

SCSYSL Simplified Rules Spring 2019

Law 1: Field of Play (yds) (recommended, adjusted to availability)

U6:	minimum 15x20	maximum 20x30
U8:	minimum 25x30	maximum 35x45
U10:	minimum 35x45	maximum 45x60
U12:	minimum 45x70	maximum 55x80
U14:	minimum 50x100	maximum 100x130

Law 2: The Ball

U6, U8	Size 3
U10, 12	Size 4
U14	Size 5

Law 3: Number of players (on field)

U6:	4v4	3 + goalie
U8:	6v6	5 + goalie
U10:	7v7	6 + goalie
U12:	9v9	8 + goalie
U14:	11v11	10 + goalie

*All players shall play MINIMUM 50% of the game.

Exemptions to the rule:

- A player arrives late to a game (after scheduled start time)
- A player receives a Caution or Expulsion
- A player becomes injured
- A player is wearing illegal equipment and does not correct it by scheduled game time

*Substitutes may only enter when called on by the referee.

*For every four goals a team is behind, that team may add a player. If they cannot because of low bench numbers, the team ahead shall remove a player if it does not affect the 50% playing rule.

Law 4: Players equipment (REQUIRED)

Shoes (tennis shoes or soccer cleats)

Socks (completely covering shin guards)

Shin guards

Shirt

Shorts

NO JEWELRY (of any kind, unless medical alert taped to body)

NO RIGID CASTS allowed (exception being under 12/14)

NO HATS (except the goal keeper if weather warrants)

Law 5: Referee – NO 2 Whistle -

U6: No assigned referee. 1 coach from each team shall officiate on each sideline and may be on the field.

U8/U10: One certified official assigned, club linesman

U12/14: One, two or three certified officials assigned. If Assistant Referee (AR) is assigned, they assume full duties. Club linesman only may call out of play (not direction).

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Law 6: Assistant Referee (AR)

Club linesman: Non-assigned, ONLY may assist in out of play (not direction).
Certified AR: Assists the center referee in all game rule applications. Main duty is assisting the center referee in off-side violations.

Law 7: Duration of Game

U6: 4 10-minute quarters (2-minutes between quarters)
U8: 2 25-minute halves (5-minute half time)
U10: 2 30-minute halves (5-minute half time)
U12: 2 30-minute halves (5-minute half time)
U14: 2 35-minute halves (5-minute half time)

Halves may be shortened with agreement of coaches **PRIOR** to the game starting. Halves must be equal length. Coaches delaying start of play may be shown the yellow card by the referee for unsporting conduct and may be subject to league discipline.

Law 8: Start and restart of Play

Ball at center spot, players on their own half, referee blows whistle. Clock runs continuously. Player taking kickoff cannot play the ball a second time until another player touches the ball. Kick off can be kicked in any direction.

No dropped balls within penalty area in U6 / U8.

Law 9: Ball in and out of Play - FIFA

Ball is out of play when it COMPLETELY crosses a goal line or sideline (touchline).
FIFA

Law 10: Method of Scoring - FIFA

Ball must COMPLETELY cross goal line between goalposts legally for a goal to count. FIFA

Law 11: Offside

U6: No offside infraction
U8: No offside infraction
U10: Offside rule enforced. Offside is enforced from the Build Out Line to the attacking goal line. **SEE Build Out Line
U12 / 14: Offside rule enforced. FIFA

A player is in an offside position if:

He is nearer the opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second last defender.

A player is not in an offside position:

He is in his own half of the field

He is level with the second last defender

A player is penalized if, at the moment the ball is played by one of his teammates, he is involved in active play by:

Interfering with play

Interfering with an opponent

Gaining an advantage by being in that position

There is no offside infraction on a kickoff, goal kick or corner kick.

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Law 12: Fouls and Misconduct

Direct: Goals may be scored directly from the free kick. A team cannot score directly into its own goal.

Indirect: Goals may only be scored after the ball has touched a second player.

**** All kicks in under 6 are direct. All kicks in under 8 are indirect ****

* For any penalty assessed to the attacking team inside the opponents' goal area, the restart may be placed anywhere inside the goal area. For any indirect kick penalty assessed to the defending team inside their own goal area, the ball is placed on the goal area line closest to where the foul occurred. For any direct kick foul assessed to the defending team inside their penalty area, the result is penalty kick. On all kicks by the defending team, the ball must leave their penalty area to be in play.

A **direct free kick (DFK)** is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following seven offences in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- jumps at an opponent
- charges an opponent
- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- pushes an opponent
- tackles an opponent

A DFK is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following three offences:

- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent
- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within his own penalty area)

A DFK is taken from where the offence occurred. **(see above)*

An **indirect free kick (IFK)** is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside his own penalty area, commits any of the following four offences:

- takes more than six seconds while controlling the ball with his hands before releasing it from his possession (U10 – See Build out Line)
- touches the ball again with his hands after it has been released from his possession and has not touched any other player
- touches the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate
- touches the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate

An IFK is also awarded to the opposing team if a player, in the opinion of the referee:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent
- if any part of the head touches the ball (U12 and younger divisions)
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands

An IFK is taken from where the offence occurred. **(see above)*

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Law 12: Fouls and Misconduct (continued)

Cautionable Offences

A cautioned player MUST leave the field and may be replaced. The cautioned player may return to play at next legal substitution.

