



## **SSA Under 16 Rules and Regulations**

### **LAWS OF THE GAME**

#### **Law #1: The Field of Play**

- The field of play must be rectangular and shall be approximately 70 yards by 110 yards
- There shall be 44 yards by 18 yards penalty area, 20 yards by 6 yards goal area, and a 12 yard penalty kick mark
- The goal shall be approximately 24 feet wide and 8 feet high. Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement
- No one (spectators or participants) shall be allowed behind the end lines during the course of a game

#### **Law #2: The Ball**

- Players shall use a size 5 ball

#### **Law #3: Number of Players & Substitutions**

- A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eleven (11) players, one of whom is the goalkeeper
- Minimum of seven (7) players per side needed to start or continue the game
- Each player must play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time, unless he or she is unable to do so, or at the parent's request
- Substitutions are unlimited and may be made, with the consent of the referee, at the following times: a) Prior to a throw-in in your favor, b) Prior to a goal kick, by either team, c) After a goal, by either team, d) After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops the play (substitutions shall not be limited to only the injured player or his team), e) at half time, f) After a caution, by either team
- Substitutions are not allowed during the stoppage of play for a player being sent off (red card)

#### **Law #4: Player's Equipment**

- Shin guards are mandatory and must be a commercially manufactured product specifically designed for the purpose. Home-made products will not be allowed
- Shin guards should be covered with socks
- For safety reasons, soccer cleats are mandatory
- Players are not allowed to play with a cast (hard or soft)
- All players on the same team shall wear the same color uniforms
- For safety, players may not participate with improper equipment



#### **Law #5: Referees**

- There will one certified referee

#### **Law #6: Assistant Referees**

- There will be two assistant referees

#### **Law #7: Duration of the Game**

- The center referee will act as the official timekeeper
- The match shall be divided into two (2) equal, forty (40) minute halves
- There shall be a half-time interval of ten (10) minutes

#### **Law #8: The Start of Play**

- Each team shall be represented at the field of play by a coach or assistant coach or a parent appointed in his/her place for the duration of the game
- The opponents must be at least ten (10) yards from the center mark while a kick-off is in progress

#### **Law #9: Ball In and Out of Play**

- The ball must be wholly over the goal line or touch line whether on the ground or in the air to be declared out of play

#### **Law #10: Method of Scoring**

- The ball must be wholly over the goal-line to be declared a goal. A ball sitting on the line is still in play (no goal has been scored)

#### **Law #11: Off-Side**

- The off-side rule will be enforced

#### **Law #12: Fouls and Misconduct**

- Conform to FIFA



### **Law #13: Free Kick**

- Conform to FIFA, which states that all opponents are at least ten (10) yards from the ball until it is in play

### **Law #14: Penalty Kick**

- Conform to FIFA, which states that the penalty mark is made twelve (12) yards from the goal

### **Law #15: Throw-In**

- Conform to FIFA, which states that opponents must stand at least two (2) yards from the point at which the throw-in is taken

### **Law #16: Goal Kick**

- Conform to FIFA, which states the ball is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team

### **Law #17: Corner Kick**

- Conform to FIFA, which states that opponents remain at least ten (10) yards from the ball until it is in play

### **RESTRICTIONS**

- No team shall be allowed less than 11, nor more than 18, registered players at any given time

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- Youth Soccer player and coach passes issued by Georgia Soccer with the player and coach's recent picture permanently affixed (laminated) and signature thereon is required for teams playing Recreation Inter-League Schedule
- In the absence of a credentialed coach, an adult 18 years old or older with a photo ID and named on the game card, may assume the duties as game-day coach
- A team that does not present its passes to the referee prior to the beginning of the match shall forfeit that match unless, in the Division Committee's discretion, valid extenuating circumstances were present
- Any player without a proper pass shall not be permitted to play in the match
- 2 official game rosters must be printed and brought to each game



## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Opposing coaches, players, and parents should shake hands after each match
- Spectator and team benches should be on opposite sides of the field