

Modified Playing Rules for U4

Revised February 8, 2010

No league standings...No official score kept
Participation trophies/awards for all players

Placement on Field

- Coaches are allowed on the field to help the players during the game.
- One parent from each team is asked to referee one half. (Make sure that the parent is using a whistle, this helps the kids learn to listen for the whistle.)

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.
- Each player shall have a number on the back of his/her jersey not less than four (4) inches high.
- No jewelry or metal hair clips.

Number of Players/Playing Time

- Maximum numbers of players on the field is three (3). No goalkeeper.
- 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.

In-Bounding the Ball**

- Corner Kick (All players must be 3 yards from the ball, except for the player kicking the ball.) Ball is placed near the flag on the appropriate goal.
- Goal Kick (All players must be outside the penalty area, except for the player kicking the ball.) Ball is placed on one of the circles in front of the appropriate goal.
- Throw In (All players must be 3 yards from the ball, except for the player throwing the ball. Player must be behind the line and must try to keep both feet down and throw the ball from behind their head with both hands.

** Reminder - all kicks and throw-ins are indirect

Game Substitutions

- Substitutions are to be done between quarters, except for injuries or player initiated substitution.

Fouls/Misconduct

- We want the kids to get as much playing time as possible and do not want to stop the play for every little infraction. Soccer is a physical sport and some times accidents happen. Please use good judgement when stopping play. However, we do not want anyone getting seriously injured. If a player is being excessively rough, please stop play and address the issue.
- Parent referee needs to explain all infractions to the offending player. Be sure to explain on a level that these younger players can understand.

Free Kicks

- All free kicks are indirect
- A goal may not be scored until the ball has been played or touched by a second player of either team.
- No kick shall be taken by the attacking team within the defending team's goal box.

Penalty Kicks

NO penalty kicks at this age division.