



Broome County
Soccer Association

SPRING LEAGUE 2011

Variations from the Laws of the Game

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Note: Law Variations for Under 8 Matches are not included in this publication due to the fact that most U8 matches are not assigned to any Referees. Each area assignor does have a copy of those laws in the BCSA Coaches Manual.

From the Spring League Coordinator

Dear Referee,

First, I would like to personally thank you for doing these youth games. Even though in the heat of battle, the coaches and players may not remember to thank you, I DO thank you for officiating these games.

All that I ask is that you make liberal application of Law 18 (Common Sense) in officiating these matches. Please remember-these are travel games-not World Cup-and should be treated as such. Before each game ask yourself these three questions:

- 1) Can this match be conducted safely on this field with these players as equipped? If not-either get the situation corrected or do not start the match.
 - a) Are the goals securely anchored?
 - b) Are the players wearing anything which is dangerous to themselves or to others?
 - c) Is the field playable? If more than 10% of the field is under water it probably isn't.
- 2) Can I tell one team from the other and each player from each other? The laws regarding uniform shirts, shorts and socks and numbers are meant to assist you with this, however, this IS a travel league and you should expect that not all teams will conform completely.
- 3) Am I reasonably certain that these players are on this team and properly registered? Refer to page 7 for help.

I also ask that each of you keep the safety of the players foremost in your mind during the match. The game isn't fun if people are getting out of control and hurting each other. BCSCA does not condone this type of conduct and we expect you to help us control it. Also, please read through this booklet carefully. There are a lot of new changes this year!

Please file a game report with the appropriate person (see page 4) for any match which:

- 1) Must be terminated for any reason.
- 2) Does not start because a team does is not present at the field.
- 3) Is played but without an original certified roster.
- 4) In which someone is sent off or removed from the vicinity.

If you eject a player or a coach, please retain that person's pass and send it along with your report to the Spring League Coordinator. If you eject a spectator, try to find out that person's name and team affiliation if at all possible and include it in your report to me. WE CANNOT TAKE ACTION WITHOUT A PROPERLY FILED REPORT!

And last but not least, have fun officiating the matches you are assigned. The best matches are those officiated by referees who are enjoying their work. Enjoy the season!

Bill Campbell
Spring League Coordinator
Broome County Soccer Association

Points of Emphasis for 2011

- **Reporting Procedures.** All game reports which involve ANY SEND-OFF's must be filed with the **SPRING LEAGUE COORDINATOR (Not the Age Group Coordinator.)** This does not change the league policy on when reports must be filed. If the game had no incidents other than a caution to a player, no report **NEED** be filed. **Match officials DO, however, retain the right to file a match report on ANY game and we strongly encourage officials to report cases when a coach, player or substitute exhibits behavior which is not conducive to fair play but does not "cross the line" in terms of being a dismissal. This can include a coach who verbally berates his/her team.** Please be certain that any situations that you are trying to draw our attention are fully included on the USSF Match Report Addenda or on a separate page included with the report. Please note that *for the purposes of this policy*, mentors who are duly assigned to a league match can be considered match officials.
- **ALL COACHES REGARDLESS OF AGE MUST POSSESS A VALID USYSA STATE RISK MANAGEMENT PASS.** If a person does not possess a Risk Management pass they are not allowed on the team sideline under any circumstance. In addition, all coaches that are not yet 21 years of age must have their pass marked as such and cannot be the only person on the team sideline. There must be an adult with an unmarked pass on the team sideline. The former BCSA policy which allowed a youth coach to be with the team with a player pass is no longer in effect. If it is found that a youth coach is presenting an adult risk management pass, please report that to the Spring League Coordinator.
- **Team Documentation.** There will be a 15 minute grace period at the beginning of the match for each team and coach to present their required documentation or the game shall be deemed a forfeit to all parties who were unable to provide the proper and required documentation. The game shall not start until the documentation is complete. If a team official at the game site refuses to provide said documentation AND said team is not at full strength BUT has enough players to start the match (typically 7), the referee shall have the authority to abandon the match and the match shall be considered a forfeit. **DOCUMENTATION SHALL NOT BE USED AS A DELAYING TACTIC.** If a coach or manager is not normally going to be the person responsible for providing the required documentation, they **must** carry with them a photocopy of all pertinent documentation that **may be used to check the team into the match** should the person who normally carries the documentation be delayed arriving at the match site, **BUT the originals of all of the required documentation must be provided at halftime or the match shall be deemed a forfeit.** In said case, the referees may complete the match and keep the game fees but shall file a report with the Spring League Coordinator. In any case, the coaches must always have the original risk management pass. No photocopy of that document will be considered valid.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Adults who are properly on the sideline with the team will be responsible for the actions of all members of the team; including youth coaches. Should an adult coach refuse or be unable to control the actions of his or her team, the game shall be terminated and the adult coach will automatically be penalized for failure to control the bench area. This penalty shall be the same as if the coach had been dismissed from the match. A youth coach can be dismissed but cannot be told to leave the area of the match and shall remain under the jurisdiction of the adult coach. This is similar to what we normally expect you to do with youth players whom are ejected and shown the red card.
- **Any person who is sent-off or dismissed can not communicate with anyone at any match from which they are banned using any means, electronic or otherwise.**

