



8U Guidelines for AYSO Region 688

1. Game times are 20-minute running halves with a quick water and substitution break at the approximate 10-minute mark. Halftime is no more than 5 minutes long.
2. Play 4 v 4 on field. Home team sits on the North or East side, and Visitors sit on the South or West side of the field. Both teams NOT on the same side. Spectators must be at a minimum of 3 feet from the touchlines and NOT behind the goals other than to take pictures. No coaches on the field (unless acting as the referee), only players and U8 Official or Referee.
3. Have team ready for inspection 5 minutes prior to you game time, have captains ready, each team to have a game ball, but home team is the official provider for the game ball, have your lineup cards filled out and ready to give them to the referee.
4. **NO GOALKEEPERS - A "NO PARKING" rule is in effect.**

THE "NO PARKING" RULE: There is "No Parking" allowed in or adjacent to the goal area at either the offensive or defensive end of the field. The purpose of this rule is to avoid having a player simply stand near either goal while not actively playing the ball; that is, to prevent having *de facto* goalkeepers at the defensive end of the field and "cherry picking" attackers at the offensive end of the field. Players must learn the ebb and flow of the game. Coaches must cooperate with the Spirit of the Rule and assist the referee in enforcing it. Further, while the "No Parking" Rule is stated in terms of the Goal Area in front of the goal, coaches should not "park" defenders or an attacker right outside of the area as this would violate the spirit of the rule. The Rule is stated as follows:

No Defender or Attacker may be positioned or stand in, or immediately adjacent to, either Goal Area. Any player may enter either Goal Area to play the ball, but the player must then exit with the flow of play. Defenders may not act as *de facto* goalkeepers or wait in front of the goal for the ball to be played to them.

The referee shall have discretion to determine if the "No Parking" rule has been violated. If, in the referee's opinion, a player is improperly "parked" in front of the goal, the player should be instructed by the referee as to the violation of the Rule and must relocate. If, the "parked" player has been involved in play, a Free Kick should be awarded to the other team. If an attacking team is awarded a Free Kick due to a violation of the "No Parking", rule, it should be taken from the top of the Goal Area. If a defending team is awarded a Free Kick, it should be taken from the point of infraction.
5. No offside rule in effect.
6. Throw-ins are allowed and should be the restart when the ball goes completely over the touchline.
7. No Heading.
8. No penalty kicks, all free kicks are indirect. No free kicks within goal area.
9. Opponents must be at least 10 feet away from ball for restart kicks (free kick, goal kick, corner kick or kick-off).
10. Be FAIR, SAFE and most of all HAVE FUN!