

2nd Grade Soccer Program Rules

OVERALL OBJECTIVES

- Introduce Positioning
- Emphasize foot skills and introduce passing/movement
- Good Sportsmanship

GAME RULES

1. **Game Format:** 6 vs. 6 – 5 Field Players and 1 Goalkeeper for each team
2. **Field size is the full 7v7 with the goals moved in to the edge of the 6-yard box** (smaller goal box)
3. **Goalies** can use their hands anywhere in the goal area
 1. During play, if a goalie places the ball on the ground it is a live ball
 2. Goalies are encouraged to throw the ball out after a save, instead of punting
4. **Practice Time:** Teams start the session with a 20 min practice. Referees should give a 5 minute warning before the game starts so coaches can meet with their teams.
5. **Playing Time:** Two 15 min halves with a 5-minute break for halftime. If a team has limited substitutions or if it is a hot day we will add water breaks halfway through each half.
6. There are **NO OFFSIDES** in this league
7. **Start of Each Half:** Team with ball starts at mid-field. Pass the ball to a teammate to start play. Ball does not have to go forward on the kickoff. Each team starts with the ball once during a game.
8. **After a Goal:** Team scored upon starts with the ball at midfield. Same position as at the beginning of a half.
9. **Out of Bounds:** call this closely to encourage control on the ball (whole ball must be over the whole line)
10. **On the Sideline:** Team who did not touch ball last gains possession and will use a **Throw-In** to start play. Emphasize two hands on the ball, over the players head, and try to keep both feet on the ground. We can be lenient on keeping feet on the ground, but the motion of both hands overhead is important.
11. **At Goal-Line:**
 1. Last touched by the offensive team results in a **goal kick**
 1. **Opposing team must retreat to half during a goal kick**
 2. Last touched by the defensive team results in a **corner kick**
12. **Intentional Hand Ball:** Team who did not touch ball takes possession; kicker must pass to team-mate (cannot score.) Defense must be 3 yards away.
 1. **Accidental handballs** happen a lot at this age. Referees should call this lightly and allow the players to play on in most situations.
13. **Substitutions:** At beginning the half (except of injuries) – or by coaches request on any stoppage of play. Get the referee's attention during a stoppage to make a substitution.

14. HEADING is not allowed at this age level

1. Intentional headers will result in a free kick for the other team
2. If the ball accidentally bounces and hits a player on the head – referee should allow the play to continue
3. If a player is struck in the head with the ball – play should stop so the player can be subbed off and assessed for a concussion

15. Free Kicks

1. **All Free Kicks are indirect** unless committed in the goal area
2. A free kick given in the goal should be a **Penalty Kick** (intentional handballs and fouls)
 1. Penalty kicks should be taken 3 large steps back from the top of the goal area
 2. All other players must be behind the ball
 3. Player taking the penalty kick must wait for the referee's whistle before taking the shot