

# MODIFIED LAWS FOR U-8 PROGRAM

## Law I - The Field:

### A. Dimensions:

- The field of play shall be rectangular. The playing area should be 120ft X 90ft.
- Depending on your field availability the field can be extended 10 or 15 feet. However, the field should not be less than the above format.

### B. Markings:

1. Distinctive lines are necessary, sidelines and end-lines.
2. A halfway line can be marked out across the field or otherwise indicated.
3. Other marks are possible but not necessary for the enjoyment and development of the youngsters.

*A. A center circle with a five yard radius*

B. Four corner arcs with a two-foot radius

C. A goal area

### C. Goals:

1. Goal Size should be 10-12 feet wide and 6.5 feet high.
2. Goal mouth should be 14 feet from the center of the goal, and made into a half circle surrounding the net.

3. The net can be made of cones, flags or portable nets, as long as they are the same for both sides.
4. The center line should have a circle 10 ft in diameter.

**Law II- The Ball:** The ball should be size 3

**Law III- Number of Players:**

- A. Number of players on the field at any time will be 12. Each team will have 6 players including a goal keeper.
- B. Substitutions: During any stoppage of play.
- C. Playing time: each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. (Whenever possible)

**Law IV - Players equipment:**

- A. Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes. (use common sense.)
- B. Shin-guards- Mandatory

Jersey- Supplied by organization. Try to have everyone in the same uniform including socks, and shorts whenever possible

**Law V- Referee:** Since there are no referees at this age group and the players need to be in close contact with the instructional coach, each team should have a representative on the field. Each person (preferably the coach) will take half a field.

**Law VI - Linesmen:** No linesmen at this level

**Law VII- Duration of Game:**

- A. Each scheduled game will start with a 30 minute practice
- B. The actual game itself will start at the end of the practice session, and will be divided into 2 equal halves of 15 minutes each
- C. Snack time will be at the end of every game as opposed to  $\frac{1}{2}$  time as it had been done in the past

**Law VIII - The Start of play:**

- A. The start of play shall consist of the visiting team starting with the ball at center.
- B. The second half shall start with the home team starting with the ball at center.
- C. The defending team shall be 10 feet away from the center at any start from center.
- D. The ball can be played in any direction but can not be touched by the same player twice before another player has touched it. If this occurs the ball must be restarted.

**Law IX - Method of Scoring:**

- A. Goals will be awarded when the ball is kicked into the net, or between the goal posts (pylons, flags).
- B. Goals may not be scored off of restarts

- C. Goals must be scored no higher than 5 feet. (If there are no nets)

**Law X - Off-Side:** There will be no off-sides.

**Law XI - Fouls and misconduct:** No pushing, hitting, kicking or holding an opponent and No hand balls.

- A. All fouls will result in an indirect free kick with the opponents 10 feet away.
- B. The referee or parent shall explain all infractions

**Law XII - Free Kick:**

- A. Shall be classified under one heading - INDIRECT
- B. A goal shall not be scored until the ball has been played or touched by a second player of either team.

**Law XIII - Penalty Kicks:** No penalty kicks

**Law XIV- Throw-in:**

- A. Throw-ins will occur when the ball is put outside of the playing area (side-lines)
- B. The same player can not touch the ball twice in a row if he/she is putting it into play.
- C. No goal can be scored on a throw in

**LAW XV- GOAL KICK:**

- GOAL KICKS WILL OCCUR WHEN THE ATTACKING TEAM PUTS THE BALL ACROSS THE DEFENDING TEAM'S GOAL (END) LINE. THIS WILL RESULT IN THE GOALKEEPER KICKING THE BALL FROM ANYWHERE IN THE GOAL AREA

**Law XVI- Corner Kick:**

- A corner kick will be awarded when the defending team puts the ball across their end line. This will result in a kick being taken at the corner closest to where the ball exited the playing area.

**Law XVII - Pass back:**

- A goalie may not pick up a ball when it's passed back directly from his/her own team mates.

**Recommendations:**

- No parents should be standing near or behind the keeper
- Both teams and parents should shake hands after the game
- No alcoholic beverages should be consumed anywhere near the playing field
- All children should have transportation home accompanied by a parent.