

POLICY FOR U6 and U7 CLINIC

FIELD SIZE:

- 20-50 yards long and 15-25 yards wide either lined or marked by cones or discs. Field may, or may not, have a center line.

GOAL SIZE:

- Popp-Up Goal 6'w x 3.5'h

BALL:

- Size 3 agreed upon by coaches.

PLAYERS:

- Up to 12 players and 3 coaches per team.
- Maximum number of players on the field is 3 per side in each of two concurrent games for U6 and 4 per side in each of two concurrent games for U7. There will be no goalkeeper.
- If a team is short players they may borrow players from the opposing team, another team in the same league, or a team from the next younger league until they achieve the maximum number of field players and up to two (2) substitutes. Unregistered players may never be used in games due to liability issues and lack of insurance. Players younger than the next younger league may not be used due to safety concerns. Once the team reaches the maximum number of rostered field players, for both games, plus two (2) in attendance (8 for U6 and 10 for U7 in this case) all "guest" players must cease playing. If a rostered player becomes injured then a guest player may be substituted until such time as the injured player can return to the game.

UNIFORM:

- EYO soccer jerseys and socks will be provided. Shin guards are mandatory and must be worn at all times during practice and game play.
- Player's socks shall be pulled up as to cover the shin guards in their entirety.
- Soccer cleats are recommended but not required. If cleats are worn, they have to have rubber spikes.
- No hats, watches, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, rings or other jewelry may be worn during games or practices. Earrings **cannot** be taped over.
- Each player is to bring a #3 ball and wear shin guards to each session. A quart size water bottle (non-glass) is also recommended.
- **Note: no player shall be allowed to practice or play without shin guards.**

FORMAT:

- Each week teams will be assigned to fields to begin their clinic lessons. The alignment will be done so those teams practicing on adjacent fields will then play each other.

DURATION:

- Fundamental training for 50 minutes, 2 (5) minute breaks, 30 minutes scrimmage (2 - 15 minute halves with 5 minute intermission).
- Practice for clinic level should be restricted to game day, before scheduled scrimmages. Any mid-week get-togethers may not be labeled a "practice" and may not be mandatory. Coaches may present mid-week opportunities by stating that they and their child will be at a certain location at a certain time and other players are welcome to join them.

FUNDAMENTAL TRAINING:

- Each week one new fundamental will be taught during the training part of the session:
 - Passing with inside of foot
 - Ball Control
 - Dribbling
 - Passing with instep
 - Shooting
 - Shielding the Ball
 - Tackling the Ball
 - Goalkeeper(See U-6/U-7 Coaches Manual for additional information)

SCRIMMAGE:

- The teams shall play two 3 v 3 concurrent games with no goalkeepers for U6 and 4 v 4 concurrent games with no goalkeepers for U7. One coach from each team can be on the field to coach and act as a referee.
- Teams will break into groups of equal size for the scrimmage with the maximum being 3 players for U6 and 4 players for U7. The two coaches will run separate scrimmages on adjacent fields. Coaches/parents may be on field to aid in position responsibilities. **Goalies will not be used.**
- In the event that one team cannot field the maximum number of players during the scrimmage the opposing team will be limited to the actual number of players that the other team can field. If a team does not have substitutes then the coaches may agree on one or more additional short breaks for the safety and comfort of the players.
- Players may be substituted at any time but it is preferred that players be substituted during a stoppage.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

- Coaches are encouraged to shake hands before the game. Players will shake hands with the opponent after the game.
- When a team has scored four (4) goals more than the opposing team that team is required to remove a player from the field prior to the restart of play. Once the margin is reduced to less than four the player may be substituted back in at the next stoppage. In other words if the winning margin is four goals then the game will be 3 v 2 at U6 or 4 v 3 at U7. Coaches are encouraged to employ other strategies to prevent a large goal differential such as moving key scorers back, requiring players to complete a certain number of passes prior to scoring, instructing players to shoot from farther away, moving weaker players up front, etc.

PLAYING TIME:

- Each player should expect to play during the fundamental training, and during the scrimmage.

HEADING THE BALL:

- In order to minimize the potential for head injuries, players in the U6 and U7 leagues are not allowed to head the ball under any circumstances. Coaches will ensure that players do not head the ball during practices and games. Players who intentionally head the ball during a game will be warned once and then be charged with a foul if it occurs again - the ball will be given to the other team. The coach is encouraged to remove the player from the game if a third attempt is made to head the ball.

SPECTATORS:

- All spectators, including parents and siblings of players, must stand or sit in designated areas. Where spectator bleachers are provided it is recommended that they be used. If a fence surrounds the field then all spectators must be outside the fence. On fields where no fence is present they must be at least three feet (3') back from the sidelines. Spectators may not stand or sit along the sideline between the goal line and the line marking the top of the penalty area. Spectators may not stand or sit behind the goal lines.
- Children are not permitted to play behind the goals while a game is in progress.
- Photographers must get the permission of the coach prior to moving behind the goal for limited periods of time.

- Parents or guardians are not allowed to enter the field of play unless invited by the referee or coach at the U6 or U7 levels.

PUBLICITY:

- Normally, there will be no post game publicity and any publicity that may be issued shall not contain the win-loss record of any team.

AWARDS:

- All players will receive participation awards at the conclusion of the last game of the season. Standings will not be maintained.

GOALS OF THE CLINIC:

- The primary goal of the clinic is to make learning the game of soccer a fun experience for the kids. Hopefully, this experience will encourage the kids to play onto older levels.
- The secondary goal of the clinic is to bring as many parent volunteers into the program as possible.

*Coaches should inform their players and parents of these guidelines and encourage support for the referees and players. The game is for the players! We want them to learn, and most of all, **HAVE FUN!!!***

*FIFA Laws can be found www.fifa.com at the bottom of the page by clicking on Laws of the Game.