

# CYSA U6 DIVISION RULES

In as much as CYSA serves a broad age spectrum of children, certain standards will be maintained except where specifically modified to enhance the quality of training and play for a specific division. The following shall serve as the determining criteria for such exceptions. All coaches and managers are reminded that they will be dealing with highly impressionable young minds. Their personal conduct should be such as to instill the positive values of good sporting behavior, self-discipline, and self-development within a cooperative team environment. Any coach or manager who displays a disregard for these laws, the aims of CYSA or otherwise fails to maintain an acceptable code of conduct is subject to dismissal.

## 1. **FIFA LAW 1: THE FIELD OF PLAY**

- A. For the U6 age division, the field of play will not exceed 30 yards in length and 20 yards in width.
- B. The field of play will be divided into two equal halves by a halfway line. The center mark will be indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line.
- C. A circle with a radius of four (4) yards is marked around the midpoint of the halfway line.
- D. There will be no visible goal area markings.
- E. There will be no visible corner arcs but corner flags are allowed.

## 2. **FIFA LAW 2: THE BALL**

- A. The ball must be a size three (3). This smaller ball is lighter and easily kicked, received, dribbled and passed.

## 3. **FIFA LAW 3: THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

- A. Teams will consist of 5 players and a goalie. If a team is short players, teams will play at even strength.
- B. Player substitutions may be done during any stoppage in play. Player has to be ready at the half line for the substitution.

## 4. **FIFA LAW 4: THE PLAYER'S EQUIPMENT**

- A. Players must wear shin-guards and soccer cleats. A full matching uniform kit will be made available by CYSA. Socks must be worn over the shin-guard, and cleats **CANNOT** have a single toe knob, i.e. no baseball cleats.
- B. Players with casts or splints, even if padded, or with exposed and unpadded metal on orthopedic braces, will **NOT** be allowed to play.
- C. Articles which may constitute a danger to other players must be removed prior to the start of a game. This includes, but is not limited to, jewelry, earrings, watches, barrettes, chains, belts, and head coverings with any visor or protrusions. Any players failing to follow this guideline shall be sent off the field and may re-enter the game at a stoppage in play in accordance with Law III.

## 5. **FIFA LAW 5: THE REFEREE**

- A. For this age division, there is no need for fully qualified referees to manage the game. One or both coaches should "officiate".
- B. Coaches/Referee must protect all players from dangerous play.

**\*ADDITIONAL REFEREE INFORMATION:** These games are intended to be an opportunity for the very youngest of our players to experience the fun of playing. The barest of minimum rules are needed and should be applied with a generous amount of flexibility. Let the players have the freedom to play with minimum interruption.

**"Do-Overs" should be a regular occurrence allowed by Coach Referees**

## 3. **FIFA LAW 6: THE ASSISTANT REFEREE - NONE**

7. **FIFA LAW 7: DURATION OF THE MATCH**

A. The length of the game will be 40 mins. Each half will be comprised of two 10 min quarters. There will be a 1 min break between each quarter and a 5 min break at half time. At half time the Teams have the option to switch sides. All games will start on time. Arrive early and warm-up your team off to the side. When you take the field the game should begin immediately.

8. **FIFA LAW 8: THE START OF and RE-START OF PLAY**

A. The game should be started with a kick-off at the halfway line, in the center of the center circle.

B. The coaches will determine which team kicks-off with a coin flip. The team that wins the coin flip will kick off at the beginning of the first and third quarters. The opposing team will kick off at the beginning of the second and fourth quarters.

C. All opponents must be outside the center circle prior to the kick off.

D. All other re-starts will be a direct free kick. All opponents must be at least five (5) yards from the ball on re-starts.

9. **FIFA LAW 9: THE BALL IN and OUT OF PLAY**

A. The ball shall be considered out of bounds when the entire ball has crossed either the end line or the side line. The "officials", on field coaches, will determine when the ball is deemed "out of bounds".

10. **FIFA LAW 10: THE METHOD OF SCORING**

A. A goal is scored when the entire ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar. The "officials", on field coaches, will determine when the ball is deemed a "goal".

11. **FIFA LAW 11: OFFSIDES - THERE ARE NO OFFSIDES IN THE U6 AGE DIVISION**

12. **FIFA LAW 12: FOULS and MISCONDUCT - PENALTIES**

A. The on field "officials", coaches, will determine all infringements and MUST EXPLAIN ALL infringements to the offending player.

**B. ALL free kicks will direct free kicks. (CUSA used to have the player take the penalty as a Corner Kick)**

C. ALL opponents must be a minimum of five (5) yards away from spot of the free kick.

D. No cards will be shown for misconduct. If a child is being too rambunctious, then the game official should substitute that player to give the child a chance to calm down before returning to play.

13. **FIFA LAW 13: FREE KICKS**

**A. ALL Free Kicks shall be direct. A Direct Free Kick means that the ball is in play immediately after the initial kick of the ball. It does not have to be handled by another player.**

14. **FIFA LAW 14: PENALTY KICKS - THERE ARE NO PENALTY KICKS IN THE U6 AGE DIVISION**

15. **FIFA LAW 15: THE THROW IN**

A. There are no throw-ins for the U6 Age Division.

B. Instead, all balls that go out of bounds on the sideline will be "kicked in".

C. A kick-in shall take place on the sideline near the point that it exited the field of play.

D. All opponents must remain five (5) yards away from the ball until the ball has been kicked.

**Explanation of rule change:**

**(Cicero Youth Soccer previously used throw- ins. This is a modified recommendation for the U6 age division given by the United States Youth Soccer Association)**

Most U6 players do not yet have the eye-hand coordination to execute a throw-in to the letter of the law. This leads to endless retakes from one team to the other. Additionally, with a kick-in, the ball is on the ground and

stationary so the U6 player has a better chance of striking it correctly. This may lead to some intentional passes. However, this is still unlikely given that whether it is a throw or a kick, all of the players on the field will be yelling for the ball at the same time and the child putting the ball into play will be confused.

16. **FIFA LAW 16: THE GOAL KICK**

A. A goal kick is awarded when either team kicks the ball over any part of the opponent's goal line, but not into the goal.

B. The goal kick is taken by the defending team.

C. The goal kick should be allowed to be taken from anywhere along the goal line over which the ball traveled.

D. This is so the ball can be put back into play quickly.

E. The ball should be placed two or three yards into the field of play to make it easier for the players taking the goal kick to get the ball well into the field of play once it is kicked.

F. The defending players must stand at least five (5) yards away from the ball until it is in play.

17. **FIFA LAW 17: THE CORNER KICK**

**A. There are no corner kicks at the U6 Division. ANY BALL TRAVELING OVER THE END LINE WILL RESULT IN A GOAL KICK.**

18. There are **NO** sliding tackles at the U6 age Division. Coaches are to stop play and instruct any player who tackles in this manner that the player must be on their feet to participate in play.