

BASA SOCCER

Under 8 Laws of the Game

(Based on US Youth Soccer recommended modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game)

Law 1 – The Field of Play: The field of play is rectangular.

Dimensions:

Touch line Length: 85 feet (minimum 75 feet / maximum 105 feet).

Goal line Width: 75 feet (minimum 60 feet / maximum 90 feet).

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line.

A circle with a radius of 12 feet is marked around it.

The Goal Area: A goal area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line 9 feet from the inside each goal post. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of 9 feet and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the goal area.

The Penalty Area: None.

Flag posts: A flag post, not less than 5 feet high, with a non-pointed top and a flag, must be placed at each corner. Cones may be used in lieu of flags.

The Corner Arc: A quarter circle, with a radius of 3 feet from each corner, is drawn inside the field of play.

Goals: Goals will be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts, equal distance from the corners and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The distance between the posts is 12 feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is 6.5 feet.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size three (3).

Law 3 – The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than four (4) players. There are NO goalkeepers.

Substitutions: At any stoppage and unlimited.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.

Law 4 – The Players Equipment:

Generally conforms to FIFA and comprises the following:

- Team Jersey (provided by BASA)
- Shorts
- Well-fitting Shin Guards
- Tall Socks (must completely cover the Shin Guards)
- Soccer cleats are recommended; but not required. [Baseball cleats are not allowed; as they have a cleat at the toe. No metal cleats allowed.]
- Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but the Team Jersey must be worn on the outside of other clothing.
- No jewelry will be allowed.

Law 5 – The Referee: One Referee will enforce the laws of the game and serve as time keeper. If a Referee is not available; a Board Member, Parent, or Coach may be used. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees: None.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: The match shall be divided into four (4) equal, twelve (12) minute quarters. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarters one and two and another two (2) minute break between quarters three and four. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes. Coaches may request to shorten the length of game (if necessary) due to hot weather, insufficient number of players, or other concerns. The decision to shorten game length will be made by the Division Commissioner, President, or Vice President.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play:

Preliminaries:

- A coin is tossed and the team that wins the toss decides which goal it will attack in the first half of the match.
- The other team takes the kick-off to start the match.
- The team that wins the toss takes the kick-off to start the second half of the match.

- In the second half of the match, the teams change ends and attack the opposite goals.

A kick-off is used to start or restart play:

- At the start of a game
- After a goal has been scored
- At the start of each quarter

The ball is placed in the center of the field. All players must be in their own half of the field and the opponents of the team taking the kick-off must be at least 12 feet from the ball until it is in play. The ball must be kicked forward into the opponent's end of the field.

Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – The Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/ Board Member/coach/parent must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: A free kick is used to restart after the referee stops play for an infraction. The ball must be stationary before it is kicked and the opposing players should be a minimum of at least 12 feet from the ball until it is in play. All free kicks are direct, meaning that a player can score by kicking the ball directly into the goal.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: None.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: A throw-in is taken when the ball crosses a touch line and leaves the field. A proper throw-in is one where at the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower must be standing facing the field of play, have part of both feet touching the ground on the touchline or outside the touchline, and throw the ball with both hands over the head. An improperly performed throw-in can be retaken.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: A goal kick is taken when the ball leaves the field across a goal line and was last touched by the offensive team. The ball must be stationary and is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team. The ball is in play when it leaves the penalty area. Opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: A corner kick is taken when the ball leaves the field across a goal line and was last touched by the defensive team. The corner kick is taken from the corner nearest to where the ball left the field and all other players must remain at least 12 feet from the ball until it is in play.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- No slide tackles allowed.
- No scores or standings will be kept.
- After a goal is scored, the team scored upon will kick-off.
- A goal may be scored directly from a kick-off.
- A ball going out of play must go completely outside the outer edge of the touch line or goal line; either on the ground or in the air.
- If any part of the ball is still on the line; the ball is still in play.
- When a ball is put in play; the player kicking or throwing the ball in must not touch the ball again time until it has touched another player.
- The ball is still in play when it bounces off a goalpost, crossbar, or referee and stays on the field.
- Two-touch violations will result in an indirect free kick (any exception to conform to FIFA).
- If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the goal kick is taken, or enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it has touched another player, the goal kick is retaken.
- A player must be cautioned for unsporting behavior for many circumstances including, but not limiting to attempts to deceive the referee (e.g. feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled) or verbally distracting an opponent during play or at a restart.

- Spectator and team benches should be on opposite sides of the field.
- Opposing coaches and players should 'high five' or shake hands after each match.
- No alcoholic beverages or tobacco products will be allowed near the playing area.
- No foul language will be allowed near the playing area.
- No dogs will be allowed near the playing area.
- Everyone should work to help provide a safe and enjoyable environment for our young players.
- The match is over when time runs out. There is no overtime, shoot-out, or sudden death in U8.