**General Rules – U6**

*FUN FIRST, SKILL SECOND, RESULTS LAST*

* 5v5
* No Goalkeeper
* Shin guards and soccer cleats (without toe cleat) must be worn at all games and practices
* No offside
* Size 3 ball
* 8-minute quarters with 2-minute breaks between quarters. Clock will continue to run even when play stops. Game ends immediately when time expires.
* All players must play at least 16-minutes. Playing time should be evenly distributed throughout the game.
  + If player time requirements are consistently not met, a conference between the coach and the MCSL board will occur.
* Parents must not interfere with the game or criticize coaches or players.
* Heading the ball and slide tackling are **NOT** allowed per WVSA and US Youth Soccer Association.

**Substitutions**

* Unlimited subs made “on the fly”.
* Subs must enter and exit play on their bench side.

**Restarts**

* Kick-offs will occur at the beginning of each quarter and after a goal. Kick-offs are indirect, opposing players must be outside center circle, and the kick-off must go forward.
* The ball must be completely over the line to be “out-of-bounds”.
  + If the ball goes out over the touchline (sideline), the team who did not touch it last will have a throw-in. Throw-ins must be over the head using both hands and both feet must be on the ground.
  + If the ball goes out over the end line (behind goal), it will result in a goal kick if the attacking team touched it last or a corner kick if the defending team touched it last.
* Defenders must give 5 yards distance on all throw-ins, corner kicks, or any free kicks
* All restarts (i.e., throw-ins, goal kicks, corner kicks, and free kicks) are indirect

**Build out line**

* The defending team must be behind the half field line on a goal kick.

**Free Kicks/Fouls/Other**

* No slide tackles. The player will receive a warning and a free kick is awarded to opposition at the site of the foul.
* Each coach will ref the game (2 coaches on the field). One coach should be in each half.
* Spectators must stay behind spectator line.
* Scores is not kept for this division (the idea is to have as many players score as many goals as possible).
* Canopies must remain 5 feet behind the parent line at all times.
* Our Refs and or Risk Manager reserve the right to remove a player / coach either temporarily (2 minutes= yellow card) or for the duration of the game (red card) due to serious unsportsmanlike conduct or dangerous actions. If a player/coach is removed for 2 minutes, his/her team may not enter a new player in that spot for the two-minute penalty. If a player/ coach is sent-off with a red card, his/her team will play down the remainder of the match. If a coach receives a red card they must meet with the MCSL board before he/she is allowed to return to coaching.

**Injuries**

* If any player is injured during a game or practice and requires medical attention – the player will not be allowed to return to practice or games until a valid/signed doctor’s note (Medical Release) indicating the player can return to soccer activities is provided to the coach. The coach will then provide the Medical Release to the Risk Manager. The Release must include the date the player can return to soccer activities and signature of Doctor.
  + If there is a possibility of a concussion – the player will not be allowed to return to the game or practice in which the incident happened. When in doubt, sit them out. ALWAYS do a concussion test.

**MOST IMPORTANT!!! HAVE FUN and SHOW SPORTSMANSHIP**

**General Rules – U8**

*FUN FIRST, SKILL SECOND, RESULTS LAST*

* 7v7 with goalkeepers. The goalkeeper can use hands.
* At least two different goalkeepers must be used per game, one per half.
* Shin guards and soccer cleats (without toe cleat) must be worn at all games and practices.
* No one except the goalkeeper is allowed in the smallest “Keeper’s box” (orange box).
* Shots taken from an opponent in the Keeper’s box will not count and will result in a goal kick.
* No offside.
* Size 4 ball.
* 10-minute quarters with a 3-minute half time. Clock will continue to run even when play stops. Game ends immediately when time expires.
* Playing time should be evenly distributed between players and throughout the game.
* No time outs.
* Coaches should stay in their team’s area during the game.
* Parents must not interfere with the game or criticize coaches or players.
* Spectators must stay behind spectator line.
* Scoring is kept for this division.
* Ties are allowed. . During playoffs, if the score is tied after regulation time an additional 15 minute quarter will be played. If the score is still tied after the additional 15-minute quarter, a shoot-out will occur. The shoot-out will start with five players from each team taking shots from the penalty spot. If after five players have taken shots the score is still tied, then shots from the spot will continue one from each team until a team scores and the other does not.
* Mercy Rule is in effect – If a team is up by 5 goals or more, the leading team must pull a player from the field until the score reflects a 4-goal difference. Once the mercy rule is expired, pulled player returns to field for play
* Canopies must remain 5 feet behind the parent line at all times.
* Heading the ball & slide tackling is **NOT** allowed per WVSA and US Youth Soccer Association. Infractions will result in a free kick from the spot of the foul.

