

FALL 2010 RULES

MARS Website: www.marsoccer.org

Rules for the U10 and U12 age divisions will use the attached US Youth Soccer documents with the below exceptions.

U14's and above will be straight **FIFA rules**, except unlimited substitutions will be allowed.

The ONLY exceptions from the attached US Youth Soccer recommendations for U10 and U12 are:

1. All leagues will follow the generally accepted substitution rules rather than the "At any stoppage" mentioned in the attached recommendations:
 - (i) Unlimited Number
 - (ii) Sub on own throw-in, any goal kick, after any goal, start of half/quarter.
2. Blow Out Rule - If at any time during the game a team achieves a 4-goal margin, the opposing team will be permitted to add an additional player. They will also be able to add an additional player for each additional increase in the margin over 4 goals. Once the margin is reduced below 4 goals, all additional players should leave the field. For example:

Score 3 - 0 = 8 v 8

Score 4 - 0 = 8 v 9

Score 6 - 1 = 8 v 10

Score 6 - 3 = 8 v 8

In a tournament situation, there are consequences for invoking the blow-out:

- If a team invokes the blow out rule at any time during the contest, the game will be scored as a 0-4 loss against the team that adds the extra player.
- Any team invoking the blow out rule will not be eligible for tie breakers concerning goal differentials, goals allowed, or goals scored.

Refer to US Youth Soccer U10 Recommendations

Refer to US Youth Soccer U12 Recommendations

US YOUTH SOCCER

US Youth Soccer Official Under 10 Playing Recommendations

US Youth Soccer recommended modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game.

FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at www.ussoccer.com/referees.

Law 1 – The Field of Play

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: Minimum 45 yards maximum 60 yards

Width: Minimum 35 yards maximum 45 yards

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than five (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 eight (8) yards is marked around it.

The Goal Area: Conform to FIFA.

The Penalty Area: A penalty area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, ten (10) yards from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of ten (10) yards and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the penalty area. Within each penalty area a penalty mark is made eight (8) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of eight (8) yards from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

Flag posts: Conform to FIFA.

The Corner Arc: Conform to FIFA.

Goals: Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corner flag posts and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The maximum distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the maximum distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet.

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Safety: Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size four (4).

Law 3 – The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than six players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than five players.

Substitutions: At any stoppage and unlimited.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. Teams and matches may be coed.

Law 4 – The Players' Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5 – The Referee: Registered referee, especially Grade 9 or parent/coach or assistant coach. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 –The Assistant Referees: Not required. May use club linesmen/women if desired.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) equal halves of twenty-five (25) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.

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

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

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Law 11 – Offside: **Yes, modified as follows:**

A player will be deemed offside if such player is clearly positioned behind the opponent's last defender inside the opponent's Goalie box while a pass is made toward such player by a teammate. The result of an Offsides call will be an Indirect Kick from the spot of the violation by the opponent's team.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the center spot on the halfway line if a goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball in the air from his/her penalty area into the opponents penalty area.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all opponents are at least eight (8) yards from the ball.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that the penalty mark is made eight (8) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.