

US Youth Soccer Official Under 6 Playing Recommendations

US Youth Soccer recommended modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game.
FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at www.ussoccer.com/referees.

- The Ball: Size three (3).
- The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than four players, one of whom is the goalkeeper (wearing a different color).
 - ❖ Coaches are encouraged to allow players from the team with sufficient numbers to “loan” a player or two to the team that is short players and then PLAY.
- Substitutions: At any stoppage and unlimited.
- Playing Time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% total playing time. Teams and games may be co-ed.
- The Players Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.
- The Referee: An OFFICIAL (Game Manager or Coordinator or Parent or Coach or Grade 9 referee) may be used. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.
 - ❖ “Do-overs” should be a regular occurrence allowed by the referee.
- The Duration of the Match: The match shall be divided into four (4) equal, eight (8) minute quarters. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarters one and two and another two (2) minute break between quarters three and four. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.
- The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.
- Offside: None.
- Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infringements to all players on the field. No cards shown for misconduct.
 - ❖ If a child is being too rambunctious, the game official will ask the coach to make a substitution of that player to give the child a chance to calm down before returning to play.
- Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all free kicks are direct and opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.
- The Penalty Kick: None.
- The Kick-In: A kick-in is considered as a direct free kick with the opponents four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.
- The Goal Kick: The goal kick should be taken within 2-3 yards of the goal line anywhere across the width of the field of play at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved. Opposing players must be four (4) yards away from the ball until it is in play.
- The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play