

Mountain View Recreation Soccer Under 8 Playing Rules

Law 1 – The Field of Play:

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length:	minimum 30 yards	maximum 45 yards
Width:	minimum 15 yards	maximum 25 yards

Field Markings: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of five (5) yards is marked around it.

The Goal Area: A goal area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line three (3) yards from the inside each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of three (3) yards and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the goal area.

The Penalty Area: There will be no penalty area.

Flag posts: Conform to FIFA.

The Corner Arc: Conform to FIFA.

Goals: Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corner flag posts and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The maximum distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the maximum distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet.

Safety: Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size three (3).

Law 3 – The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of five (5) players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. An official match may not start if either team consists of fewer than four players. At the agreement of both coaches and based on the number of players present for each team, a game may be played with four (4) players each, one of whom is the goalkeeper.

Substitutions: At any stoppage of play and unlimited.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. Teams and matches are coed.

Law 4 – The Players' Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams. Players must wear shin guards at all times. Players may not play with anything that in the referee's judgment presents a safety hazard.

Law 5 – The Referee: A registered referee is recommended. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 –The Assistant Referees: No assistant referee will be used.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: The match will be divided into four (4) equal quarters of ten (10) minutes each. There shall be a break between quarters of two (2) minutes each and a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

Law 8 – 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.

Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – The Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: There will be no offsides in U8.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA. All fouls or misconduct will result in a direct free kick. Slide tackling WILL NOT be allowed.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball when the kick is taken.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: There will be no penalty kicks. Any foul or misconduct that occurs inside the penalty area will result in a direct kick from the spot of the foul. All opposing players must be four (4) yards from the ball unless this distance is not permitted by proximity of the ball to the goal.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA with the exception that if an illegal throw-in occurs during the first throw-in, demonstration for proper throw-in will be explained to the player by the referee and/or coach. The same player will then attempt a second throw-in. If a second illegal throw occurs, the ball will be given to the opposite team for a throw-in.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all players of the opposing team must be on the opposite side of the half way line when the ball is kicked.

Law 17 – 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.