

General Soccer Rules

Law 1 The Field of Play

- Will be different with every age level.

Law 2 The Ball

- Will be different with every age level.

Law 3 The number of players

- Will be different with every age level.

Law 4 Player Equipment

- Consists of shirt, shorts, shin guards, stockings to cover the shin guards and shoes.
- Goalkeeper must wear colors, which distinguish him from the other players.

Law 5 Referees

- One referee is appointed for each match.
- He is responsible for control of the game and his decisions are final.

Law 6 Linesman

Two linesman assist the referee by indicating offside when the ball is out of play and which team is entitled to the corner kick or throw in.

Law 7 Duration of the Game

- Will be different with every age level.

Law 8 Start of Play

- A coin is tossed and the team that wins the toss decides which goal it will attack in the first half of the match. The other team takes the kick off to start the match.
- Each team must stay on its own half of the field and the defensive players must be at least 10 yard from the ball until it is kicked forward and has rolled its full circumference.
- After a goal the team scored upon will kick off.
- After halftime the teams change ends and the kick-off will be taken by the opposite team to that which started the game.
- A goal can be scored directly from the kick-off.

Law 9 Ball In and Out of Play

- The ball is out of play when
 - (a) it has wholly crossed the goal line or the touchline whether on the ground or in the air, or
 - (b) when the game has been stopped by the referee.

Law 10 Method of Scoring

- A goal is scored when the whole of the ball has passed over the goal line between the goal posts and under the cross bar.

Law 11 Offside

- A player is in an offside position if he is nearer to his opponents goal line than the ball unless
 - (a) he is in his own half of the field of play, or
 - (b) there are at least two of his opponents nearer their own goal line than he is.
- A player shall only be declared offside and penalized for being in an offside position if at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team he is in the opinion of the referee.
 - (a) interfering with play or with an opponent, or
 - (b) seeking to gain an advantage by being in that position.
- A player shall not be declared offside by the referee:
 - (a) merely because of his being in an offside position, or

(b) if he receives the ball direct from a goal kick, a corner kick, a throw in, or when it has been cropped by the referee.

- If a player is declared offside, the Referee shall award an indirect free kick, which shall be taken by a player of the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, unless the offense is committed by a player in his opponent's goal area, in which case the free kick shall be taken from a point anywhere in that half of the goal area in which the offense occurred.

Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct

- A player who intentionally attempts to or actually
 - (a) kicks
 - (b) trips
 - (c) jumps at
 - (d) charges violently
 - (e) charges from behind
 - (f) strikes or spits at him
 - (g) holds
 - (h) pushes an opponent, or
 - (i) intentionally handles the ball shall be penalized by a direct free kick,
- Any one of these nine offenses committed in the penalty area by a defender will result in the awarding of a penalty kick to the offensive team.
- A player committing less flagrant violations such as offside, dangerous plays, obstruction or ungentlemanly conduct will be penalized an indirect free kick.

Law 13 Free Kick

- Are classified into two categories
 - Direct - from which a goal can be scored directly against the offending side, and
 - Indirect - from which a goal cannot be scored unless the ball has been touched by a player other than the kicker before entering the goal.
- For all free kick the offending team must be at least 10 yards from the ball until it is kicked.

Law 14 Penalty Kick

- A direct free kick taken at the penalty mark.
- All players except the player taking the kick and the goalkeeper must stay outside the penalty area and at least 10 yards from the ball (hence the arc at the edge of the penalty area.)

Law 15 Throw In

- When the ball has wholly crossed the touchline it is put back into play by a throw in from the spot where it went out and by a player from the opposite team that last touched it.
- A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw in.

Law 16 Goal Kick

- When the ball has wholly crossed the goal line after being last touched by a player from the attacking team it is put back into play by a kick from the goal area by the defending team.
- A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team.

Law 17 Corner Kick

- When the ball has wholly crossed the goal line after being last touched by a player from the defending team it is put back into play by a kick from the corner on the side the ball went out by the attacking team.
- A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team.

Rules for Kindergarten

Law 1 The Field of Play:

- Goal Area: none
- Penalty Area: none
- Flag posts: none
- Corner Arc: Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 2 The Ball:

- Size 3

Law 3 The Number of Players:

- Each team shall not have more than 4 players on the field.
- No team can have more than a 1 player advantage.
- Every effort should be made to play the game, you may borrow players from the other team.
- There are **NO GOALKEEPERS**
- Substitutions: at any stoppage of the game and unlimited.
- Players report to midfield before the ball goes out of bounds or play is stopped.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game.
- Teams may be coed.

Law 4 The Players Equipment:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exceptions that a sweatshirt, jacket or coat may be worn if the team shirt is worn over it on cold days. Long pants or sweatpants may be worn on cold days also. **Baseball shoes** may be used if the front toe cleats are cut off.

Law 5 The Referee:

- Coaches are used in this grade.

Law 6 The Assistant Referee:

- None.

Law 7 The Duration of the Match:

- The match is divided in 4 equal quarters, 10 minutes each. With a 2 minute break between the 1st and 2nd quarters and 3rd and 4th quarters. There is a 5 minute half time between the 2nd and 3rd quarters. **No score is kept.**

Law 8 The Start and Restart of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four yards away from the ball until it is kicked.

Law 9 The Ball In and Out of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 10 The Method of Scoring:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that a goal can not be scored off a kick-off.

Law 11 Offside:

- None

Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/coach must explain infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

Law 13 Free Kicks:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that all free kicks are direct and opponents are at least 4 yards away until ball is kicked.

Law 14 The Penalty Kick:

- None.

