



Broome County
Soccer Association

**SPRING
LEAGUE
2017**

Variations from the Laws of the Game
www.broomesoccer.org



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Table of Contents

From the League Coordinator	Page 2
Points of Emphasis for 2017	Page 3
The League Coordinator	Page 4
Game Reporting	Page 4
Player and Coach's Passes	Page 5
Team Documentation	Page 5
Rosters, Roster Reporting & Common Sense Application	Page 6
Referee Game Fees	Page 7
Cautions and Send Offs	Page 7
NYSWYSA Zero Tolerance Policy	Page 8
Law Variations Under 13 to Under 19	Page 11
Law Variations Under 12	Page 12
Law Variations for Under 10	Page 14
Other Notes	Page 16

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 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. Don't cross a bridge that wasn't meant to be crossed!
- 3) Am I reasonably certain that these players are on this team and properly registered? Refer to page 5 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. BCSA 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 differences between our league and others you may officiate.

Please file a game report with the League Coordinator for any match which:

- 1) Must be terminated for any reason or involves a serious injury.
Any report including information regarding a head injury MUST be filed the night of the match via email.
- 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, dismissed or otherwise 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 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 these matches. The best matches are those officiated by referees who are enjoying their work. Enjoy the season!

*William A. Campbell
League Coordinator
Broome County Soccer Association*

Points of Emphasis for 2017

- **BCSA is strongly committed to player development.** For this reason we are asking all referee groups to *stringently enforce* our current policies for Under 10's and Under 12's. **Under 12 has changed since last year.** The policy is as follows:
 1. **Under 10 & Under 12 Rosters** - Recreational roster certified by a club registrar. There is no limit on number of names which appear on the roster nor is there any limit on the number of rosters a team might produce as long as they are all for the current soccer year. The exact team name need not appear on the roster.
 2. **Check In Limits:** Under 10 is 10 players Under 12 is 12 players
Once the above number of players have checked in, no other players may participate in the match. They can stay on the bench if they can wear something that will identify them as ineligible to play.
 3. **Game Play:** Under 10 6v6 including the keeper-no offside
Under 12 8v8 including the keeper
 4. **This policy was put into effect because we do not believe a player sitting on a bench is learning anything.** THE COACHES KNOW THESE POLICIES. Don't let them talk you into any other check-in or game format including but not limited to 7v7 at U10 or 9v9 or 11v11 at either U10 or U12. *BCSA is NOT following the USSF "Mandates" for U10-12 play as that would set us back 10 years.*
- **BCSA Under 10.** Familiarize yourself with the new changes regarding keeper possession (other), deliberate heading (law 12) and goal kicks (law 16) in the Under 10 Laws on page 14-17. **They have changed since last year.**
- **Water Breaks** are automatically authorized in Under 14 or higher games at a normal stoppage around the mid point of each half under certain circumstances. Water break should be 4 minutes long. Water breaks must be allowed if the temperature at game time is over 79 degrees fahrenheit and either of the following conditions are true:
 - a. A member of the referee crew requests it.
 - b. A team official for either team requests it.
- **BCSA Concussion Policy.** If a referee sees an incident that involved hard contact involving a player's head, the following procedure should be followed:
 1. Stop the match.
 2. Summon help.
 3. Inform the coach that a head injury occurred.
 4. If the player is reentering the match, ask if the player has been cleared by a healthcare professional.
 5. If the answer is no, do not allow the entry. If the coach protests, remind the coach that the referee has the authority to terminate the match. If the coach persists, terminate the match.
 6. If the answer is yes, request a copy of the clearance that can be filed with the match report to the league. This could be as simple as a phone photo! Then allow the re-entry. If no clearance can be provided, then do not allow the entry. If the coach protests, remind the coach that the referee has the authority to terminate the match. If the coach persists, terminate the match.
 7. Should a team official notice such an incident, they need to get the attention of the referee immediately so that the protocol can be followed.
 8. Referees are reminded that a USSF report must be filed for any serious injury and any game that does not reach it's natural conclusion. Any incident involving hard head contact is deemed to be a serious injury. Reports of this nature are critical and must be filed on the evening of the match via email with the League Coordinator.

