

United Valley Soccer Association

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Laws of the Game - U6

The following Laws have been modified by Soccer Association for Youth (SAY) and UVSA with the goal of inducing more touches, while being developmentally appropriate for 4 and 5 year old players. These modifications are intended to be guidelines for players, parents and coaches and are not intended to be the letter of the law as enforced by the referees on the field.

Law I – Field of Play The U6 field is 20 yd. wide by 30 yd. long.

Law II – The Ball A size #3 ball is used.

Law III – Players & Substitutions Scrimmages are played 3-on-3 and there are no goaltenders.

Unlimited substitutions may occur anytime the ball goes out of

play, there is an injury or a goal is scored.

Law IV – Player's Equipment Jerseys, socks and shinguards are required to be worn at all U6

activities. Black shorts or pants should be worn depending on the weather. Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts may be worn under the jerseys. Cleats may be worn but cannot have metal spikes or

sharp edges.

Law V – Referees There is no official referee in the U6 age group. Coaches/parents

will officiate scrimmages.

Law VI – Assistant Referees See Law V above.

Law VII – Duration of Game All U6 Practice Day sessions are 45 minutes in duration.

All Scrimmage Day sessions are 45 minutes in duration. The first 15-20 minutes are practice followed by a scrimmage consisting

of four 5 minute quarters. The clock will be continuous.

Law VIII – Start & Restart of Play All starts and restarts of play occur at the beginning of a quarter

and after a goal is scored. They will take place in the area between the offensive team's goal and the center line. The defense will start in their end of the field near their goal.

The ball is considered out of play when it completely crosses a Law IX - Ball In & Out of Play goal line or touch line regardless of whether the ball is on the ground or in the air. A goal is awarded when the ball completely crosses the portion Law X – Method of Scoring of the goal line enclosed by the uprights of the soccer goal. Score is not kept in the U6 age group. Law XI - Offside The offside law is not enforced in the U6 age group. Law XII - Fouls & Misconduct The most common fouls for U6 players are due to pushing, holding, tripping, charging and handballs. These should be called and explained to all players, not just the offending player. Law XIII - Free Kick There are two types of free kicks – direct and indirect. All free kicks in U6 are indirect, meaning a goal cannot be scored until the ball is played by another player on either team. A penalty kick is awarded to the offense when a defensive foul is Law XIV – Penalty Kick committed inside the defense's penalty area. Since there are no penalty areas on the U6 field, no penalty kicks will be awarded. Law XV - Throw-In A throw-in is awarded when the ball goes out of play along one of the two touch lines. However, to help solidify the idea of a player not using his/her hands, no throw-ins will be awarded in U6. Instead an indirect free kick will be awarded at the place the ball crossed the touch line. Law XVI - Goal Kick A goal kick is awarded to the defense when the ball is last played by the offense before going out of play along the defensive goal line. Since there are no goal boxes on the U6 field, the defense will be awarded an indirect free kick at the place where the ball went out of play. Law XVII - Corner Kick A corner kick is awarded to the offense when the ball is last played by the defense before going out of play along the defensive goal line. Since there are no corner arcs on the U6 field, the offense will be awarded an indirect free kick from the corner

closest to the place where the ball went out of play.