

U9 Coed League – Game Rules

- Game Setup
 - Games will be played 8 vs. 8 (7 players and a goalie).
 - If there are not enough children in attendance to play 8 vs. 8, the referee will consult with the coaches prior to the beginning of the game to modify the numbers – even if that means playing 5 vs. 5.
 - All players should play approximately the same amount of time.
 - Each player should be able to experience playing offense, defense, and goalie.
- Game Time
 - The game will consist of two, 20 minute halves.
 - Subbing every 5 minutes. The clock will always stop at sub marks for 30 seconds – if there are no subs for a team, the players will be given an additional 30 seconds at each sub mark in order to rest.
 - The game ball will be wiped down and disinfected between each sub mark.
 - There will be a 3 minute half time.
- Specific Rules
 - Defense must play behind the offense.
 - Offsides will not be called by the referee in this age division.
 - Head-balls and sliding are not allowed in this league.
 - Due to the pandemic, throw-ins and drop kicks will not be allowed.
 - During stoppages of play, athletes and coaches should pass the ball by foot on the ground to its designated location.
 - Out of Bounds
 - *Indirect Kick* – If the ball goes out of bounds, the opposite team will be given an indirect kick at the spot of the infraction.
 - *Corner Kick* – If a player puts the ball out along his own goal line, the opposing team is awarded a corner kick.
 - *Goal Kick* – If a player puts the ball out along the opposing team’s goal line (and not in the goal), the opposing team is awarded a goal kick. The ball is placed anywhere within the six-yard box and kicked into play (usually taken by the goalkeeper but an outfield player could also take it).
 - Hand-Balls: Hand-balls will be called and the ball will be given to the opposite team at the spot of the foul.
 - We will be using the FIFA definition of a hand-ball which is if any player (other than the team’s goalkeeper within his or her own penalty area) deliberately handles the ball when in play. The hand-ball may be called if the ball is being handled with any part of the arm, from the tips of a player’s fingers right up to the shoulder. Whether a hand-ball is called (meaning it was deliberately done) will be upon the referee’s discretion.
 - Penalty kicks will be decided by the referees.
 - The referee will be responsible for keeping track of the score, keeping the time, and letting the coaches know when to stop for subs.
 - Games are allowed to end in a tie. There will not be any playoff games.
- Face Coverings
 - *Players*: Since games consist of 2 “stable pods”, or teams, interacting with each other, players will have to wear face coverings for the entirety of the game with the following exceptions:
 - During sub marks, water breaks, timeouts, and halftime, players may remove their face coverings if they are able to maintain a continuous 6+ foot distance from all members of their team AND a 14+ foot distance from any opposing team member.

- A mask break will be given to all at the 10 minute mark of each half of the game provided all players spread out in order to maintain a continuous 6+ foot distance from all members of their team AND a 14+ foot distance from any opposing team member.
 - Any player with asthma who cannot keep their mask on for an extended period of time will be able to sub out when needed (the asthmatic player will not have to sub in/out in accordance with the substitution rules) and separate themselves 6+ feet from all team members and take a mask break.
 - *Coaches*: Coaches will be required to wear a face covering for the entirety of the game unless they are able to maintain a continuous 6+ foot distance from all members of their team AND a 14+ foot distance from any opposing team member.
 - *Referees*: Referees will be required to wear a face covering for the entirety of the game unless they are able to maintain a 14+ foot distance between themselves and any other person on the field.
 - *Spectators*: Spectators will be required to wear a face covering for the entirety of the game unless they are able to maintain a continuous 14+ foot distance from the perimeter of any field of play and a continuous 6+ foot distance between members of any other household.
 - Exceptions exist for children younger than age two and for those who can't wear one as a result of a health or developmental reason.
- Other
 - Players are not to share any water bottles, drinks, or equipment.
 - Teams will not high-five or shake hands after the game.
 - At the conclusion of the game, we ask that players, coaches, and spectators leave the field and do not congregate.
 - Team areas will be on opposite sides of the field in order to provide more room for the players to spread out.