A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he commits any of the following seven offences:

1. unsporting behavior
2. dissent by word or action
3. persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
4. delays the restart of play
5. fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in
6. enters or re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission
7. deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission

A substitute or substituted player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he commits any of the following three offences:

1. is guilty of unsporting behavior
2. shows dissent by word or action
3. delays the restart of play

Sending-Off Offences

A player, substitute or substituted player is sent off and shown the red card if he commits any of the following seven offences:

1. serious foul play
2. violent conduct
3. spits at an opponent or any other person
4. denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area)
5. denies an obvious goal scoring opportunity
6. uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
7. receives a second caution in the same match

Law 13: Free kicks

- U6: All kicks direct
U8: All kicks indirect (NO PENALTY KICKS)
U10/12/14: FIFA with exceptions listed in the rules

All opposing players must be these many yards away from the ball during a restart:

- U6: 5 yds
U8: 5 yds
U10: 7 yds
U12: 8 yds
U14: 10 yds

Mechanics for an IFK:

- The referee indicates an IFK by raising his arm above his head.
- He maintains his arm in that position until the kick has been taken and the ball has touched another player or goes out of play.

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Law 13: Free kicks (continued)

IFK: A goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal.

- If an IFK is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded
- If an IFK is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team

Law 14: Penalty Kick

U6/U8: No penalty kicks

U10: Ball is placed 7 yds from the goal line (or just inside the penalty area line)

U12: Ball is placed 8 yds from the goal line

U14: Ball is placed 12 yds from the goal line

A penalty kick is awarded against a team that commits one of the ten offences for which a direct free kick is awarded, inside its own penalty area and while the ball is in play.

Additional time is allowed for a penalty kick to be taken at the end of each half or at the end of periods of extra time.

Law 15: Throw-in

U6: No throw ins (**kick-ins**)

U8: Re-take throw-ins

U10/12/14: FIFA

A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in.

A throw-in is awarded:

- When the whole of the ball passes over the touch line, either on the ground or in the air
- In under 8, when the goalie punts or drop kicks the ball directly over the half-line without bouncing first. The throw-in is taken at the half-line from the point where it crossed the touch line to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball

Procedure:

At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower:

- Faces the field of play
- Has part of each foot either on the touch line or on the ground outside the touch line
- Uses both hands
- Delivers the ball from behind and over his head

The thrower may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

All opponents must stand no less than 2 yards from the point at which the throw-in is taken.

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Law 16: Goal-kick

- U6: Ball is placed about 3 yds from goal line to restart
U8: N/A – see *Goalie Release*
U10: FIFA – see *Build Out Line*
U12/14: FIFA

A goal kick is awarded when:

- The whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the attacking team, passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, outside the goal.

If the ball is not kicked directly into play beyond the penalty area:

- The kick is retaken

Law 17: 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, outside the goal.

Goalie Release – Under 8: When the ball goes out of play over the goal line, last touched by an attacking player or from a save:

- Game is restarted with goalkeeper possession. The goalkeeper can throw, kick, punt, or dribble the ball back into play.
- The pass-back rule is **not** enforced.
- The goalkeeper after handling the ball may not punt the ball over the halfway line. For example, if a goalkeeper kicks the ball, it must bounce at least once before crossing the halfway line. However, the goalkeeper would be permitted to kick the ball across the halfway line if it is not picked up or handled first. Violation of this rule will result in awarding a **throw-in** to the opposing team of the offending goalkeeper at the nearest intersection of halfway line and sideline. A goalkeeper may not directly receive and handle a throw-in.

Build Out Line – Under 10

- A build out line must be placed on the field 14 yards from the end line and run across the field touch line to touch line.
- The goalkeeper, after handling the ball, may not punt the ball. Penalty: IFK
- The 6 second rule will be enforced, when goalkeeper has possession of the ball and all opposing players are behind the build out line.
- A goalkeeper intentionally touching the ball with the hands after the ball has been released from his/her possession and before it has touched another player will be enforced as in FIFA Laws of the Game.
- Players on the same team as the goal keeper are allowed within the area of the build out line.
- Offside rule will be enforced from the build out line to the attacking goal line.
- **When the goalkeeper has the ball, either during play (save from an opponent) , during a goal kick, or ANY free kick within the penalty box:**
 - Opposing team must move behind build out line until ball is released into play
 - The teammates of the goalkeeper in possession of the ball do not have to fall back behind build out line
 - Opponents can cross the build out line when goalie gives up possession or when ball is kicked outside the penalty area from a goal kick or free kick in the box

Player Substitutions

The Referee MUST wave on players before a team is allowed to substitute. Either team may substitute an unlimited number of players at any stoppage of the game. Referee has discretion on whether to allow the substitution or not.

Refer to FIFA rules at www.ussoccer.com Contact Dan DeSantis with questions/clarification danref@wideopenwest.com