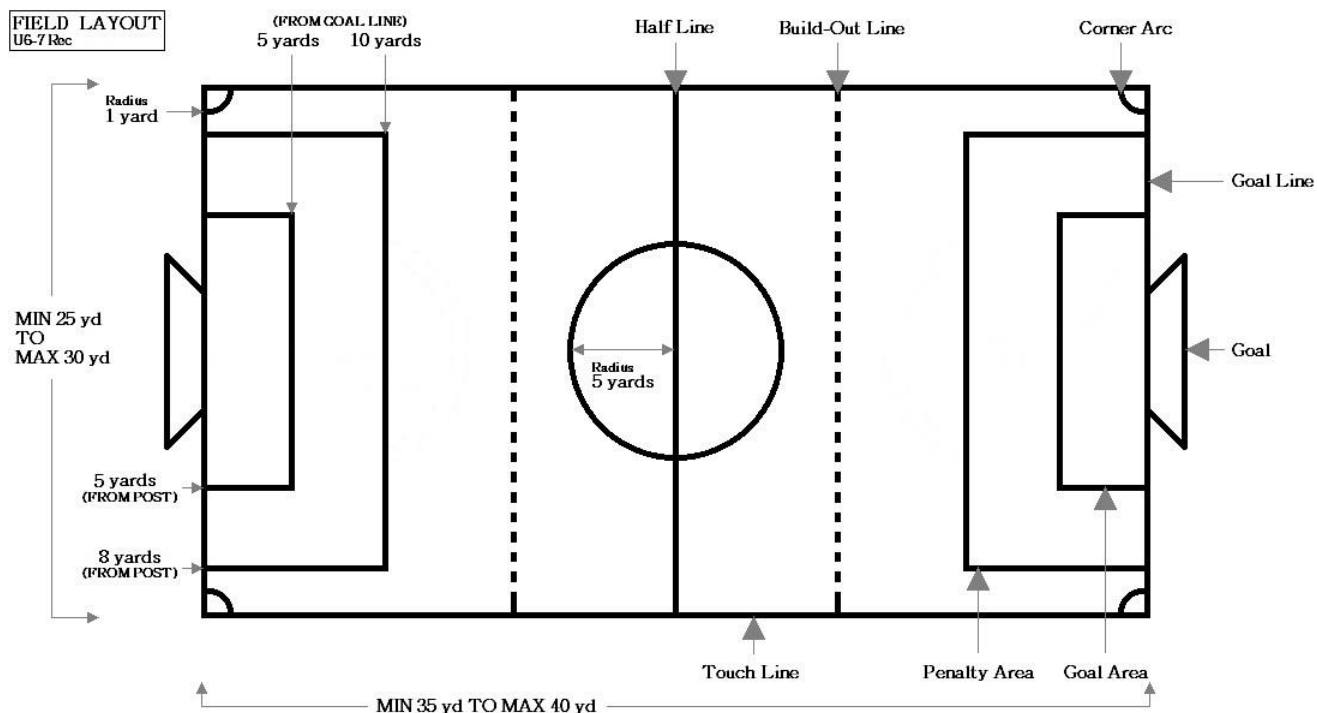




MODIFIED FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME

Recreational League

U6 - U7



LAW I – THE FIELD

- A. **DIMENSIONS.** The field shall be rectangular, its length being not more than 40 yards nor less than 35 yards and its width not more than 30 yards and no less than 25 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width.
- B. **MARKINGS:**
1. Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide.
 2. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field.
 3. Two build-out lines shall be marked out in a dashed line across the field in each half. **(Please refer to separate “Build-Out Line Guidelines” posted on the website)**
 4. A center circle with a five (5) yard radius.
 5. Four corner arcs with a one (1) yard radius.
 6. Goal Area – five (5) yards from each goal post and five (5) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line.
 7. Penalty Area – Eight (8) yards from each goal post and ten (10) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line.
- C. **GOALS** - Maximum: Four (4) feet high and eight (8) feet wide

LAW II – THE BALL:

- Size three (3).

