

## U8 Soccer 4v4 Game Soccer Rules

- **Field:** 40 yds. long and 30 yds. wide. Goals: 6 ft. high and 12-18 ft. wide. Center circle 4 yd. radius. Goal area 3 yds. Corner arcs 2 ft. radius.
- **Equipment:** size 3 ball. Players may wear sneakers or soft cleated shoes. Shin guards with socks covering are mandatory. Athletic shorts or pants, no jeans, pockets, or hanging ties.
- **# Players:** 4 on the field at one time with no keeper. Rosters should be no more than 9. All players must play at least 50% of game. Goal of small sided games are to keep all players on field actively involved in game. No player should be assigned a goal-tending position.
- **Duration of game:** 4 quarters of 10 minutes each. There should be 2 minute breaks between quarters and a half-time interval of 5 minutes.
- **Start and Restart of Play:** Conform to FIFA, opponents of team taking the kick-off are at least 4 yds. From the ball until it is in play.
- **Free Kicks:** all free kicks are indirect and no kicks within the goal area by the attacking team. All opponents should be 4 yds. away.
- **Off sides:** No off sides and referees will help the players with instruction.
- **Throw In:** Conform to FIFA, a second chance given if throw-in improperly performed.
- **Goal Kicks:** Conform to FIFA, all opponents at midline and all goal kicks taken within 3 yds of goal. Goal kick is awarded to the defensive team if the ball passes over the goal line and last touched by the offensive team.
- **Corner Kicks:** Conform to FIFA, corner kick is awarded to the offensive team if the ball passes over the goal line and last touched by the defensive team.
- **Referee:** referee trainee or parent/coach will be used. All rule infractions should be briefly explained to the offending player.
- **Goal Area:** There is no ball contact allowed within the goal area, however, any player may pass through the goal area. If the ball comes to rest in the goal area, a goal kick is awarded regardless of who touched the ball last. Any part of the ball or player's body on the line is considered in the goal area and is an extension of such. Once the ball has broken the line of the goal area, if the ball is touched by the defensive team, a goal will be awarded. If an offensive player touches the ball after it has broken the plane, a goal kick will be awarded. The plane of the goal area extends upward.

- **Goal Scoring:** A goal may only be scored from a touch (offensive or defensive) within a team's offensive half of the field (ball must be completely on the offensive half of the field; it cannot be touching the midline). All players should be encouraged and coached to be involved in the game offensively and defensively. All players are to be involved rather than standing back by the goal. They should be moving up and back appropriately.
- **Substitutions:** Substitutions may be made at any dead-ball situation, regardless of possession. Teams must get the referee's attention and players must enter and exit at mid-field.
- **Fouls and Misconduct:** Conform to FIFA, with the exception that all fouls shall result in an indirect free kick. The referee must explain ALL infringements to the offending players. No cards or send off shall be issued to players. If a child is being too rambunctious, then the game official will ask the coach to make a substitution of that player to give the child a chance to calm down before returning to the game. No pushing or acts of aggression.
- **Penalty Kick:** there will not be any penalty kicks called.