Age Group Coordinators - 2011

Spring League Coordinator *(All misconduct / send-off reports go here!)*

Bill Campbell
182 Front Street
Owego, NY 13827

tripsdad@printswilliam.com
(607) 273-7414

U-10 Girls *Lori Mocniak*
1862 East Campville Road
Endicott, NY 13760

motof3@stny.rr.com
(607) 786-3384

U-12 Girls *Chris Saggese*
410 Chestnut Street
Oneonta, NY, 13820

csaggese@milfordcentral.org
(607) 433-0935 (H)
(607) 267-9993 (C)

U-14 Girls *Victor Lourenco*
41 Mountain Brook Drive
Vestal, NY 13850

lourenco@us.ibm.com
(607) 786-5984

U-16 Girls *Bill Mizera*
10 Pamela Drive
Johnson City, NY 13790

jcxxsoccer@aol.com
(607) 798-0815 (H)
(607) 724-2472 x7118 (W)

U-19 Girls *Jeff Parker*
3081 Highland Road
Marathon, NY 13803

mstampede@hotmail.com
(607) 849-6883

U-10 Boys *Julie Randall*
747 Route 222
Cortland, NY 13045

socceragc23@hotmail.com
(607) 345-4005

U-12 Boys *Bill Campbell*
182 Front Street
Owego, NY 13827

tripsdad@printswilliam.com
(607) 273-7414

U-14 Boys *Bill Campbell*
182 Front Street
Owego, NY 13827

tripsdad@printswilliam.com
(607) 273-7414

U-16 Boys *Julie Randall*
747 Route 222
Cortland, NY 13045

socceragc23@hotmail.com
(607) 345-4005

U-19 Boys *Val Thompson*
94 Candor Hill Road
Candor, NY 13743

soccercoord@frontiernet.net
(607) 659-5350
(607) 239-0445 (cell)

***ALL REPORTS INVOLVING AN
EJECTION MUST GO TO THE
SPRING LEAGUE COORDINATOR
WITHIN 48 HOURS!***

***ALL ROSTER REPORTS MUST BE FILED VIA SNAIL
MAIL WITH THE LEAGUE REGISTRAR
Matt Palmer, 119 North Broad Street, Johnson City, NY 13790***

Referee Game Fees - 2011

All fees are listed per team

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>3 Refs</i>	<i>2 Refs</i>	<i>1 Ref</i>
U19	\$60.00	\$48.00	\$39.00
U16	\$52.00	\$42.00	\$34.00
U14	\$44.00	\$35.00	\$29.00
U12	\$40.00	\$32.00	\$26.00
U10	Referee and Mentor \$35.00/team. Referee only \$17.50/team.		

Note: You will also be paid \$5.00 for every roster report you must file. See page 6-7.