The League Coordinator

League Coordinator (*All reports go here!*)

Bill Campbell
182 Front Street
Owego, NY 13827

tripsdad@printswilliam.com
(607) 273-7414

***ALL REPORTS MUST GO TO THE
LEAGUE COORDINATOR WITHIN
48 HOURS OF THE MATCH!***

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 ***MUST be filed on the current USSF Report Form and MUST be mailed to the League Coordinator.***
- 2) Your game report should include:
 - a) BCSA game number, age group, gender, and teams involved.
 - b) Location, date, time and BCSA game number 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, send-off(s), 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 UNLESS THERE WAS A HEAD INJURY in which case it must be filed the evening 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.**

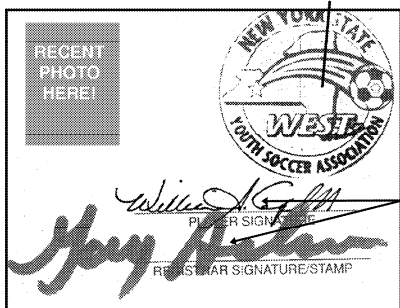
Player and Coaches' Passes

All players (on teams that are U14-19) and coaches must present a player's or coach's pass to you at the team inspection prior to the game. Rosters, birth certificates or any other official looking documents are not acceptable. This rule is to be enforced strictly and is not subject to interpretation EXCEPT as outlined below!

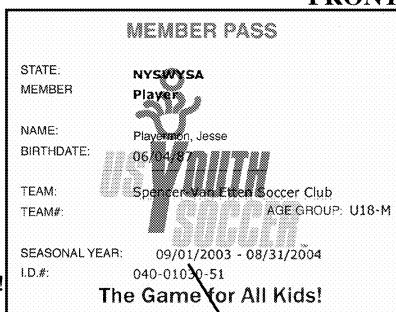
- 1) The pass should be laminated. If the pass is peeling, tell the coach to get it laminated again before the next match!
- 2) The photo on the back of the pass must be recent (within 2 years) and look SOMETHING LIKE the player or coach you are checking in.
- 3) The back of risk management passes must be signed by the coach, be stamped by the state or the registrar, and be signed or digitally signed by a state officer or the district registrar. Player passes must be stamped by a state office or the district registrar, but need not be signed by the player.

FRONT

BACK Registrar or state stamp (may be digital)



Must bear two signatures! (May be digital!)



Must be correct season.

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 League Coordinator. ***In any case, the coaches must always have the original risk management pass. No photocopy of that document will be considered valid.*** Please make every effort as a referee to get the game played!

PLEASE NOTE THAT GUEST PLAYERS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN ANY MATCH IN BCSA. The player's name MUST appear on the roster.

Team Rosters

Coaches need not appear on any roster! They must be on the roster to see Referee Passes.

On U14-19 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 below. 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 U10-12 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 League Coordinator.

Roster Reporting

If a team shows up for a game WITH properly executed players passes BUT WITHOUT an original certified roster (see page 5):

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 BCSA game number, age group, date, time and location of the match along with your name and mailing address to:

William A. Campbell
BCSA League Coordinator
182 Front Street
Owego, NY 13827

Common Sense Application

All of the BCSA rules are intended to be certain that players are able to play games. If the following conditions are met, the game is a proper game and will be covered by all insurances:

- The players are all registered with a USYSA State Association
- The coaches have all cleared the risk management process for their USYSA State Association.

The BCSA Board of Directors is not looking to collect fines IF players play games.