**Substitutions**

* Teams are allowed unlimited substitutions.
* Ref must be notified with intent to substitute.
* Ref will advise when substitution can occur.
* Subs must enter and exit play on their bench side.

**Restarts**

* Kick-offs are indirect, opposing players must be outside center circle, and kick-off must go forward.
* Kick-offs will occur at the beginning of each quarter and after a goal. Kick-offs are indirect, opposing players must be outside center circle, and the kick-off must go forward.
* The ball must be completely over the line to be “out-of-bounds”.
  + If the ball goes out over the touchline (sideline), the team who did not touch it last will have a throw-in. Throw-ins must be over the head using both hands and both feet must be on the ground. Throw-ins are indirect (i.e., the player cannot score directly from the throw-in).
  + If the ball goes out over the end line (behind goal), it will result in a goal kick if the attacking team touched it last or a corner kick if the defending team touched it last. Corner kicks and goal kicks are direct (i.e., players can score directly from the kick).
* Defenders must give 5 yards distance on all throw-ins, corner kicks, or any free kicks.

**Build out line**

* The defending team must be behind the half field line on a goal kick.

**Fouls and Misconduct**

* A foul occurs when a player uses careless, reckless, or excessive force. Unsportsmanlike conduct (e.g., cussing, taunting, teasing, etc) is also a foul.
* Handling the ball is also a foul (except for the goalkeeper). If the ball touches a player’s arm from the shoulder down and the player’s arm is not protecting a sensitive area or is not tight to his/her body it is a hand ball.
* All free kicks resulting from fouls will be direct kicks; fouls within the penalty area will result in a penalty kick from the top of the penalty area.
* Our Referees and or Risk Manager reserve the right to remove a player / coach either temporarily (2 minutes= yellow card) or for the duration of the game (red card) due to serious unsportsmanlike conduct or dangerous actions. If a player/coach is removed for 2 minutes, his/her team may not enter a new player in that spot for the two-minute penalty. If a player/ coach is sent-off with a red card, his/her team will play down the remainder of the match. If a coach receives a red card they must meet with the MCSL board before he/she is allowed to return to coaching.
* Referee’s Decisions are final.
* There will be a championship after 1 round of playoffs.
* If any player is injured during a game or practice and requires medical attention – the player will not be allowed to return to practice or games until a valid/signed doctor’s note (Medical Release) indicating the player can return to soccer activities is provided to the coach. The coach will then provide the Medical Release to the Risk Manager. The Release must include the date the player can return to soccer activities and signature of Doctor.
  + If there is a possibility of a concussion – the player will not be allowed to return to the game or practice in which the incident happened. When in doubt, sit them out. ALWAYS do a concussion test.