Cautions and Send-Offs

ALL EJECTIONS & DISMISSALS MUST BE REPORTED TO THE SPRING LEAGUE COORDINATOR!

All rules covering cautions and send offs are covered by the FIFA Laws of the Game. BCSA has also added to these laws with additional rules.

1. Coaches and all other non-players/non-substitutes on the team side of the field are reminded that any verbal warning received from a referee shall be considered a CAUTION just as if the referee had shown a yellow card. If any non-player is dismissed from the match, he or she will not be shown the red card BUT BCSA will treat the situation as if the red card had been shown. Adults who are dismissed must leave the sight and sound of the field. If it is subsequently discovered that an adult who has been dismissed has not left the sight and sound of the field, or is within sight or sound of the additional match that they must sit out, severe additional penalties will be levied. Sitting out games by team players or officials (adult or youth) is a serious matter under the BCSA Code of Conduct. Failure to do so properly is a serious breach of that Code.
 2. If a player during the game is sent off, they must sit out the remainder of the game (while their team plays short) plus their next game at that level of competition. In NYSWYSA, level of competition is defined as any game in which that player would play with the pass that he was playing with when the send off was issued. This includes State Cup competition, tournaments, in or out of the Binghamton District, BCSA Spring League game or ODP. This sit out carries over from one season to the next season if the penalty was not served. The sit out must be served in whole matches of which the total playing time is at least the same amount of time as the full BCSA game in which they were suspended. If a coach, substitute or other non-player is sent off the field or dismissed, they must also serve the same suspension. Depending on the severity or volume of offenses committed, the Board of Directors reserves the right to increase the amount of time to be served.
 3. A send off or dismissal in BCSA games also costs the player or coach or other non-player a \$25 fine, payable to BCSA. The fine must be paid before the player, coach or other such person can resume playing or attending games.
 4. Any send off issued will result in that person's State Association pass being sent to the Spring League Coordinator. The pass will be returned after that person has sat out the one game suspension and paid the \$25 fine to BCSA. It is the responsibility of the club to see that this fine is paid to the BCSA Treasurer.
 5. Any person who is sent off or dismissed more than once during the Spring League season shall appear before a review committee appointed by the President (three or more members). This review committee shall have the power to suspend the person from further participation. Failure to appear shall result in immediate suspension.
 6. Strong or vulgar language is punishable for players and coaches with a send off or dismissal.
 7. Any person who is sent-off or dismissed can not communicate with anyone at any match from which they are banned using any means, electronic or otherwise.
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Game Reporting

If you must file a game report on a BCSA league game—please note the following:

- 1) In addition to whatever your local referee unit requires, you must also file a copy of the game report with the league to the person appointed using the instructions on page 4 of this booklet. ***Matches involving any ejection MUST be filed on the current USSF Report Form and MUST be mailed to the Spring League Coordinator.***
- 2) Your game report should include:
 - a) BCSA game number, age group, gender, and teams involved.
 - b) Location, date and time of the match
 - c) Field and weather conditions
 - d) Time remaining to be played (or time elapsed) in all terminated games. Please also note whether the second half of the game had been started.
 - e) Whether or not you received your game fee and from which team(s).
 - f) Reason you are filing the report—termination, cards, forfeiture, weather.
 - g) Brief description of any cards issued including the player's number (caution) or name (ejection), reason for the card, and time in the match when the card(s) was (were) issued. If a coach or spectator was asked to leave please try to get the name of that person and team affiliation.
 - h) The passes for any ejected personnel.
 - i) Final score or score of the match at the point of termination.
 - j) A brief description of the conduct of the coaches and spectators.
 - k) Your name as well as the names of your neutral assistant referees. If you were using club linespersons, please indicate such.
- 3) Your game report must be mailed within 48 hours of the conclusion of the match. ***PLEASE NOTE: You may e-mail your report UNLESS it indicates some level of misconduct in which a full USSF Match Report is required. Your referee unit may have requirements beyond those recorded here and should be followed. Please keep a copy of your report for your future reference in case a question regarding the match should arise at a later point in the season.***

