



# TVSC 2017 Recreation Soccer Rules

(Updated 9/10/17)

TVSC rules are a modified version of USYSA (US Youth Soccer) and FIFA rules, taking into account our unique league needs. The rule of most importance is to have fun. Players, coaches, referees, and spectators are to work together to create a positive environment wherein all participants enjoy the experience and learn and develop in soccer.

## IMPORTANT AGE GROUP FEATURES

XXXXXXXXXXXX	<b>U4</b>	<b>U6</b>	<b>U8</b>	<b>U10</b>	<b>U12</b>
<b>FORMAT</b>	4 V 4 (no GK)	5 v 5 (no GK)	5 v 5 (no GK)	8 v 8 (GK)	9 v 9 (GK)
<b>BALL SIZE</b>	3	3	3	4	4
<b>OFFSIDES</b>	no	no	no	yes	yes
<b>GAME TIME</b>	4 x 10 min	4 x 10 min	4 x 12 min	2 x 27 min	2 x 30 min

\* U4, U6- 5 min breaks; U8- 5 min breaks; U10- 9 min break; U12- 10 min break (guidelines at the discretion of coach/referee)

## FIELD SIZE:

**U8** will play on a “*Mini-Field*” approximately 30 x 20 yards

**U10** will play on a “*Development Field*” approximately 47 x 30 yards \*

**U12** will play on a “*Small-Sided Field*” approximately 75 x 47 yards \*

\* This field will include “buildout lines” in each half. These lines (ignoring the halfway line) will divide the field into “thirds” creating an attacking, middle, and defensive third. The buildout line is designed to encourage playing out of the back in an unpressured situation (e.g. GK delivery following a save, goal kicks). The opposing team must move behind the buildout line. Once the GK resumes play with a **pass, throw, or roll to a teammate** (no punting), the opposing team can cross the line and pressure the ball.

**Note-** Coaches are to remain in designated coaching areas. Spectators are to be on opposite side of the field from coaches/players wherever feasible and never directly behind team “bench.” Referees are to check for this before games and will stop play and enforce this when appropriate in game.

### **Rules of the Game U8:**

- Format is 5 v 5
- One (1) referee will manage the game
- A ball out of bounds is to be restarted with a throw-in. Entire ball must cross touch line
- Entire ball must cross goal line to be awarded a goal
- Play is stopped by the referee for any foul
- Fouls include kicking, tripping, striking, pushing opponent. Physical contact is permitted within the rules at the referee’s discretion. Incidental contact, as well as recklessness and excessiveness are to be taken into consideration
- The referee should explain rules to the players and play will restart with a free kick
- Free kicks are indirect and opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until restart
- There are no penalty kicks
- Referee and coaches should allow for a “rethrow or rekick” in order to teach proper technique
- For a dangerous, intentional or recurring fouls by the same player, the referee should request the coach substitute the player for the remainder of the period
- Handling the ball deliberately is an infraction. Unintentional handling should not be called (and is left to referees discretion)
- Following a ball across the end line, a goal kick is to be taken from any point of the goal box/arch.
- A corner kick is taken at the corner nearest where the ball went out over the goal line
- Players should be encouraged NOT to remain in front of goal to “defend” it (coaches should be reminded)

### **Rules of the Game U10-U12:**

- Format for U10 is 8 v 8
- Format for U12 is 9 v 9
- These formats can be modified (reduced by 1) if team(s) do not have enough subs on the bench. Referees should discuss with coaches to determine appropriate the remedy
- One (1) center referee
- A “build out” line will be used to aid in offsides calls
- Player in advance of the line in their attacking half with no defenders between him/her and the GK will be offside
- Player between the half field line and the build out line with no defenders between him/her and the GK will be offside
- Referee will determine if player is “even” with defender and thus onside

- Regarding contact and non-contact infractions, referees will govern game in accordance with FIFA rules
- Fouls include kicking, tripping, striking, pushing opponent. Physical contact is permitted within the rules at the referee's discretion. Recklessness and excessiveness are to be taken into consideration
- The referee should explain rules to the players and play will restart with a free kick
- Yellow and red cards can be issued for U12 players
- Assistant coaches/parents (1 on each sideline) can be requested to help with "out of bounds" calls
- Goals to be followed by restarts at the center circle
- Both teams are allowed unlimited substitutions during any stoppage of play. Coach/player should alert assistant referee of substitution and wait until next stoppage
- For U10 kicks are **indirect**. For U12 free kicks can be either **direct** or **indirect**
- Defending teams are to be at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is kicked
- Team taking indirect/direct kicks does not have to wait for the opposition to retreat and has the option to restart the game beforehand should they choose
- Penalty kicks can be awarded when the defense commits a direct free kick foul in the penalty area

- ❖ Scores will not be recorded or posted by league
- ❖ There is NO PUNTING for U4-U12
- ❖ There is NO HEADING for U4-U10
- ❖ U12 players CAN head the ball
- ❖ There is NO SLIDE TACKLING in recreational games
- ❖ On kickoffs ball can be played in any direction
- ❖ All players must wear shin guards. Proper soccer cleats are strongly encouraged
- ❖ No "baseball cleats" with front spike or metal of any kind permitted
- ❖ Tennis sneakers and turf shoes are allowed
- ❖ There will be no jewelry or adornments allowed
- ❖ All players must present a **player card** to referee to play
- ❖ All coaches must be registered with TVSC

*TVSC Recreation Committee reserves the right to modify rules when appropriate*