

# 8 and under

## Playing 7v7

1. This is a non-competitive league - The object of this age group is to provide a solid base in the fundamentals of the game, to begin teaching soccer techniques, and to get the kids use to playing in an organized environment. There will be one referee directing this game but no official score recorded.
2. This league will use a number 3 size ball.
3. There will be 7 players including a goalie on the field for games. A team needs a minimum of 4 players to start the game.
4. Liberal substitutions can be made at any stoppage of play, other than fouls and infractions, with the referee's permission
5. There will be no off-sides.
6. No direct fouls - all fouls and infractions are indirect or drop ball (No penalties).
7. No sliding tackles.
8. Throw-ins will be used - When the ball goes out of bounds over the side line it is "out" on the team that last touched the ball before it crossed totally over the side line, and the opposing team is allowed to get the ball and one of their players (often the closest, or a player designated by the coach to take the throw-ins) is allowed to inbound the ball by picking it up with his hands and throwing it back onto the field. This is called a "throw-in". This is the only time a player other than the Goalkeeper is legally allowed to pick up the ball with his hands. For a throw-in to be legal: (a) the ball must be thrown from behind & over the head (b) it must be thrown using both hands (c) the thrower must face the field (d) at the instant the ball leaves the thrower's hands, some part of both feet must be on the ground, either on or outside the side line (e) the ball must be throw-in from the place where it went out of bounds. Players are allowed a second attempt.
9. Corner kicks will be used - A corner kick is a method of restarting play. When the ball goes out of bounds over the end line (aka the "Goal Line") and was last touched by the defending team, the attacking team inbounds it from the nearest corner by kicking it in from the corner arc (note: this doesn't apply if a goal was scored).
10. Goal kicks will be used - When the ball goes out of bounds over the end line & was last touched by the attacking team, it is put back into play by the defending team, who may place it anywhere within their Goal Box (including on the line) & then kick it. The kicked ball may not be touched again by either team until it clears the Penalty Box. The other team must stay outside the Penalty Box until the ball clears the Penalty Box. If your goalkeeper has a strong leg, have him take your goal kicks. Otherwise, you may want to have another player take the kick while the goalkeeper stays in front of the goal
11. The goalie may only handle the ball within the penalty area.
12. Once the goalie has control of the ball he/she has 6 seconds to put the ball into play. This rule will not be called but the ref will encourage the goalie to get rid of the ball within the 6 seconds.
13. One team's coach may position themselves beside their own team's goal to help coach and organize the goalie and defense. (Note: The coach is not to make protest/dissent, make calls, or interfere physically in the game.)
14. If a player appears to be injured during play, politely bring it to the referee's attention and the referee will stop play immediately regardless of the action.
15. Duration of game - A game will consist of two 20 minute halves  
-Time between halves will be 5 minutes                      -The referee keeps official time.
16. *When a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick (IFK) should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If a player does not deliberately head the ball, then play should continue.*