Roster Reporting

If a team shows up for a game WITH properly executed players passes BUT WITHOUT an original certified roster (see page 7):

- 1) Get the coach of the offending team to neatly print a handwritten roster.
- 2) Check the roster against the players' passes.
- 3) Start the match. At the conclusion of the match, send the handwritten roster along with the age group, date, time and location of the match along with your name and mailing address to:

Matt Palmer, BCSA Registrar
119 North Broad Street
Johnson City, NY 13790

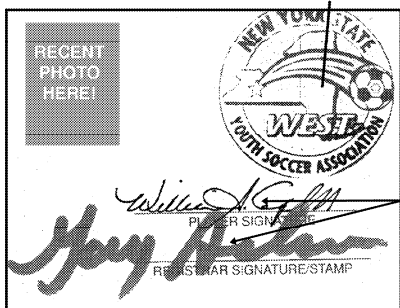
Player and Coaches' Passes

All players (on teams that are U12-19) and coaches must present a player's or coach's pass to you at the team inspection prior to the game. Rosters, birth certificates, copies of passes or any other official looking documents are not acceptable. This rule is to be enforced strictly and is not subject to interpretation!

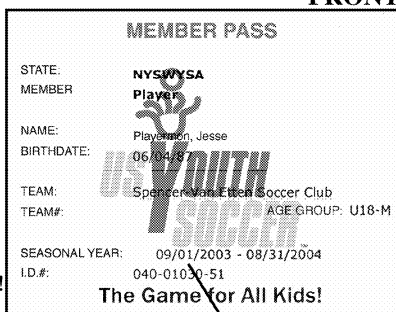
- 1) The pass must be laminated.
- 2) The photo on the back of the pass must be recent and look **SOMETHING LIKE** the player or coach you are checking in.
- 3) The back of the pass must be signed by the player or coach, be stamped by the state or the registrar, and be signed or digitally signed by a state officer or the district registrar.

FRONT

BACK Registrar or state stamp (may be digital)



Must bear two signatures! (May be digital!)



Must be correct season.

Team Rosters

On U12-19 games, the team must have BOTH CERTIFIED ROSTERS AND PASSES. If the team has the passes but not the roster, the game should be played, but see the instructions for a roster report on page 6. If the team is older than U10 and does not have passes. The game must not be played and a game report must be filed. We recommend you use a 3 man check-in system-i.e. Center ref checks equipment, 1st assistant checks passes, 2nd assistant checks roster.

FOR U10 MATCHES-The player must appear on any official club roster (need not bear the state seal or approval paragraph) which the coach has in his/her possession. *Teams MAY be checked in from MULTIPLE rosters. CLUB ROSTERS MUST LOOK IDENTICAL TO STATE ROSTERS BUT WILL NOT HAVE THE STATE SEALS or APPROVAL PARAGRAPH.*

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING YOUTH PLAYERS AND COACHES:

If a youth is dismissed or ejected from a match, do not require them to leave the area of the field. They must remain on the bench, silently watching the remainder of the match under the direct supervision of an adult coach. If the adult coach is unable or unwilling to control the behavior of the bench, the match shall be terminated and a full report filed with the Spring League Coordinator.

NYSWYSA Zero Tolerance Policy

To help prevent physical assault and verbal abuse in the leagues and clubs within the New York State West Youth Soccer Association (NYSWYSA, or Association); the Association has adopted a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY. This policy applies to all coaches, players, parents, spectators and other supporters and referees effective immediately. Abusive and obscene language, violent play/conduct, fighting and other behavior (including, but not limited to sarcasm, taunting, etc.) deemed detrimental to the game between the above mentioned groups will not be tolerated. The ultimate responsibility for the actions of coaches, players and spectators resides with the member clubs.

It is the responsibility of the coaches to provide referee support and spectator control, and it is the responsibility of the member clubs to provide instructions to their coaches on how they are expected to carry this out. This policy applies before, during and after the game at the soccer field and its immediate surrounding areas.

