



U8 Boys Rules of Play

#1 RULE - HAVE FUN!!!!!!

Fields – 20 yards wide and 34 yards long

Ball size – 3

Players on field – 4 v 4 (including a goalie keeper, encourage keeper to “rove” and play defence as well)

Playing time – equal playing time for all players, sub every 2 minutes “on-the-fly”

Equipment – soccer cleats/turf shoes and shin guards are mandatory

Game time – two (2) 20-minute games with 10 minute warm-up at the start

Teams – split your team in two (home and away), away team travels to play scheduled opponent and then switch for 2nd game and play other half of scheduled opponent. Mix your teams up every week – different players and different coaches. You will need 4 parents each weekend per team helping out.

Scoring – score from anywhere, no offside. **No need to rack up the score – this is NOT the World Cup and no scores are reported.** Encourage passing, team work and sportsmanship. If the goal differential reaches 3, then the leading team should cease scoring and work on passing and skill development until the differential decreases.

Fouls – indirect free kick to other team for tripping, punching, kicking, tackling from behind, handball (obvious). Coach to sub player off and instruct if bad foul play.

Kickoff – all players in own half, opponents retreat 5 metres

Free kicks – all indirect. Defenders retreat 5 metres. No penalty kicks.

Ball out of bounds on end lines – opponents retreat 5 metres, goal kick or corner kick introduced

Ball out of bounds on side lines – throw-ins introduced

Referees – none provided, coaches act as on-field facilitators

End of game – 3 cheers and team line “good game” hand shake. Cold and flu season we recommend “high elbows” (instead of high-fives)