.
- B. The ball must cross the goal line between the goal posts and under the crossbar.

LAW XI - OFF-SIDE

There shall be no off-side.

LAW XII - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

- A. All fouls shall result in an indirect free kick.
- B. Opponents must be five (5) yards away before kick is allowed.
- C. Any player who commits one of the following offences shall be penalized by the opposing team being awarded an indirect free kick.
 - 1. Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent.
 - 2. Trips an opponent.
 - 3. Jumps at an opponent.
 - 4. Charges an opponent.
 - 5. Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent.
 - 6. Pushes an opponent.
 - 7. Tackles an opponent, but touches opponent before the ball.
 - 8. Holds an opponent.
 - 9. Spits at an opponent.
 - 10. Handles the ball deliberately.
 - 11. Plays in a dangerous manner.
 - 12. Impedes the progress of an opponent.
- D. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infractions to the offending player before restarting play.

LAW XIII - FREE KICKS

- A. Shall be classified under one heading - INDIRECT.
- B. No kicks shall be taken by the attacking team within the defending team's goal box.
- C. Opponents must be five (5) yards away before kick is allowed.

LAW XIV - PENALTY KICKS

No penalty kicks taken during these games.

LAW XV - KICK-IN

- A. Kick-in is considered as an indirect free kick with the opponent five (5) yards away from the ball.

LAW XVI - GOAL KICK

- A. A goal kick is taken by a member of the defending team when the ball crosses the goal line outside of the goal when it has last been touched by a member of the attacking team.
- B. Goal kick may be taken anywhere within the goal box.
- C. Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball.

LAW XVII - CORNER KICK

- A. The attacking team is awarded a kick-in when the ball passes completely over the goal line outside of the goal area after last being played by a member of the defending team.
- B. Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball.

Additional US Youth Soccer Recommendations

- Opposing parents/coaches and players should shake hands after each game.
- Do not record league standings.
- Do not record final score.
- Parent/coaches are on the field acting as referees.
- Parent/coaches, non-playing players and spectators should be there to enjoy and encourage the activity of the youngsters.
- Participation awards for ALL – No trophies or awards just for the best team.
- No alcoholic beverages will be consumed or allowed near the playing field.