Parents & Spectators. No parent or spectator shall persistently address the referee or assistant referees at any time. This includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Parents and spectators shall not dispute calls during or after the game.
- b. Parents and spectators shall not make remarks to the referee(s) or advise the referee(s) to watch certain players or attend to rough play.
- c. Parents and spectators shall never yell at the referee(s), including criticism, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation or feedback of any kind before, during or after the game.

The only allowable exceptions to the above are:

- a. Parents and spectators may respond to a referee who has initiated a conversation, until such time as the referee terminates the conversation.
- b. Parents and spectators may point out an emergency or safety issues, such as a player apparently injured on the field or observed fighting.

Additionally, parents and spectators shall not make derogatory comments to players of either team.

Penalties (Parents & Spectators).

In the opinion of the referee, depending on the severity of the offense, the referee may take any of the following actions:

- a. The referee may issue a verbal warning to the coach of offending party's team.
- b. The referee may stop the game and instruct the coaches to direct the parent / spectator to leave the field.
- c. The referee may abandon the game if the parent/spectator does not leave the field.

Players.

The conduct of the players is governed by the Laws of the Game as stated by FIFA and USSF. The Laws themselves describe penalties associated with violating the Laws of the Game. Additional penalties for players who engage in misconduct

may be established by the club and/or league but may in no case be less severe than penalties established by FIFA, USSF, or NYSWYSA.

Coaches, Assistant Coaches & Bench Personnel.

It is the responsibility of all coaches to maintain the highest standards of conduct for themselves, their players and supporters in all matches. Failure to do so undermines the referee's authority and the integrity of the game resulting in a hostile environment for players, the referee(s), coaches, assistant coaches, bench personnel and spectators. As role models for all of the participants and spectators, coaches participating in a New York State West Youth Soccer Association sanctioned event are expected to be supportive of, and to acknowledge the effort, good play and sportsmanship on the part of ALL players from either team in a contest. By example, coaches, assistant coaches and bench personnel are expected to show that although they are competing in a game, they have respect for their opponent, referees and spectators at all times. The New York State West Youth Soccer Association will not tolerate negative behavior exhibited either by demonstrative actions and gestures, or by ill-intentioned remarks, including those addressed toward the referees or members of an opposing team. Coaches exhibiting hostile, negative, sarcastic or otherwise ill-intended behavior toward referees, opposing players or coaches will be subject to sanction by the match official. Additional sanctions may be imposed by the club that the coach or assistant coach represents, the league that the match is being played under, or as allowed by New York State West Youth Soccer Association policies after a review of the match report.

- Coaches shall not interact directly or indirectly with the coaches or players of the opposing team during the game in any manner that may be construed as negative, hostile or sarcastic either by way of demonstrative actions and gestures or by ill-intentioned remarks.
- Coaches shall not offer dissent to any call made by the referee(s) at any time.
- Coaches are not to address the Referee(s) during the game except to:
 - a. Respond to a referee who has initiated a conversation.
 - b. Point out emergency or safety issues.
 - c. Make substitutions.
 - d. Ask the referee, "What is the proper restart (i.e. direction and Indirect Free Kick or Direct Free Kick)?"
 - e. Ask for the time remaining in the half.
- Coaches are allowed to ask a referee after a game or during the halftime interval, in a polite and constructive way, to explain a law or foul, but not judgment calls made in the game.
 - a. Polite and friendly concern can be exchanged with the referee. If the polite tone of the conversation changes, the referee may abandon the exchange at any time.
 - b. Absolutely no sarcasm, harassment or intimidation is allowed.

NOTE: It is recommended that coaches or other team members do not engage in any conversation with the match official once the match has concluded.

Penalties (Coaches, Assistant Coaches & Bench Personnel).

In the opinion of the referee, depending on the severity of the offense, the referee may take any of the following actions:

- a. The referee may issue a verbal warning to the offending coach, assistant coach or bench personnel.
- b. The referee may eject the offending coach, assistant coach or bench personnel. Once ejected, the individual will be required to leave the field immediately.

NOTE: Referees are instructed not to display any cards to bench personnel. They are strictly reserved for players and substitutes.

