

CYSA U8 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 U8 age division, the field of play will not **exceed** 50 yds in length and 30 yds 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 five (5) yards is marked around the midpoint of the halfway line.
- D. There will be a defined goal area at each end of the field.
- E. There will be corner arcs with 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 7 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, a CYSL qualified referee will manage the game.
- 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. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

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

7. **FIFA LAW 7: DURATION OF THE MATCH**
 A. The length of the game will be composed of two 22 min halves. There will be a 5 min break at half time. At half time the Teams will 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 have the choice of kicking off first or choice of side.
 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 Referee 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 Referee will determine when the ball is deemed a "goal".
11. **FIFA LAW 11: OFFSIDES - NO Offsides rule used. The Rule is not used until the U10 division.**
12. **FIFA LAW 12: FOULS and MISCONDUCT**
 A. The Referee will determine all infringements and MUST EXPLAIN ALL infringements to the offending player.
B. ALL free kicks will direct free kicks.
 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 U8 AGE DIVISION**
15. **FIFA LAW 15: THE THROW IN**
 A. At the moment of delivering the ball into the field of play, the thrower:
 - Faces the field of play.
 - Has part of each foot either on the touch line or on the ground outside the touch line.
 - Uses both hands.
 - Delivers the ball from behind and over their head.
 B. The thrower may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.
 C. All opponents must stand no less than 2 yards from the point at which the throw-in is taken.
 D. The ball is in play immediately after it enters the field of play.

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. A corner kick is awarded to the attacking team after the defending team has kicked the ball out of bounds over any part of their own goal line, but not into the goal.
 - B. The corner kick shall be taken in either corner of the defending teams goal line.
 - C. The ball should be placed inside of the corner arc.
 - D. The defending players must stand at least five (5) yards away from the ball until it is in play.
18. There are **NO** sliding tackles at the U8 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.