

# VSA Official Under 7U/8U Playing Rules

Vision Soccer Academy 7U/8U Playing Recommendations/Modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game.

**FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at:**

[http://www.fifa.com/mm/Document/FootballDevelopment/Refereeing/02/79/92/44/Laws.of.the.Game.2016.2017\\_Neutral.pdf](http://www.fifa.com/mm/Document/FootballDevelopment/Refereeing/02/79/92/44/Laws.of.the.Game.2016.2017_Neutral.pdf)

**Law 1 – 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: 30 yards

Width: 20 yards

**Field Markings:** Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of four (4) yards is marked around it.

**The Goal Area:** None.

**The Penalty Area:** none.

**Flagposts:** none.

**The Corner Arc:** Conform to FIFA.

**Goals:** Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corners and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The recommended distance between the posts is six (6) feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is four (4) feet.

**Law 2 – The Ball:** Size three (3).

**Law 3 – The Number of Players:** A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than four players. There are NO goalkeepers. **Substitutions:** At any stoppage of play and are unlimited. **Playing time:** Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. Teams and matches may be coed.

**Law 4 – The Players' Equipment:** Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

**Law 5 – The Referee:** An OFFICIAL (Game Manager or Coordinator or Parent or Coach or Grade 9 referee) may be used. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

**Law 6 – The Assistant Referees:** None.

**Law 7 – The Duration of the Match:** The match shall be divided into four (4) equal, ten (10) minute quarters. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarters one and two and another two (2) minute break between quarters three and four. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

**Law 8** – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA, with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

**Law 9** – The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

**Law 10** – The Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

**Law 11** – Offside: None.

**Law 12** – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in an indirect free kick. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

**Law 13** – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all kicks are indirect and all opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

**Law 14** – The Penalty Kick: None.

**Law 15** – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA with the exception that an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken once.

**Law 16** – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents must remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play. (dropping to half is highly encouraged)

**Law 17** – 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.

**Other special items:**

Heading – if a player consciously/intentionally makes contact with the ball with their head, an indirect kick is given at the spot of infraction

Referees should encourage all players to attack and not allow a player to stand directly in front of the goal consistently.

Referees should encourage the defending team to drop off to half on goal kicks.