- c. The referee should abandon the game, if the coach, assistant coach or bench personnel do not leave the field or any immediate adjoining area after having been instructed to do so.

Additional penalties associated with the ejection of a coach, assistant coach or bench personnel may be assessed by the local club or league which sanctioned the match in accordance with their documented policy. These penalties may be no less stringent than sanctions as may be imposed by NYSWYSA following their review, if conducted, of the incident. All cases of alleged abuse or assault of a referee shall be reported to the NYSWYSA State Office and State Referee Administrator within 48 hours of the match that engendered said behavior. NYSWYSA will then conduct a verification of the complaint and subsequent actions as required by applicable sections of USSF Policy in effect at the time of the incident.

Although NYSWYSA is continually bound by USSF Policy and its various revisions, definition of referee abuse and referee assault found in USSF Policy 531-9 as of the creation date of this Zero Tolerance Policy (2/11/2011) is offered by way of information as follows:

Referee Abuse

- a) Referee abuse is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment.
- b) Abuse includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: using foul or abusive language toward a referee that implies or threatens physical harm; spewing any beverage on a referee's physical property; or spitting at (but not on) the referee.

Referee Assault

- a) (i) Referee Assault is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon a referee.
(ii) For purposes of this Policy, "intentional act" shall mean an act intended to bring about a result which will invade the interests of another in a way that is socially unacceptable. Unintended consequences of the act are irrelevant.
- b) Assault includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; head butting; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee's uniform or personal property, i.e. car, equipment, etc.

Law Variations - Under 13 to Under 19

All BCSA games will be governed by FIFA's Laws of the Game except as noted herein.

Law 1 The Field of Play
As FIFA. It is recommend that technical area be 10 yards from extension of the halfway line

Law 2 The Ball
As FIFA.

Law 3 The Number of Players
11 players on the field, 18 players may check into a match, 22 players may be on the roster. *NOTE: Only the first 18 players who check into a match may participate in that match.*

Substitutions are unlimited, at any stoppage, with the permission of the referee. All substitutions must report to the assistant referee while play is in progress (not after play is stopped). All substitutions must enter the game from the halfway line. Substituted players may leave the pitch from anywhere.

Law 4 Players' Equipment
The referee or assistant referee shall ensure that each player/team will:

- a) Have shin guards
- b) Have socks pulled up over shin guards
- c) Have same color socks and shirts with unique numbers
- d) Have shirt tucked into shorts
- e) Not have cutoffs on under shorts
- f) Not have sweatpants on unless weather is inclement
- g) Not have contrasting sweatshirts on under their shirts unless the weather is inclement. Same color sweatshirt as team shirt is permissible at any time.
- h) Not be wearing jewelry of any kind except required medical or religious wear.
- i) **Note:** Spandex shorts are acceptable as long as they match the shorts.

Law 5 The Referee
The referee is in charge of the game from the minute he/she arrives at the playing field until he/she physically leaves the playing area in their vehicle.

The referee has the right to censure a player, coach or spectator on the way from their vehicle in the parking lot before the game and until he/she leaves the parking lot in their vehicle.

The referee must check all players passes at the start of the game for the proper pictures and signatures. The referee shall also assure that the passes match the players listed on the original certified roster presented by the team. The referee must also verify that no more than the allowed number of players have checked into the game.

The referee will ensure before the game starts that both teams are located on one side of the field and all spectators are on the opposite side. No players or spectators are permitted behind the goal lines. Each team and all spectators must stay at least 2 yards behind the touch line. It is recommended that all fields have a spectator line 2 yards off the playing field running parallel to the touch line.

Before each game the coach (or manager) of each team shall pay the referee on the field. A fee schedule is listed in the Referee Section.

Law 6 The Assistant Referee As FIFA.
(Note: For U12-14 age groups, Recreational Youth referees or Grade 12 Assistant referees may be assigned.)

