

MINI SOCCER PROGRAM
Rules - 7 Aside
for Players born in 1998, 1999, 2000
U7, U8 & U9

Apr 9, 2007 (Revised)

Law 1 The Field of Play

- The field of play for mini soccer shall be smaller than regulation size. Where play is on a regulation size field, only one third or one half (as suitable to the age division) shall be used, across the width of the regulation size field, between the centre and goal lines.
- Regulation size field goals shall not be used in mini soccer. On permanent mini soccer fields the existing goal sizes are already appropriate for the level of play and shall be used.
- When play is on a subdivided regulation field, or when proper permanent nets are not available, nets, pylons or markers, duly spaced 3 yards (9 feet) apart, shall be used as goals or goal posts.
- The goal area extends around and in front of the goal markers for six yards (approx 6 meters or 6 adult average stride sized steps). This area also serves as the equivalent of the penalty area on regulation sized fields.

Law 2 The Ball

Size four (4)

Law 3 The Number of Players

A team may have up to 14 players, but not more than 7 players including the goalkeeper from each team on the field at one time.

Play will be stopped by the referee at **5 minute intervals for substitutions**. These will take place from the sideline.

Permission to substitute for a player who is injured, ill, or who leaves the field of his/her own accord, or who is sent off for severe misconduct, shall not be denied, provided the referee has first been made aware and has indicated acceptance of the substitution.

A substitution is allowed for a player sent off for misconduct, but the offending player will not be allowed back on the field.

Law 4 The Players' Equipment

- A player must not wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player.
- Each player **MUST** wear shin guards
- Shirts must be tucked inside the shorts
- A player wearing protective devices (i.e. casts, braces, etc) will not be allowed to play, unless written approval is received from the Club Head Referee or his designated official.

Law 5 The Referee

Each match is controlled by a referee who has the full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game

The referee shall explain all infractions to the offending players so that they and their coaches may learn.

Gross disregard of the Rules or Codes of Conduct whether committed by players, coaches or parents will not be tolerated. If, after having issued warnings, this type of misconduct persists, the referee shall require the coach to remove the offenders from the vicinity of the field of play. Failure to obey the referee's request may result in abandonment of the game and subsequent disciplinary action.

Any discipline is to be indicated on the game sheet (Player number, team, time and offense). Formal discipline reports (Cautions, Ejections, Special Incident, or Referee Assault Reports) are to be handed into the WISC office within 48 hours of the game, and the Head Referee is to be notified.

So as not to interfere with the goalkeeper or play, no one, including spectators, is allowed behind the goal line;

Law 6 The Assistant Referees

There shall be no Assistant Referees

Law 7 The Duration of the Match

The game shall consist of 2 x 25 minute halves with a 5 minute interval between the halves.

Law 8 The Start and Restart of Play

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

In the second half the teams change ends and attack the opposite goals.

Law 9 The Ball In and Out of Play

The ball is out of play when:

- When it has wholly crossed the goal line or touch line whether on the ground or in the air.
- Play has been stopped by the referee

The ball is in play at all other times, including when

- It rebounds from a goalpost, crossbar or corner post and remains in play
- It rebounds from the referee when they are on the field of play

Law 10 The Method of Scoring

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line between the goalposts and under the crossbar.

Where pylons or markers are used as goal posts a goal maybe disallowed if, in the opinion of the referee, the ball is so high in the air as to be impossible for the goalkeeper to make the save.

Law 11 Offsides

There are no offsides

Law 12 Fouls and Misconducts

- The goalkeeper cannot pick up the ball if it is deliberately kicked to him / her by a teammate.
- The goalkeeper shall be allowed to play the ball using his/her hands only inside the designated goal area. The keeper may play the ball outside of this area using their feet only (i.e. like a regular player).
- Having taken possession of the ball within the goal area, the goalkeeper is allowed to put the ball into play by throwing it, by kicking it or by first placing the ball on the ground and then kicking as in restarting from a goal kick.

Free kicks are taken from the point where the infringement occurred, unless it is closer than ten yards from the goal line. In this case, the ball is placed ten yards from the goal line. All defending players are required to be 5 yards from the ball until the kick is taken.

Law 13 Free Kicks

All free kicks are direct

All opposing players are required to be 5 yards from the ball until it is kicked.

Law 14 The Penalty Kick

A penalty kick is awarded against a team which commits an offence for which a direct free kick is awarded inside its own goal area, and while the ball is in play.

- The ball is placed on the penalty mark which is 10 yards into the field of play measured from the centre of the goal line.
- No players with the exception of the goalkeeper shall be allowed within 10 yards of the ball.
- All players with the exception of the goalkeeper must be behind the ball until the kick is taken.
- The player taking the kick shall not play the ball twice.

Law 15 The Throw-In

When the ball crosses the touchline a throw-in is taken. Opposing players shall be at least 5 yards from the ball. The player taking the throw-in must

- face the field of play
- have part of each foot either on the touch line or on the ground outside the touchline.
- uses both hands
- delivers the ball from behind and over his head.

The ball is in play immediately it enters the field of play.

If the player taking the throw-in plays the ball a second time before it has been touched or played by another player, a free kick is awarded to the opposing team.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in

Law 16 The Goal Kick

The defending team shall place the ball on the goal line area and kick it.

Law 17 The Corner Kick

A corner kick is awarded when:

- The whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the defending team, passes over the goal line either on the ground or in the air, and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law 10

Procedure:

- The ball is placed at the nearest corner post

Coaches

The coach shall remain on the sidelines during play in close proximity to the location they designate as their bench (i.e. stay off the field and do not move up and down the sidelines)