Referee Game Fees - 2017

All fees are listed per team

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>3Refs</i>	<i>2Refs</i>	<i>1Ref</i>
Under 19	\$76.00	\$61.00	\$50.00
Under 16	\$64.00	\$51.00	\$42.00
Under 14	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$33.00
Under 12	\$46.00	\$37.00	\$30.00
Under 10	Referee and Mentor \$40.00 per team Referee only \$20.00 per team		

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

Cautions, Send-Offs and Dismissals

ALL REPORTS MUST BE FILED WITH THE 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. Any person sent off or dismissed from a BCSA game will result in that person's affiliated member club being fined \$75 for the first occurrence during a season and \$200 for each subsequent occurrence during the season (by that person), 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 League Coordinator. The pass will be returned after that person has sat out the one game suspension and paid all fines 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 perpetual 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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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 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 and 2 yards off the field (1 yard is minimum.)

Law 2 The Ball

As FIFA.

Law 3 The Number of Players

11 players on the field, 18 players may check into a match, roster must be a state certified 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.

Law 7 The Duration of the Match

<i>Age</i>	<i>Length of each half</i>	<i>Length of halftime</i>
U19	45 minutes	10 minutes
U16	40 minutes	10 minutes
U14	35 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.

WATER BREAKS are automatically authorized in Under 14 or higher games at a normal stoppage around the mid point of each half under certain circumstances. Water break should be 4 minutes long. Water breaks must be allowed if the temperature at game time is over 79 degrees fahrenheit and either of the following conditions are true:

- a. A member of the referee crew requests it.
- b. A team official for either team requests it

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

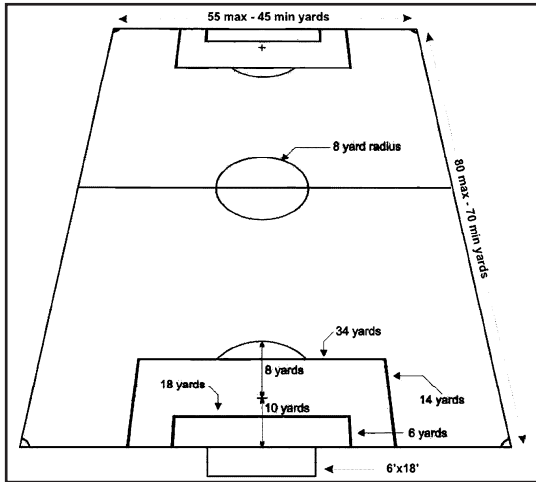
Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of eight (8) yards is marked around it. We recommend the technical area be 8 yards from extension of halfway line and 2 yards off the touchline.

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 6 feet high by 18 feet wide.



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 or continue if either team consists of fewer than seven players. There are no roster limits for the Under 12 Age Groups *HOWEVER* only the first 12 players who check in may participate in the match. Roster must be a recreational, club certified roster.

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.

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 6 feet high by 18 feet wide.

- 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 or continue if either team consists of fewer than five players. There are no roster limits for the Under 10 Age Groups *HOWEVER* only the first 10 players who check in may participate in the match. Roster must be a recreational, club certified roster.
- 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. 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 following exceptions:
1. An indirect free kick is awarded to the opponents if a player deliberately heads the ball
- 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** Conforms to FIFA with the following exceptions:
If a goal kick is awarded:
a) The opposing team **MUST** retreat to their own half of the field.
b) The kicker **MUST WAIT** until this happens.
c) The opposing team **CAN ATTACK AS SOON AS THE BALL IS KICKED**
-

AND MOVES.

- d) If the ball does not leave the penalty area, the goal kick should be retaken.
- e) The goal kick must touch the ground or a player on the kicker's defensive end of the field before crossing the halfway line.

*For ANY violation of the above, the goal kick MUST BE RETAKEN.
Time may be added for these violations.*

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.

Other Goalkeeper Possession:

If the goalkeeper gains possession of the ball with his or her hands:

- a) The opposing team MUST retreat to their own half of the field.
- b) The keeper MUST WAIT until this happens.
- c) The keeper MUST DISTRIBUTE THE BALL with his or her hands.
- d) The opposing team CAN ATTACK AS SOON AS THE BALL LEAVES THE KEEPER'S HANDS.
- e) The ball must touch a player or the ground on the defensive half of the field before crossing the halfway line.

*For ANY violation of the above, the keeper possession MUST BE REPEATED.
Time may be added for these violations.*

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 \$75 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.
7. 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.