LAW III – NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- A. Maximum number of players on the field at any one time: FOUR (4). A goal keeper is not used.
- B. Maximum number of players on the roster shall not exceed seven (7).
- C. Substitutions may be made, with **only** the consent of the referee, **at any stoppage (avoid subs on Corner Kicks)**
- D. Each player **shall** have a minimum of 50% of playing time per game.

LAW IV - PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

- A. Shirt: Shall be the navy/white reversible jersey approved by Arsenal CO.
- B. Shorts: Must be athletic appropriate shorts (no jean or cargo shorts).
- C. Shinguards: **MANDATORY** and must be worn over the shin.
- D. Socks: **Must** completely cover the shinguards.
- E. Shoes: Shall be safe – sneakers or soccer cleats. No street shoes, bare feet or football/baseball cleats (any cleats with a “toe” cleat or any cleats protruding on the sides are unsafe and shall not be allowed).
- F. NO jewelry, watches, rings, belts, necklaces, earrings or anything dangerous to players shall be permitted. The only exception would be for medical alert identification.

LAW V – THE REFEREE

- A. Each team supplies one parent for each game to serve as ‘Club Official’. Each parent volunteer shall read and be familiar with the Official Modified Rules of the club prior to the beginning of each season.
- B. All rule infractions shall be briefly explained to the offending player.
- C. The game is for the players and the primary function of the Club Official is to ensure:
 - 1. **SAFETY** of the players – stop play for any dangerous situation and for any injury.
 - 2. **EQUALITY** of play. Don’t allow any player to gain an advantage from any of the infractions listed in Law XII.
 - 3. **ENJOYMENT** of all players and spectators. Focus on the Positive aspects of individual skills and team play and above all, **ENCOURAGE GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP!**

LAW VI – ASSISTANT REFEREES:

Assistant referees shall not be used.

LAW VII – DURATION OF THE GAME

- A. The game shall be divided into four (4) equal ten (10) minute quarters.
- B. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarter one (1) and quarter two (2), and another two minute break between quarters three (3) and four (4).
- C. There shall be a five (5) minute half time break between quarters two (2) and three (3).

LAW VIII – THE START OF PLAY

- A. The team that wins the coin toss shall choose which goal it will attack in the first half of the match. The other team takes the kick off to start the match. (Away team calls the coin toss).
- B. Kickoff at the start of each period. The team that kicks off in the first period shall kickoff in the same direction in the second period. The teams shall change ends at half time and the team that defended the kickoff in the first and second periods shall kickoff in the third and fourth periods.
- C. Kickoff after each goal by the team giving up the goal.
- D. All players must be in their half of the field when the ball is kicked and the defending players must be at least five (5) yards from the ball (outside the center circle).
- E. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves. Only minimal movement is required.
- F. The player taking the kick off may not touch the ball again until it has been touched by another player – violation results in an indirect free kick for the opponents.
- G. A goal can be scored directly from a kick off (only on opposing team’s goal).

LAW IX – BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

- A. The ball **is out** of play when:
 - 1. It has **completely** crossed the goal-line or touch-line, whether on the ground or in the air.
 - 2. The Club Official has stopped play.
- B. The ball **is in** play at all other times from the start of the match to the finish including:
 - 1. If it rebounds from a goal-post, cross-bar or corner-flag into the field of play.
 - 2. If it rebounds off the Club Official when they are in the field of play.

LAW X – METHOD OF SCORING

The whole of the ball must completely cross the goal-line below the cross-bar and between the goal-posts.

LAW XI – OFF-SIDE

There shall be no off-side.

LAW XII – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

- A. All fouls will result in an INDIRECT FREE KICK at the spot of the foul (with exception to any fouls inside the goal area... See law XIII)
- B. The Club Official should briefly explain ALL infractions to the offending player.
- C. A player who commits any of the following nine offences in a manner considered by the Club Official to be careless, reckless or involving disproportionate force:
 - 1. kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
 - 2. trips an opponent
 - 3. jumps at an opponent
 - 4. charges an opponent
 - 5. strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
 - 6. pushes an opponent
 - 7. holds an opponent
 - 8. spits at an opponent
 - 9. handles the ball deliberately, i.e., carries strikes or propels the ball with his/her hand or arm.

