

FAIRFIELD SPORTS
SOCCER RULES: 6 Year Old Division
[ADAPTED FROM "THE RULES OF SOCCER: SIMPLIFIED"]
July 31, 2020

INTRODUCTION

All players, coaches, and parents will adhere to the Fairfield Sports Youth Soccer Honor Code.

1. THE FIELD OF PLAY.

- a. The field of play shall be 60 by 80 feet
The team is allowed to have one coach and one assistant coach.

2. THE BALL.

- a. A Size 3 ball shall be used.
- b. The ball must be properly inflated (~10 psi) and be firm to the touch.

3. PLAYERS.

- a. The Coach shall play each member of the team at least half of the game unless it is deemed that a player cannot physically play as a result of injury or illness.
- b. Substitutions can be made any time the ball is out of play.
- c. Only players on the team's roster shall represent that team on the field. Under no circumstances will unregistered players be allowed to play in any games.
- d. One player from each team must be designated as a goalkeeper. The goalkeeper's attire shall be such that they are easily distinguishable from their teammates. **A player may not play goalie for more than two quarters of the game.**
- e. Teams will play 5v5.

4. PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT.

- a. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that their players are properly equipped.
- b. A player is not allowed to wear items that could cause injury to them self or other players. (Examples of these items are rings, earrings, bracelets, hard or metal hair clips, and necklaces.)
- c. A player must wear shorts, socks, shin guards, soccer shoes, and a team shirt.
- d. Socks must be worn over shin guards and must be ENTIRELY covered by the stockings/socks.

- e. Shin guards shall be made of a suitable material (rubber, plastic, polyurethane or similar substance) and shall afford a reasonable degree of protection.
- f. Fairfield Sports Association will provide the team shirt, shorts, and socks.
- g. The goalkeeper's shirt must be distinguishable from those of his teammates.
- h. Players with long hair must tie it up and back with an elastic-type band.
- i. Substitutions may be made anytime the ball is out of play

5. COACHES AS REFEREES.

- a. Every coach is responsible for learning and adhering to these rules.
- b. Coaches for each team will act as referees during games.
- c. Coaches are expected to learn the rules and enforce them in a positive manner.
- d. Coaches may act as linesmen or they may designate a linesman from the parents or fans of each team.
- e. No timeouts are allowed during the game.
- f. Coaches will be the timekeepers.
- g. Coaches may stop the game if he or she feels a player has been seriously injured and resume play once the player has been removed from the field and has been adequately tended to.
- h. Each coach will pay all due respect to the calls of opposing coaches, including goals scored. Arguing calls is strongly discouraged.
- i. Coaches are allowed on the field of play as follows: One coach allowed on the field of play from each team. An additional coach may be placed behind the goal their team is defending.
- j. Parents and fans will not be allowed near the goal area but should observe the games from the sidelines only.

6. DURATION OF THE GAME.

- a. The game shall be divided into four 10-minute quarters.
- b. Quarter breaks shall last no more than 2 minutes.
- c. Halftime shall last no more than 5 minutes.

7. START AND RESTART OF PLAY.

- a. Kick off. A kick off is taken at the center mark to start a game, to restart play after a goal is scored, to start each quarter, and to start the second half.
- b. The home team shall kick off and the visiting team shall determine which goal to attack first.
- c. Teams will switch ends of the field at the beginning of the second half.

- d. The team scored against kicks off after a goal is scored.
- e. During a kick-off, all players must be in their own halves of the field and, with the exception of the players on the team taking the kick off, outside the center circle.
- f. The player kicking off may not play the ball again until it touches another player of either team.
- g. **The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves either forward or backward.**
- h. A goal may not be scored directly from the kick-off without touching another player before it enters the goal.

8. DROPPED BALL.

- a. Few fouls should be called during the game. If a serious foul does occur, such as intentional tripping, the offending player should be gently instructed as to the proper manner of play. The ball will then be dropped at the point of the foul, all players initially two yards away. When the ball hits the ground, play may resume. If a foul occurs in or near the goal area, the ball will be dropped no closer than 3 yards from the goal area. There are NO PENALTY KICKS awarded for any reason.

9. BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY.

- a. A ball is deemed out of play when: The entire ball is completely outside the edge of the goal line or the side line.
- b. The ball is in play at all other times.

10. METHOD OF SCORING.

- a. A goal is scored when the entire ball goes completely over the goal line, between the goal posts, and under the cross bar.
- b. Any player may score goals.
- c. Any player scoring a goal in his own goal is a score for the opposing team.
- d. **For this league no official scoring will be kept and the adults (parents and coaches) should also refrain from keeping score, as the purpose is to enjoy and learn the basics of soccer.**

11. THROW-IN.

- a. A throw-in is taken to restart the game after the ball goes out of play past the touchline. It is taken where the ball left the field of play.
- b. To go out of play, all of the ball must completely cross the outside edge of the touchline, either on the ground or in the air.
- c. A player may not score a goal by throwing the ball directly into his opponent's goal.
- d. Opponents must be 2 yards away from the throw-in spot.

- e. Both feet of the thrower must be on the ground when the throw is made, AND, parts of both feet must be either on or outside the touchline. The throw is ILLEGAL should the throw be made with one or both feet completely on the field of play (no part of any foot touching or behind the touchline).
- f. Thrower must use both hands. Both hands must be above the thrower's head and come forward together.
- g. Thrower will be given one second chance should he/she commit an error in throwing. Should the thrower make an illegal throw a second time the opposing team is awarded a throw-in at the same spot.
- h. Coaches may not physically position or assist players making a throw-in to help keep their feet on the ground or to aim the throw in a particular direction.

12. GOAL KICK.

- a. A goal kick is taken by any player to restart the game, after the ball goes out of play past the goal line (unless a goal is scored), when the ball is last touched an attacking player. A ball is out of play when all of it has completely crossed the outside edge of the goal line, either on the ground or in the air.
- b. A goal kick may be taken anywhere within goal area.
- c. Opposing players must stay outside the penalty area.
- d. **The ball is in play once it leaves the penalty area.** If the ball does not leave the penalty area it must be kicked again. No attacking player may play the ball until it has completely left the penalty area.
- e. A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick.

13. CORNER KICK.

- a. A corner kick is taken by any attacking player to restart the game after the ball goes out play past the goal line (unless a goal is scored), when the ball last touched a defending player.
- b. To go out of play, all of the ball must completely cross the outside edge of the goal line, either on the ground or in the air.
- c. The ball is placed in the corner arc, nearest to where the ball went out of play.
- d. Opponents must be at least 6 yards away from where the ball is kicked.
- e. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.
- f. The ball is in play once it is kicked.

14. OFFSIDE

- a. Offside shall not be called.

15. HEADING THE BALL & SLIDE TACKLE

- a. Heading the Ball

Heading the ball is not permitted for this age group during games and practices, due to the injuries it can cause. If a player heads a ball during the game, it will be a foul and a free kick will be given to the opposing team.

b. Slide Tackle

Slide tackles are not permitted for this age group during games and practices, due to the injuries it can cause. If a player slide tackles a ball during the game, it will be a foul and a free kick will be given to the opposing team.

16. TEAM ACTIVITIES.

- a. Each team is limited to three (3) team activities per week.
- b. A team activity is defined as a team practice, or a team game.
- c. Any team officially scheduled for more than one game in a week may increase that week's team activities to four (4).