



U-8, General Information

Please have the players at the field no less than 20 minutes before the game. The coaches can require earlier.

The Duration of the Match: The match shall be divided into equal, twenty (20) minute halves. There shall be a short water break in the middle of the half. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

Substitutions: Substitutions occur at dead ball situations, water breaks and at half time. The referee should be informed of all substitutions before the players enter the field.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. Players cannot play in one position for more than 2 quarters of the game. Teams and matches are gender specific.

The Ball: Size three (3).

The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than five players. There are goalkeepers.

The Field of Play

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: 50 yards

Width: 30 yards

General Rules

Offside: None.

Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/coach/parent should explain the foul or infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all kicks are direct and all opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

The Throw-In: We are no longer taking throw-ins at this age.

Kick-In: For this age group, we are now taking kick-ins instead of throw-ins. The person kicking the ball in will be allowed to take one step back then pass the ball back in play. The ball must take one full revolution to be considered in play, just like a kickoff. Defensively the players will have to be at least 4 yards away. The idea is not to create a 3v3 kick-in situation, but instead to teach and play the game at a better level because the ball will be at the player's feet. The kick-ins should allow teams to play the ball in more than just one direction instead of only down the line.

The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents must remain outside the goal area and at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Goal Keepers: Generally conform to FIFA guidelines. They are expected to stay in the goalie box to use their hands, but at this age it is a little loose. We are trying to teach the game, so the ref can give a warning as seen fit without giving a hand ball penalty. This is to help teach the game at this age group.

Parents: Parents should stay on the opposite sideline from the coach and players. Neither coaches nor parents should enter the playing field during play except to attend to injuries. Neither parents nor coaches will be allowed to stand behind the goals to watch or to help coach the goalies. Please remember most of the referee's for the In House games are in their early teens and are learning how to referee. Please do not treat them like you would an adult if you have a discrepancy. If you have a discrepancy with the way the game was called do not approach the referee, instead find one of the people in charge of the fields with GISA and let them handle it.