



## BISA U4 Modified Rules

Revised January 2020

### **Standings/Trophies**

- U4 does not play for standing and no scores are kept during the game.
- Participation trophies for all players will be awarded near the end of the season.

### **Coaching During Play**

- Coaches are permitted on the field to help players during the game.
- Please do not stand in the way of play or in front of the goal.
- Remember the children are 3 – 4 years old and attention span and spatial perception are extremely limited.

### **Equipment**

- Ball size three (3).
- Shin guards are MANDATORY.
- Socks are to be worn on the OUTSIDE of the shin guard completely covering it (not under the shin guard and folded over).
- Tennis shoes or soft cleated soccer shoes – NO baseball or football cleats are permitted.
- No jewelry or metal hair clips. Bows with elastic fixtures or ribbon ties are permitted.

### **Number of Players/Playing Time**

- Maximum roster size is six (6) players
- Maximum number of players on the field is three (3) with no goalkeepers.
- Game length is four (4) quarters of eight (8) minutes each.
- One (1) minute break between quarters.
- Five (5) minute half time break between quarters 2 and 3.
- All players get equal playing time regardless of skill or ability.

## **Restarting Play**

- Corner Kick – Ball is placed near the flag of the appropriate goal. Defensive players must be 3 yards from the ball.
- Goal Kick – Ball is placed on corner of goal area. Defensive players must be outside the penalty area.
- Throw-In – All players must be 3 yards from the ball. Player must be behind the touch line and must try to keep both feet down while throwing the ball from behind their head with both hands. If the throw is “close-enough” the referee will allow play to continue. A bad throw-in will result in 1 additional throw-in attempt. If the additional attempt is bad, play will continue without stoppage.
- When play is stopped an indirect free kick will be given to the team in possession.
- No kick shall be taken by the attacking team within the defending team’s goal box.
- All kicks and throw-ins are indirect.
- No penalty kicks are awarded.

## **Game Substitutions**

- Substitutions are to be conducted between quarters.
- Player initiated substitutions are permitted – injuries, crying players, etc.
- Players substituted during the middle of the quarter should be encouraged to return to play if able and willing.

## **Fouls/Misconduct**

- Soccer is a physical sport and 3 – 4 year olds do not all have full control of their bodies during the game. The referee will use judgement to determine whether contact warrants the stoppage of play.
- The coach is responsible for the behavior of their players. If a player is purposefully pushing, punching, or kicking other players, you may substitute that player from the game to discuss the importance of playing safe. Remember to speak to the players in a way a 3 – 4 year old can understand. The child’s parent can also be called upon for support.
- Our referees will at times during the game speak to the players about playing safe.