Law 7 The Duration of the Match

Age	Length of each half	Length of halftime
U19	45 minutes	10 minutes
U16	40 minutes	10 minutes
U14	35 minutes	10 minutes
U12	30 minutes	10 minutes

Note: Referees are expected to add time as per FIFA. The times listed herein simply reduce the FIFA declared match times from 45 minutes per half as noted.

Laws 8-9 Start and Restart of Play As FIFA.

Law 10 Method of Scoring As FIFA.
If a game, after it starts, is terminated by the referee, it must be determined by BCSA whether it has to be replayed. No fees will be refunded.

If after 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time, one or both teams are not present (7 players constitute a team), the team with not enough players will forfeit the game. (1-0 score)

When 7 players are available for each team and the scheduled starting time has been reached, the game must begin. If a team is under the 7 player limit at game time and they reach that number before 15 minutes, the game must begin.

Laws 11-17 Offside, Fouls and Misconduct, Goal Kicks, Free Kicks, Penalty Kicks, Corner Kicks All as FIFA.

Variations from the Laws of the Game - Under 12

Law 1 The Field of Play

Dimensions:

Length:	minimum 70 yards maximum 80 yards
Width:	minimum 45 yards maximum 55 yards

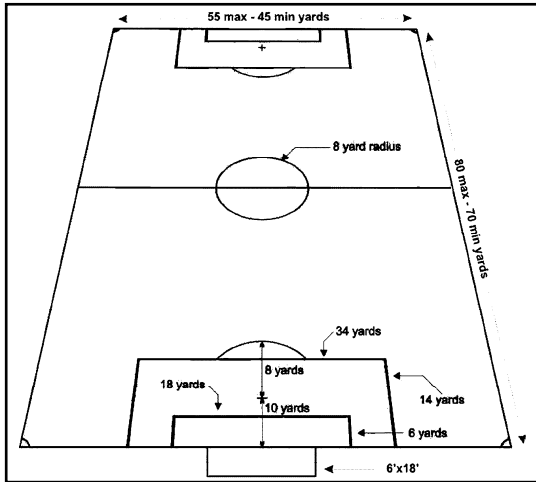
Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of eight (8) yards is marked around it. We recommend the technical area be 8 yards from extension of halfway line.

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, fourteen (14) yards from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of fourteen (14) 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 ten (10) 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 and Corner Arc: Conform to FIFA.

Goals: Conform to FIFA with exception that the goals must be either 7' high by 21' wide or 6 feet high by 18 feet wide. *Note: This will be changed in 2012 to only allow the 6' x 18' goals.*



Field of play for Under 12

Law 2 The Ball

No. 4, spherical 25-26"; 11-13 ounces

Law 3 The Number of Players

A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eight players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven players. Roster may contain up to 16 players.

Substitutions: Unlimited at any stoppage with the permission of the referee.

Law 4 The Players Equipment

Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams and be safe.

Law 5 The Referee

Conforms to FIFA. USSF Certified referees.

Law 6 The Assistant Referee

Conforms to FIFA. USSF certified referees. Grade 12 Assistant referees and Grade 9 Recreational Youth referees may be used.

Law 7 The Duration of the Match

Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of ten (10) minutes. Referees shall add time as per FIFA.

Law 8 The Start and Restart of Play

Conform to FIFA with the exception that 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 &

Law 10 The Method of Scoring &

Law 11 Offside

All conform to FIFA.

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 opponents are at least eight (8) yards from the ball.

Law 14 The Penalty Kick

Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that the penalty mark is at ten yards and that players other than the kicker and defending goalkeeper are at least eight (8) yards from the penalty mark.

Law 15 The Throw-In &

Law 16 The Goal Kick

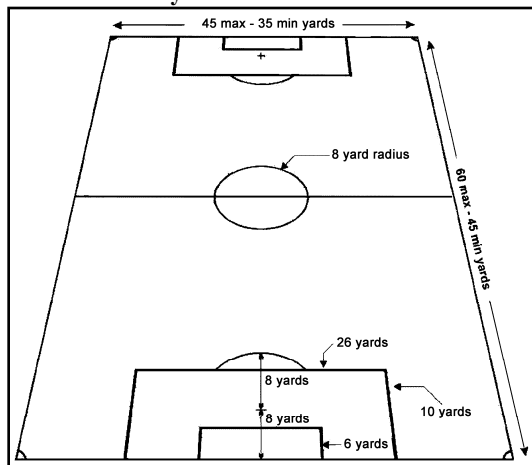
Both conform to FIFA.

