

EYSA SOCCER RULES

U5/U6

Number of Players

U5/U6 is 4 versus 4 with no goalkeeper. If the opposing team does not have enough players, the teams will play 3 versus 3.

Ball Size

U5/U6 players use a size 3 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 four 6-minute quarters. Each quarter shall be separated by a two minute water break.

Substitutions

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

Offside

The offside rule does not apply, but a team cannot station an attacking player at their opponent's goal.

Heading

NO HEADING WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM. If a player heads the ball, it will result in a free kick 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.

Kick-ins

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

Goals

U5/U6 will use the small PUG 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.

Five Yard Rule

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

Penalty Kicks

In the event of a penalty kick, penalty kicks shall be taken 5 yards from the center of the goal.

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. If a **defensive player** touches the ball inside the goal area, it counts as a goal for the other team. If an **offensive player** touches the ball inside the goal area, it results in a goal kick.

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.

The Referee

Referees are not used in this age group. The coach shall act as the referee to keep track of possession, out of bounds, and goalie area violations.

Coaches

Coaches may coach on the field for this young age group to help encourage the players to execute and follow the rules of the game properly.

Sportsmanship

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