



5th – 8th RULES OF PLAY

All 5th – 8th grade will be 10v10 including a goalie (can play with less if needed to accommodate another team that doesn't have enough kids.) Try to never forfeit a game.

Must adhere to the following rules.

Field size is 210' x 135' with 7'x21' goal.

1.) Ball size is (5)

2.) Play with 1 Goalkeeper per team.

3.) Length of game is 2-30min halves with a 8-min halftime.

4.) If Game ends in a tie then it will go into a penalty shootout. (5 players each team, if still tied after best of 5 then continue with another 5 shots until the winner is decided.)

5.) Start of Play

a) The ball will be placed at the center of the field by the referee and the game will start with one player taking a kick into the opponent's half of the field, after a given signal by the referee. At the time of the kickoff, every player will be in his/her half of the field. Every player of the opposing team, to that of the kicker, shall be 10 yards from the center mark.

b) The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward. The kicker shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player. If this infraction occurs an indirect free kick shall be awarded for the opposing team. If the kickoff is started backwards it is considered an improper start and a re-kick will be awarded.

c) The kickoff is considered a direct free kick.

6.) Restart of Play

a) After a goal has been scored, the game shall be restarted in like manner by a player of the team that gave up the goal.

b) To start the second half, the game will be restarted with the kickoff by a player of the opposite team to that of the player who started the game.

c) Restarting play after temporary delay: In the case of a temporary suspension due to an injury or any unusual situation, if one team is clearly in possession of the ball, the game shall be restarted by an indirect free kick by the team in possession of the ball at the point where the ball was when play was suspended. Should there not be clear possession at the time play is suspended due to an injury or any unusual situation, there will be a drop ball at the spot where the ball was declared dead. The ball shall be deemed "in play" when the ball has touched the ground.

7.) Offside Rule The offside rule will be enforced at the 5th - 8th grade division. The referees will call the rules and the proper penalties will be assessed.

8.) Fouls and Misconduct

a) Free Kicks: Free kicks shall be classified under two (2) headings: "Direct", from which a goal can be scored by a direct kick against the offending side and "Indirect", from which a goal cannot be scored unless the ball has been played or touched by a player other than the kicker before passing through the goal. Opponents must be 10 yards away before the kick is allowed.

b) Penalty kicks will be awarded at this level.

c) **A DIRECT KICK** shall be awarded for the following nine (9) offenses committed in a careless or reckless manner: 1. Kicking an opponent 2. Tripping an opponent 3. Jumping at an opponent 4. Charging an opponent in a violent or dangerous manner 5. Charging an opponent from behind 6. Striking an opponent 7. Holding an opponent 8. Pushing an opponent 9. Intentionally handling the ball, with the exception of the goalie, in the designated area

d) **An INDIRECT KICK** shall be awarded for the following offenses: 1. Dangerous play (high-kicking, playing the ball while lying on the ground) 2. Charging fairly (shoulder to shoulder) when the ball is not within the playing distance of the players involved 3. Impeding the progress of an opponent 4. Obstructing the goalkeeper (there will be NO physical contact with the goalkeeper in the "penalty area" 5. Preventing the goalkeeper from releasing the ball with his/her hands 6. Lying on the ball and not allowing others to play it 7. Unsporting behavior

e) Slide tackling will not be allowed.

9.) Throw-ins

- a) The thrower must face the field of play and must keep both feet on the ground while releasing the ball. He/she shall use both hands on both sides of the ball to deliver the ball from behind and over his/her head.
- b) If an incorrect throw occurs the throw shall be awarded to the opposing team.
- c) A goal shall not be scored directly from the throw-in.

10.) Goal Kicks

- a) A goal kick may be taken from anywhere inside the goal area.
- b) Any defending player, including the goalkeeper, may take the goal kick.
- c) The kicker shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player.
- d) A goal may be scored directly by a goal kick.
- e) The ball is in play when it crosses outside the penalty area.
- f) The opponent must remain outside the goal area until the ball has crossed the goal area.

11.) Corner Kicks

- a) The ball shall be placed within a three (3) foot arc from the corner flag or cone and shall be kicked into play from that position by an attacking player.
- b) A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.
- c) Players from the opposing team to the kicker shall not approach within the distance of the center circle measurement (10 yards) of the ball until it is in play.

12.) Miscellaneous Rules

- a) Good judgment, sportsmanship and fair play should govern the decisions and actions of all the coaches, referees and spectators.

b) Coaches, their assistants or spectators are not allowed on the field of play during the game unless permission is given by the referee (in case of emergencies or unusual situations).

c) Heading the ball is allowed in this age group.