

## SECTION VII - "U6" and "U8" PROGRAMS

### A. PHILOSOPHY

It is the philosophy of C.S.Y.S. that the game be modified to fit the needs of younger children to ensure safety and to facilitate interest in soccer, sportsmanship and learning the game. It is the children's right to be taught the fundamentals by a qualified teacher/coach and to play on adequate fields scaled to the children.

### B. OBJECTIVES

1. TEACH the basics of the game to all players with emphasis on LEARNING soccer skills.
2. Have all children enjoy the game without an inappropriate level of competition or pressure.

### C. RULES

Rules for the "U6" and "U8" will conform to FIFA Laws of the Game except as modified below.

#### **LAW I: THE FIELD OF PLAY**

A. Dimensions: The field of play shall be 50 yards by 30 yards.

B. Markings: There is no goal area.

There is no penalty area.

A goal **arc** will be drawn which has a radius of 6 yards.

A dashed line will be drawn parallel to the end lines, 12 yards from each end.

The center circle shall have a radius of 6 yards.

**LAW II: THE BALL:** A size three (3) ball shall be used.

#### **LAW III: THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS:**

In the "U8" program:

1. Roster size shall be ten (10) or eleven (11) players, depending upon the decision of the Board of Directors prior to the start of the season.
2. Eight (8) players shall be on the field including the goalkeeper.

In the "U6" program:

1. Roster size shall be nine or ten (10) players, depending upon the decision of

the Board of Directors prior to the start of the season.

2. Seven (7) players shall be on the field including the goalkeeper.

3. In the event that one team does not have 7 players at match time and the opposing team has 8 or more players, the coach of the-larger team shall select player(s) to switch to the opposing team so that each team can field 7 players.

Substitutions: Shall be done only at the end of each quarter or at half-time.

#### **LAW IV: THE PLAYERS EQUIPMENT:**

Footwear: All players are encouraged to wear appropriate soccer shoes, although soft-soled shoes acceptable to the referee are permitted.

Shin-guards are MANDATORY at all practices and games.

#### **LAW VII: THE 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 (2) minute break between quarters (3) and four (4).

C. There shall be a half-time break of five (5) minutes between quarters two (2) and three (3).

#### **LAW VIII: THE START OF PLAY:**

A. All opponents must be six (6) yards from the center mark while kick-offs are in progress.

B. A goal may be scored directly from the kick-off.

C. Drop balls used to restart play shall be done no closer to the goal than the 12-yard dashed line.

#### **LAW IX: THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:** FIFA rules apply

#### **LAW X: THE METHOD OF SCORING:**

A. No attacking player is permitted to touch the ball within the 6-yard arc.

B. In order for a goal to be scored, the shot must be taken from outside the 6-yard arc, **which includes the line**. If the shot is taken from inside the arc, including the line, an indirect free kick will be awarded to the defending team.

#### **LAW XI: OFFSIDE:** There shall be no offside.

## **LAW XII: FOULS AND MISCONDUCT:**

- A. All fouls shall result in an indirect free kick with the opponents six (6) yards away.
- B. None of the 'Offences Committed by Goal Keepers' apply to U6/U8 goal-keepers. This means that pass-backs to the goal-keeper, delay of game by the goal-keeper and touching the ball a second time after putting the ball into play infractions do not apply.
- C. The referee should explain all infractions to the offending player.

## **LAW XIII: FREE KICKS:**

- A. All kicks shall be classified under one heading: INDIRECT.
- B. A goal may not be scored until the ball has been played or touched by a second player of either team.
- C. If a foul is committed by a defending player within the 12-yard dashed area, the free kick awarded to the attacking team shall be taken with the ball placed at the nearest point on the 12-yard dashed line.
- D. If a foul is committed by an attacking player within the 12-yard dashed area, a free kick is awarded to the defending team. The attacking team must be at least six (6) yards from the ball.

## **LAW XIV: THE PENALTY KICK:**

No penalty kicks are to be taken during these games.

## **LAW XV: THE THROW-IN:**

When a throw-in is awarded, a second throw-in is allowed if the player commits a foul on the initial attempt. The referee shall explain the proper method before allowing the player to rethrow.

## **LAW XVI: THE GOAL-KICK:**

- A. Players taking the goal kick shall place the ball anywhere on or behind the 6-yard arc.
- B. Opponents at the time of the kick must be on or beyond the 12-yard hash line at that end of the field.

- D. The ball shall be considered in play when it has entirely crossed the 12-yard hash line. If it is touched by any player prior to crossing the 12-yard hash line the goal-kick must be retaken.

**LAW XVII: THE CORNER KICK:**

Opponents must remain at least six (6) yards from the ball.

**D. COACHING**

Coaches are to refrain from playing their forwards in front of, or around the 6-yard arc. This practice, commonly referred to as “goal-hanging” is an effort to gain an unfair advantage in violation of the spirit of the game. While there is no offside for this age group, coaches should work to develop an understanding of this conduct by their players. Persistent infringement of this rule shall result in caution.

Except as noted below, coaches are to remain in the “technical area” at all times. For the “U6” and “U8” programs, this is the area between the dashed lines and at least one yard back from the touch line.

*(U6 ONLY)* In the case of "U6" games *the coach may assist in the placement of players for throw-ins, corner kicks and goal kicks during the first two games of the season only.* Upon completion of the aforementioned plays, the coach must return immediately to the "technical area". NO goal line coaching will be allowed.