**MOST IMPORTANT!!! HAVE FUN and SHOW SPORTSMANSHIP**

**General Rules – U11**

*FUN FIRST, SKILL SECOND, RESULTS LAST*

* 9v9 with goalkeepers.
* Goalkeepers can use hands.
* At least two Goalkeepers must be used per game, one each half.
* Shin guards and soccer cleats (without toe cleat) must be worn at all games and practices.
* Offside will be applied.
* Size 4 ball.
* 15-minute quarters with 5-minute half time. Clock will continue to run even when play stops. Game ends immediately when time expires.
* Playing time should be evenly distributed between players and throughout the game.
* No time outs.
* Coaches should stay in their team’s area during the game.
* Parents must not interfere with the game or criticize coaches or players.
* Spectators must stay behind spectator line
* Scoring is recorded for this division.
* Ties are allowed during the regular season. During playoffs, if the score is tied after regulation time an additional 15 minute quarter will be played. If the score is still tied after the additional 15-minute quarter, a shoot-out will occur. The shoot-out will start with five players from each team taking shots from the penalty spot. If after five players have taken shots the score is still tied, then shots from the spot will continue one from each team until a team scores and the other does not.
* There will be a championship and consolation game after 1 round of playoffs.
* Mercy Rule is in effect – If a team is up by 5 goals or more, the leading team must pull a player from the field until the score reflects a 4-goal difference. Once the mercy rule is expired, pulled player returns to field for play
* Canopies must remain 5 feet behind the parent line at all times.
* Heading the ball & slide tackling is **NOT** allowed per WVSA and US Youth Soccer Association. Do not teach or encourage. Infractions will result in a free kick from the spot of the foul.

**Substitutions**

* Teams are allowed unlimited substitutions.
* Ref must be notified with intent to substitute
* Ref will advise when substitution can occur
* Subs must enter and exit play on their bench side

**Restarts**

* Kick-offs will occur at the beginning of each quarter and after a goal. Kick-offs are indirect, opposing players must be outside center circle, and the kick-off may go forward or backward.
* The ball must be completely over the line to be “out-of-bounds”.
  + If the ball goes out over the touchline (sideline), the team who did not touch it last will have a throw-in. Throw-ins must be over the head using both hands and both feet must be on the ground. Throw-ins are indirect (i.e., the player cannot score directly from the throw-in).
  + If the ball goes out over the end line (behind goal), it will result in a goal kick if the attacking team touched it last or a corner kick if the defending team touched it last. Corner kicks (defense must allow 5 yards) and goal kicks are direct (i.e., players can score directly from the kick).
* Defenders must give 10 yards distance on any free kicks.

**Build out line**

* The defending team must be behind the half field line on a goal kick.

**Fouls and Misconduct**

* A foul occurs when a player uses careless, reckless, or excessive force. Unsportsmanlike conduct (e.g., cussing, taunting, teasing, etc) is also a foul.
* Handling the ball is also a foul (except for the goalkeeper). If the ball touches a player’s arm from the shoulder down and the player’s arm is not protecting a sensitive area or is not tight to his/her body it is a hand ball.
* All free kicks resulting from physical fouls will be direct kicks; fouls within the penalty box will result in a penalty kick from the top of the penalty area.
* Our Referees and or Risk Manager reserve the right to remove a player / coach either temporarily (2 minutes= yellow card) or for the duration of the game (red card) due to serious unsportsmanlike conduct or dangerous actions. If a player/coach is removed for 2 minutes, his/her team may not enter a new player in that spot for the two-minute penalty. If a player/ coach is sent-off with a red card, his/her team will play down the remainder of the match. If a coach receives a red card they must meet with the MCSL board before he/she is allowed to return to coaching.
* Referee’s Decisions are final.
* If any player is injured during a game or practice and requires medical attention – the player will not be allowed to return to practice or games until a valid/signed doctor’s note (Medical Release) indicating the player can return to soccer activities is provided to the coach. The coach will then provide the Medical Release to the Risk Manager. The Release must include the date the player can return to soccer activities and signature of Doctor.
  + If there is a possibility of a concussion – the player will not be allowed to return to the game or practice in which the incident happened. When in doubt, sit them out. ALWAYS do a concussion test.

