

## EYSA SOCCER RULES

### U13/U14/U15

#### **Number of Players**

U13/U14/U15 is 9 versus 9 including a goalkeeper. Play consists of eight field players plus a goalkeeper.

#### **Ball Size**

U13 players use a size 4 ball.

U14/U15 players use a size 5 ball.

#### **Start of Play**

At the beginning of the game and following each goal, the kick-off can be played backwards from the center spot to ensure possession.

Players are to remain on their own half of the field until the ball is kicked.

#### **Game Duration**

The game shall consist of two 25-minute halves. At the midpoint of each half, there will be a two-minute water break. Each half shall be separated by a five minute half time period.

#### **Substitutions**

Substitutions are unlimited for the team in possession of the ball. Both teams may make substitutions before a throw-in, a goal, or prior to a goal kick or corner kick.

#### **Offside**

A player is in an offside position if he is nearer to his opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second-last opponent. A player in an offside position is only penalized if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by: interfering with play, or interfering with an opponent, or gaining an advantage by being in that position.

#### **Heading**

NO HEADING WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM. If a player heads the ball, it will result in an indirect kick at the spot of the foul for the other team.

#### **Sliding and Slide Tackling**

NO SLIDING OR SLIDE TACKLING IS ALLOWED.

#### **Corner Kicks**

When a ball crosses a goal line and was last touched by a defender, the game is restarted by a corner kick by an offensive team player.

#### **Throw-ins**

The ball shall be restated with a throw-in from the spot where it left the field of play on the side line.

#### **Goals**

Following a goal, the ball is restarted from the center spot on the field.

#### **Scoring**

A team may only score when they are on their opponent's half of the field. No scoring from a team's own defensive half. If this happens, restart with a goal kick.

### **Handball**

A handball will result in a free kick from the point on the field where the handball occurred.

### **Ten Yard Rule**

In all dead ball situations, defending players must stand at least ten yards away from the ball. If the defensive player's goal area is closer than ten yards, the ball shall be placed ten yards from the goal area in line with the place of the penalty.

### **Penalty Kicks**

When an attacking player is fouled during an obvious goal scoring opportunity, or a defender illegally stops the ball from entering the goal, the game is restarted with a direct free kick 8 yards from the center of the goal. All players, except the defending goalkeeper, should stand behind the ball while the goalkeeper stands on the goal line.

### **Goalie Area**

Defensive players cannot remain in the goalie area and act as a goalie. Defensive players may defend the goal area from outside the goal area. The only defensive player allowed in the goalie area is the goalkeeper.

### **Goal Kick**

Goal kicks may be taken from any point in the goal box.

### **Restarts**

All restarts are indirect kicks (the ball must be touched by another team member before shooting into the goal) and opponents must be at least five yards from the ball.

### **Goalkeeper Rules**

- While the ball is in the possession of the goalkeeper, it cannot be played by an opponent. Possession is defined as the goalkeeper having the ball trapped between one hand and a surface (which may include the other hand, the ground, a goalpost, or the keeper's own body).
- Once the goalkeeper has gained possession of the ball, an opponent may not interfere with or block the goalkeeper's distribution of the ball. For example, players have a right to maintain a position achieved during the normal course of play, but they may not try to block the goalkeeper's movement while he or she is holding the ball and trying to distribute it. Nor may opposing players do anything to hinder, interfere with, or block a goalkeeper who is throwing or punting the ball back into play.
- The goalkeeper is not permitted to keep control of the ball in his hands for more than six seconds. The six seconds are to be counted only after the goalkeeper is fully in control of the ball.
- If the goalkeeper decides to put the ball on the ground and play it with their feet (not immediately kicking out of the goal area), the distribution rule does not apply; however, the goalkeeper can be challenged and is NOT ALLOWED to pick up the ball again unless the ball is touched by an attacking player.

### **Sportsmanship**

The coaches shall honor the spirit of sportsmanship and not allow the score of the game to exceed a 6 goal lead.

### **Coaches**

Coaches must stay in the coaching area along the sideline and their players' bench. Coaches are not permitted to coach near or behind the goal.

### **The Referee**

Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the rules of the game in connection with the match to which he has been appointed. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final.