Law 15 The Throw-in:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken.

Law 16 The Goal Kick:

- The goal kick should be taken within 2-3 yards of the goal line anywhere across the width of the field of play at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved. Opposing players must be 4 yards away until the ball is kicked.

Law 17 The Corner Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that opponents remain at least 4 yards away until the ball is kicked.

Rules for 1st and 2nd Grade

Law 1 The Field of Play:

- * Penalty Area: none
- Flag posts: none
- Corner Arc: Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 2 The Ball:

- Size 3

Law 3 The Number of Players:

- Each team shall not have more than 4 players on the field.
- No team can have more than a 1 player advantage.
- Every effort should be made to play the game, you may borrow players from the other team.
- There are **NO GOALKEEPERS**
- Substitutions: at any stoppage of the game and unlimited.
- Players report to midfield before the ball goes out of bounds or play is stopped.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game.
- Teams may be coed.

Law 4 The Players Equipment:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that a sweatshirt, jacket or coat may be worn if the team shirt is worn over it on cold days. Long pants or sweatpants may be worn on cold days also. **Baseball shoes** may be used if the front toe cleats are cut off.

Law 5 The Referee:

- Coaches are used in this grade.

Law 6 The Assistant Referee:

- None.

Law 7 The Duration of the Match:

- The match is divided in 4 equal quarters, 10 minutes each. With a 2 minute break between the 1st and 2nd quarters and 3rd and 4th quarters. There is a 5 minute half time between the 2nd and 3rd quarter. **No score is kept.**

Law 8 The Start and Restart of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four yards away from the ball until it is kicked.

Law 9 The Ball In and Out of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 10 The Method of Scoring:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that a goal can not be scored off a kick-off.

Law 11 Offside:

- None

Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/coach must explain infringement to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

Law 13 Free Kicks:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that all free kicks are direct and opponents are at least 4 yards away until ball is kicked.

Law 14 The Penalty Kick:

- None.

Law 15 The Throw-in:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken.

Law 16 The Goal Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that opponents must remain outside the goal area and at least 4 yards from the ball until it is kicked.

Law 17 The Corner Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that opponents remain at least 4 yards away until the ball is kicked.

Rules for 3rd and 4th Grade

Law 1 The Field of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception of the size of the field and the penalty area. The field will be 40 yard by 60 yards. The penalty area is smaller in width and go out only 10 yards.

Law 2 The Ball:

- Size 4

Law 3 The Number of Players:

- Each team shall not have more than 6 players on the field, one of whom is the goalkeeper.
- No team can have more than a 1 player advantage.
- Every effort should be made to play the game, you may borrow a player from the other team.
- Substitutions: at any stoppage of the game and unlimited.
- Players report to midfield before the ball goes out of bounds or play is stopped.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game.

Law 4 The Players Equipment:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that a sweatshirt, jacket or coat may be worn if the team shirt is worn over it on cold days. Long pants or sweatpants may be worn on cold days also. **Baseball shoes** may be used if the front toe cleats are cut off.

Law 5 The Referee:

- Are refs are middle school and high school students, who are doing the best they can. They have a lot of field to cover and will not see every infraction. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 The Assistant Referee:

- None.

Law 7 The Duration of the Match:

- There are 2 - 30 minute halves with a 5 - minute break between halves.
- **No score is kept** until the tournament and there is no overtime.

Law 8 The Start and Restart of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked.

Law 9 The Ball In and Out of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 10 The Method of Scoring:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that a goal can not be scored off a kick-off.

Law 11 Offside:

- None

Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 13 Free Kicks:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that all opponents are 8 yards away until the ball is kicked.

Law 14 The Penalty Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that the penalty mark is 8 yards from the midpoint of the goal post.

Law 15 The Throw-in:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken.

Law 16 The Goal Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 17 The Corner Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that opponents remain at least 8 yards away until the ball is kicked.

Rules for 5th and 6th Grade

Law 1 The Field of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception of the size of the field and the penalty area. The field will be 50 yard by 80 yards. The penalty area is smaller in width and go out only 14 yards.

Law 2 The Ball:

- Size 4

Law 3 The Number of Players:

- Each team shall not have more than 8 players on the field, one of whom is the goalkeeper.
- No team can have more than a 1 player advantage.
- Every effort should be made to play the game, you may borrow a player from the other team.
- Substitutions: at any stoppage of the game and unlimited.
- Players report to midfield before the ball goes out of bounds or play is stopped.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game.

Law 4 The Players Equipment:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that a sweatshirt, jacket or coat may be worn if the team shirt is worn over it on cold days. Long pants or sweatpants may be worn on cold days also. **Baseball shoes** may be used if the front toe cleats are cut off.

Law 5 The Referee:

- Are refs are middle school and high school students, who are doing the best they can. They have a lot of field to cover and will not see every infraction. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 The Assistant Referee:

- None.

Law 7 The Duration of the Match:

- There are 2 - 30 minute halves with a 5 - minute break between halves.
- **No score is kept** until the tournament and there is no overtime.

Law 8 The Start and Restart of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least 8 yards away from the ball until it is kicked.

Law 9 The Ball In and Out of Play:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 10 The Method of Scoring:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that a goal can not be scored off a kick-off.

Law 11 Offside:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 13 Free Kicks:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that all opponents are 8 yards away until the ball is kicked.

Law 14 The Penalty Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that the penalty mark is 10 yards from the midpoint of the goal post.

Law 15 The Throw-in:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 16 The Goal Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer.

Law 17 The Corner Kick:

- Conforms to the Laws of Soccer with the exception that opponents remain at least 8 yards away until the ball is kicked