Law 17 The Corner Kick

Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards away from the corner arc until the ball is in play.

Variations from the Laws of the Game - Under 10

Law 1 The Field of Play



Field of play for Under 10

Dimensions: 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. We recommend that the technical area be 5 yards from extension of halfway line.

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: Conform to FIFA with exception that the goals must be either 7' high by 21' wide or 6 feet high by 18 feet wide. *Note: This will be changed in 2012 to only allow the 6' x 18' goals.*

Law 2 The Ball

No. 4, spherical 25-26"; 11-13 ounces

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. There are no roster limits for the Under 10 Age Groups *HOWEVER* only the first 11 players who check in may participate in the match.

Substitutions: Unlimited at any stoppage with the permission of the referee. Every player shall play at least half of every match they attend uninjured.

Law 4 The Players' Equipment

Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams and be safe.

Law 5 The Referee

Registered referee, especially Grade 9. 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. A senior referee will be appointed to each match to act as a mentor.

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. Referees shall add time as per FIFA.

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 &

Law 10 The Method of Scoring

Both conform to FIFA.

Law 11 Offside

Offside infractions shall not be called.

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.

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- 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 &
Law 16 The Goal Kick** Both 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.
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Other Notes

1. Every member of the organization is responsible for the actions of its coaches, players, officials and spectators before, during and at the conclusion of the game.
 2. Each coach during the game is responsible for the verbal and physical actions of its team, coaches and spectators. All players and youth coaches who are sent-off or dismissed from a match shall not be required to leave the team side of the field. All said persons are still under the authority of the adult who is present on the sideline and said adult is solely responsible for their actions. *A coach may be asked to leave the field as a result of a violation of this rule and will be subject to all fines as if he/she had committed the misconduct. If a spectator is ejected, the team shall be fined \$25 for each occurrence. If a game is terminated due to the inability of the coach to control the team sideline, said coach shall automatically considered to have been dismissed and all send-off fines and penalties shall be applied to said coach.*
 3. Any BCSA player, coach or spectator involved in any unsporting like incident reported by the game officials in any competition, shall be suspended immediately from any involvement in BCSA related activities for a period to be determined by BCSA.
 4. Any player, coach or team official who assaults (civilly or criminally) a referee, shall automatically be suspended for at least one year. NYSWYSA will be notified of the occurrence.
 5. There will be a maximum of 3 non-players allowed for each team on the players side of the field. This includes coaches, assistants, managers, photographers, spectators, trainers and parents. *ALL SUCH PERSONS MUST HAVE A VALID USYSA STATE ASSOCIATION RISK MANAGEMENT PASS. IF SUCH A PERSON IS UNDER THE AGE OF 21, SAID PASS MUST IDENTIFY THAT PERSON AS BEING UNDER THE AGE OF 21.*
 6. Dismissal of a coach or team official will have the same penalties as a player (sit out one game plus a \$25 fine).
 7. If a referee does not arrive and both coaches agree, the game may be played with a volunteer referee. The league encourages teams to play if at all possible. Agreement should be noted in the game report to the AGC.
 8. Report the absence of a referee or referee assistant to your AGC.
 9. If the assigned referee arrives, the game may be turned over to him at a stoppage of play or at half time after establishing with him the time remaining. The game will continue, not be restarted.
 10. If a player, coach, manager or club official assaults a referee or an official referee assistant, and the assault amounts to physical violence, the state association has sole right and authority to adjudicate the matter. The President of BCSA having information about such assault will, on completion of an investigation and determination that an assault did occur, immediately notify the proper state association authorities and give them all of the information BCSA has compiled.
 11. If a player starts bleeding during the game, they must be removed from the game until the bleeding stops, and is properly covered.
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