**MOST IMPORTANT!!! HAVE FUN and SHOW SPORTSMANSHIP**

**General Rules – U15**

*FUN FIRST, SKILL SECOND, RESULTS LAST*

* 9v9 with goalkeepers.
* Goalkeepers can use hands.
* At least two Goalkeepers must be used per game, one each half.
* Shin guards and soccer cleats (without toe cleat) must be worn at all games and practices.
* Offside will be applied.
* Size 5 ball.
* 35-minute halves with 5-minute half time. Clock will continue to run even when play stops. Game ends immediately when time expires.
* Playing time should be evenly distributed between players and throughout the game.
* No time outs.
* Coaches should stay in their team’s area during the game.
* Parents must not interfere with the game or criticize coaches or players.
* Spectators must stay behind spectator line
* Scoring is recorded for this division.
* Ties are allowed during the regular season. During playoffs, if the score is tied after regulation time an additional 15 minute period will be played. If the score is still tied after the additional 15-minute period, a shoot-out will occur. The shoot-out will start with five players from each team taking shots from the penalty spot. If after five players have taken shots the score is still tied, then shots from the penalty spot will continue one player from each team until one team scores and the other does not.
* There will be a championship and consolation game (if applicable) after 1 round of playoffs.
* Mercy Rule is in effect – If a team is up by 5 goals or more, the leading team must pull a player from the field until the score reflects a 4-goal difference. Once the mercy rule is expired, pulled player returns to field for play
* Canopies must remain 5 feet behind the parent line at all times.
* Heading the ball is allowed per WVSA and US Youth Soccer Association.
* Slide tackling is **NOT** allowed. Do not teach or encourage. Slide tackles will result in a foul and are more likely to result in a yellow or red card.

**Substitutions**

* Teams are allowed unlimited substitutions.
* Ref must be notified with intent to substitute
* Ref will advise when substitution can occur
* Subs must enter and exit play on their bench side

**Restarts**

* Kick-offs will occur at the beginning of each quarter and after a goal. Kick-offs are indirect, opposing players must be outside center circle, and the kick-off may go forward or backward.
* The ball must be completely over the line to be “out-of-bounds”.
  + If the ball goes out over the touchline (sideline), the team who did not touch it last will have a throw-in. Throw-ins must be over the head using both hands and both feet must be on the ground. Throw-ins are indirect (i.e., the player cannot score directly from the throw-in).
  + If the ball goes out over the end line (behind goal), it will result in a goal kick if the attacking team touched it last or a corner kick if the defending team touched it last. Corner kicks (defense must allow 5 yards) and goal kicks (defense are not allowed in the 18yd/penalty box) are direct (i.e., players can score directly from the kick).
* Defenders must give 10 yards distance on any free kicks.

**Fouls and Misconduct**

* A foul occurs when a player uses careless, reckless, or excessive force. Unsportsmanlike conduct (e.g., cussing, taunting, teasing, etc) is also a foul.
* Handling the ball is also a foul (except for the goalkeeper). If the ball touches a player’s arm from the shoulder down and the player’s arm is not protecting a sensitive area or is not tight to his/her body it is a hand ball.
* All free kicks resulting from physical fouls will be direct kicks; fouls within the penalty box will result in a penalty kick from the top of the penalty area.
* Our Referees and or Risk Manager reserve the right to remove a player / coach either temporarily (2 minutes= yellow card) or for the duration of the game (red card) due to serious unsportsmanlike conduct or dangerous actions. If a player/coach is removed for 2 minutes, his/her team may not enter a new player in that spot for the two-minute penalty. If a player/ coach is sent-off with a red card, his/her team will play down the remainder of the match. If a coach receives a red card they must meet with the MCSL board before he/she is allowed to return to coaching.
* Referee’s Decisions are final.
* If any player is injured during a game or practice and requires medical attention – the player will not be allowed to return to practice or games until a valid/signed doctor’s note (Medical Release) indicating the player can return to soccer activities is provided to the coach. The coach will then provide the Medical Release to the Risk Manager. The Release must include the date the player can return to soccer activities and signature of Doctor.
  + If there is a possibility of a concussion – the player will not be allowed to return to the game or practice in which the incident happened. When in doubt, sit them out. ALWAYS do a concussion test.

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