Or any of the following actions considered dangerous or unsporting:

- 1. dangerous play around other players (such as playing on the ground or kicking above waist)
- 2. intentionally heading the ball
- 3. impeding the progress of an opponent from getting the ball not within playing distance

DO NOT STOP PLAY FOR EVERY INCIDENT. THE LAWS OF THE GAME ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE THAT THE GAME SHOULD BE PLAYED WITH AS LITTLE INTERFERENCE AS POSSIBLE, AND IN THIS VIEW IT IS THE DUTY OF THE CLUB OFFICIAL TO PENALISE ONLY DELIBERATE BREACHES OF THE LAW.

LAW XIII – FREE KICKS

- A. All free kicks shall be classified as INDIRECT.
- B. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves – minimal movement is required.
- C. A goal may not be scored directly from an indirect free kick, it must be touched by another player, **any other player**.
- D. For infractions inside the goal area the free kick for an Attacking team shall be taken on the goal area line nearest the infraction or for a Defending team kicks will be taken just like a goal kick (see Law XVI for goal kick procedures).
- E. The ball must be stationary when the free kick is taken.
- F. The kicker shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player -- violation results in an indirect free kick for the opponents.
- G. All opposing players must be at least five (5) yards from the ball.

LAW XIV – PENALTY KICKS

No penalty kicks are to be taken during these games.

LAW XV – THROW-IN

- A. Shall be taken when the ball has completely crossed the touch-line – either on the ground or in the air.
- B. Taken by a player of the team opposing the team that last touched the ball before it went out of play.
- A. The thrower shall not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player, any other player -- violation results in an indirect free kick for the opponents.
- C. Opponents can stand in front of the thrower two (2) yards away but cannot jump or attempt to distract the player throwing in the ball.
- D. A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in.
- E. A proper throw-in requires that:
 - 1. the thrower face the field, and
 - 2. throw the ball with BOTH hands, from
 - 3. directly over and behind his/her head, with
 - 4. both feet on the ground, and
 - 5. On or behind the touch-line.

****A second throw-in should be allowed if the player commits a foul on the initial attempt. The Club Official shall explain the proper method before allowing the player to re-throw. After second attempt failure the other team will throw the ball in. If either team is unable to get the ball into play after a reasonable effort, the game shall be restarted with a drop ball on the field 3 yards from the touchline.**

LAW XVI – GOAL KICK

- A. Shall be taken when:
 - 1. the ball has completely crossed the goal-line -- either on the ground or in the air; and
 - 2. not below the cross-bar and between the goal-posts; and
 - 3. Was last touched by a player of the **attacking** team.
- B. The goal kick is taken by a player on the defending team from anywhere within the goal area.
- C. Defending players may be anywhere on the field.
- D. Attacking players must be behind the defending team's build-out line. Once the ball has been put back into play they may cross the line.
- E. The ball is in play once it is kicked and moves (does not need to leave the penalty area).
- F. The player who kicks the ball may not touch or play the ball again until it has been touched by another player, any player -- violation results in an indirect free kick for the opponents.
- G. A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick. Such a goal may be scored only against the opposing team.

LAW XVII – CORNER KICK

- A. Shall be taken when:
 - 1. the ball has completely crossed the goal-line – either on the ground or in the air; and
 - 2. not below the cross-bar and between the goal-posts; and
 - 3. Was last touched by a player of the **defending** team.
- B. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves – only minimal movement is required.
- C. The corner kick is taken by a player on the attacking team from the corner arc nearest the point where the ball went out.
- D. Attacking players may be anywhere on the field.
- E. Defending players must be five (5) yards away from the ball.
- F. The kicker cannot touch the ball again until it has been touched or played by another player – violation results in an indirect free kick for the opponents.
- G. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.