

McMinnville Youth Soccer
Modified FIFA Laws
U8 Division

Law 1- The Field

- A. Field Size: 100' x 65'
- B. Goal Size: 6'W x 4' H X 3' D

Law 2- The Ball

- A. Ball Size: three (3)

Law 3- The Number of Players

- A. A team must have 3 players minimum to play. The opposing team has the option to play with a full team, but can play with less to accommodate the team with fewer players. This option is at the discretion of the opposing coach.
- B. On Field: 4 players. (4v4). Note: The coach must remain in the coach's box(from the top of the penalty area to the midline). The coach must be at least 18 years of age. Only a parent or an assistant coach is permitted on the player's bench side of the field during the game.
- C. No goalkeeper in this age division.
- D. Substitutions are made at the discretion of the coach in an attempt to ensure that all players get to play at least 50% of all games.

Spectators: Spectators must remain on the side of the field. No spectators on end lines or behind the goals.

Law 4- Players Equipment

- A. Footwear: Soccer cleats or tennis shoes (cleats preferred). Baseball or football cleats (cleats which contain a single cleat at the toe or very front of the shoe) are not allowed.
- B. Shin guards are required to be worn underneath the sock. The sock must completely cover the shin guards at all times. Players are not permitted to take the field without shin guards.
- C. All items of jewelry are strictly forbidden and must be removed prior to game time. This includes all necklaces and bracelets (whether string, leather, metal, or plastic), rings, earrings, nose rings, tongue rings, piercings, rubber bands, etc. Using tape or band-aids to cover jewelry is not acceptable. Players must remove from their hair all hard clips, beads, or large bows for hair. Soft "scrunchies" or pony-tail holders are permissible. The referees will inspect teams prior to each game and will ask a player out of compliance in the area to remove the jewelry or hair accessory. The player will not be permitted to play unless they are in compliance.

Law 5- The Referee

- A. Certified or league approved referee.

Law 6- The Assistant Referees

- A. Certified or league approved referee.

Law 7- The Duration of the Match

- A. Length: The game shall be divided into 4 equal quarters of 10 minutes each.
- B. Breaks: There shall be a 2 minute break between each quarter.
- C. Teams shall switch goals at the half.

Law 8- The Start of Play

- A. The referee shall determine the team that kicks off with a coin flip or referee discretion.
- B. Opponents must be at least 5 yards from the center mark while the kick-off is in progress. The ball is in play when the ball is kicked or moves.
- C. A goal may be scored directly from a kick-off.
- D. The player kicking the ball on a kick-off must not kick the ball again before another player touches the ball.

Law 9- Ball in and out of play

- A. The ball is out of play when it is wholly crossed the goal line or the touch line. The ball is in play at all other times.

Law 10- Method of Scoring

- A. A goal is scored when the whole ball crosses the goal line, between the goal post and under the crossbar, provided that no infringement of the Modified Laws has been committed by the team scoring the goal.

Law 11- Offside

- A. There is no offside offense in this division.
- B. Players should not stand in the penalty box until the ball has entered the box. This rule will help eliminate "cherry picking".

Law 12- Fouls and Misconduct

- A. Fouls shall be called with an understanding of the age of the players. A foul may be called if a player commits any of the following offenses: kicking, striking, or attempting to kick or strike an opponent. Charging or tackling an opponent in a violent, reckless, or dangerous manner. Tripping, pushing, or holding an opponent in a violent, reckless, or dangerous manner. Using obscene or profane language or making such gestures. Spitting on an opponent. A handball.
- B. All fouls shall result in an Indirect Free Kick.
- C. The referee and/or coach shall explain all infractions to the offending player.
- D. There shall be No Slide Tackles.

Law 13- Free Kicks

- A. There are no direct kicks and all fouls shall result in an indirect free kick taken at the spot of the foul. The ball must be stationary on the taking of the free kick and the kicker shall not touch the ball again until it has been touched by another player of either team.
- B. There shall be no free kicks taken by the attacking team within the defending team's goal area. If a foul is committed in the defending team's goal box, the ball shall be placed 5 yards away from the goal box for the indirect kick.
- C. The opposing team shall be at least 5 yards away from the ball when the free kick is taken.
- D. The referee has the discretion to stop play and award a free kick to the defending team if play has become stalled or hazardous because of congestion of players around the ball. There are no drop balls in this age division.

Law 14- The Penalty Kick

- A. There are no penalty kicks in this age group.

Law 15- Throw-Ins

- A. A throw-in is necessary when the ball goes out of play across the touchline. The thrower must face the field when delivering the ball and part of each foot shall be on the touchline or outside the touchline and remain in contact with the ground when throwing the ball in. The thrower shall use both hands and shall deliver the ball from directly behind the over his or her head.
- B. A goal may not be scored directly from a throw-in.
- C. At the discretion of the referee, successive throw-ins can be allowed if the initial attempt is improper.
- D. After delivering the ball, the thrower must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

Law 16- Goal Kick

- A. A goal kick shall occur if the attacking team kicks the ball over the defending team's goal line without scoring a goal.
- B. A build out line will be placed at the top of the center circle which will allow the ball to be played from a goal kick or into play without pressure from the opposing team. When the ball is being played from a goal kick or during the play (from the opponent), the opposing team must be behind the build out line before the ball is played. After the ball is put into play, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes.
- C. The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.

Law 17- Corner Kick

- A. A corner kick shall occur if the defending team kicks the ball over their own goal line.
- B. A corner kick shall occur from anywhere inside the corner arc with the opposing team at least 5 yards away. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.
- C. The ball is in play when it is kicked or moves.

D. The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.

Law 18- Heading the Ball

- A. This division is prohibited to head a ball in practices and games.
- B. When a ball is deliberately headed in a game, an indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team at the spot of the offense.
- C. If a deliberate header occurs in the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line or the nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

Revised 7/19/2019