

**NORTHERN NEVADA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION
LAWS OF SOCCER FOR 9U/10U (6/21/2018)**

The rules of soccer are determined by FIFA (Federation Internationale De Football Association). FIFA allows the laws of the game to be modified for youth and amateur adult soccer. What follows are the rules and practices which the NNYSA will use. For situations not covered in this document, the FIFA rules will hold. The language and order of the rules have been modified for ease of understanding. However, all coaches are encouraged to become familiar with the Laws of the Game. These rules include changes of FIFA rules as of 2017-2018.

BEFORE THE GAME

The Home team will:

- Provide the game ball
- Wear the pinnies if there is a color conflict.

All teams will have spectators/parents on one side of the field and players/coaches (with a cleared background check & ID card) on the opposite side.

The coaches and/or spectators must stay clear of the goal and may not place anything on, by or near the goal.

The Referee may call the coaches to the center to talk about such things as game or tournament rules, special procedures, or any special player medical problems.

The Referee will call to the center circle each team's captain(s), which the coach has selected. The team that wins the coin toss will decide which end to defend. The other team will take the kick off to start the match.

DURING THE GAME

Coaches will stay on the sidelines. The coach may not come onto the field without the permission of the Referee. Parents must stay behind the second white line, or at least 3 feet behind the sideline and may not stand within approximately 10 feet of the corner flag. Together, coaches and parents are expected to create and promote a fun safe environment for the players.

LAW 1 - THE FIELD

1. Dimensions - The field of play shall be rectangular. Width is 35-45 yards. Length is 55-65.

2. Markings:

- A halfway line shall be marked across the field.
- A center circle with an 8 yard radius.
- Four corner arcs with one (1) yard radius.
- Goal area - Goal area with a line drawn parallel with the goal-line. 4 X 8 yards
- Penalty Area –12 X 24 yards. Penalty Spot 10 yards from center of goal.

3. Goals - 6' x 18' or 6' x 12

LAW 2 - THE BALL

Size #4 properly inflated per FIFA.

LAW 3 - NUMBER OF PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTIONS

1. Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is seven (7), one of whom must be a goalkeeper. A minimum of five (5) players is required to play the game.

2. Playing time is not an issue under the control of the Referee. Any questions on playing time should be addressed with the coach and/or commissioner.

Substitutions can be made with the consent of the referee at any stoppage point/dead ball.

To substitute,

- Have your player ready to go (warmed up and knows where to go)
- Be ready when you can sub call
 - 1) Call to the ref when play stops
 - 2) Look for signal since ref may refuse sub
 - 3) Proceed only with refs consent
 - 4) Players should go in calling the name of the player to leave
 - 5) Players should enter and leave from the center line and encourage the outgoing player to hustle off the field

3. Any of the other players may change places with the goalkeeper with the consent of the Referee during a stoppage in the game.

4. Yellow and Red cards can be issued starting at 9U. One yellow card foul is a warning and the player is still allowed to continue to play in the game. If the player is issued a second yellow card in the same game then the player is ejected from the game and may not return to the game nor can the ejected player be replaced. The team must play down a player. If a red card is issued then the player is ejected from the game and may not return to the game nor can the ejected player be replaced. The player then must be removed from the playing area. The team must play down a player. If a player is ejected from a game due to 2 yellow cards or 1 red card then the player may not play in the next scheduled game and paperwork will need to be completed thru the referee, the coach, the player and the commissioner.

LAW 4 - PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

Each team will wear distinguishable uniforms with number.

Each player must wear shin guards that are fully covered by socks, and tennis shoes or soft plastic molded cleats. No player may wear anything which, in the referee's opinion, is dangerous to another- including watches, chains, pins, bracelets, hoop or stud earrings, metal barrettes and hard-billed caps. Player must take off any dangerous items to play. All earrings must be removed.

Shin guards are required at games. No shin guards=no play.

LAW 5 - REFEREES

The Referee:

- Has jurisdiction from entering the field of play until leaving
- Makes the final decisions
- Can stop the game for a violation of the rules by the whistle and shall briefly explain to the offending player
- Can suspend or abandon a game whenever necessary
- Acts as timekeeper, scorekeeper, and record keeper
- Can caution a player and can eject from play if guilty of violent conduct, serious foul play, for abusive language or persistent infractions of the rules.
- May request that a player bleeding from a wound leave the field of play and not return until the bleeding is stopped and he/she receives the permission of the Referee to return to the game
- Referee can caution or eject a coach/spectator.

LAW 6 – LINESMEN

1. The duties of the Linesmen are to indicate:

- When the ball is out of play
- Which side is entitled to throw-in, goal kick, or corner kick.
- When a substitution is desired and that the substitution was completed properly
- Assist the Referee in identifying off sides infraction
- Assist the Referee to control the game in accordance with the Laws on infractions the Referee may not have seen.

2. The Referee makes the final decision of the action to be taken even if the initial Linesman's signal is to the contrary.

Only the Referee can stop the game.

LAW 7 - DURATION OF GAME

1. Two (2) 25 minute halves, with one half-time break of five (5) minutes.

LAW 8 - START OF PLAY

1. The start of play at the beginning of each half and after a goal shall proceed with a kick-off. The team that did not take the opening kick-off shall take the kick off at the start of the opening of the second half, and the teams shall change ends of the field at the half.

- On a kick-off, the ball can be kicked in any direction. All players opposing the kicker must be at least eight (8) yards from the ball.
- A violation of this rule results in retaking the kick-off.
- A goal CAN be scored direct from a kick-off.

2. After a temporary suspension of play for any reason not otherwise mentioned in these laws, the Referee shall restart the game by a drop-ball where the ball was when play was

stopped. Unless it was stopped within the goal area, in which case the drop ball shall be taken at that part of the goal area line parallel to the goal line on a line perpendicular to the goal line from where stoppage occurred. A player may not touch the ball until it touches the ground, and the ball is not in play until it touches the ground. Otherwise the drop-ball shall be retaken. A goal may be scored from a drop-ball.

LAW 9 - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

1. The ball is out of play only for the following two reasons:
 - The ball has wholly crossed the goal-line or touch-line on the ground or in the air. That means if part of the ball has not crossed the line it is still in play. The Referee makes the judgment of the ball being out of play.
 - When the Referee stops play for any reason.
2. The Ball is not out of play if it hits a goal post or corner flag and remains in the field of play. Nor is it out of play if it hits a Referee or Linesman if they are in the field of play.
3. The ball is out of play if it hits the football uprights. The ball is put back in play as if it had gone out of bounds over the goal line.

LAW 10 - METHOD OF SCORING

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball crosses the goal line between the goal posts and under the cross bar, provided it was not propelled by hand or arm of an attacking player. If a defending player deflects the ball by hand or arm and it goes in the goal entirely, a goal is scored.

LAW 11 - OFFSIDE

1. A player is in an offside position if he/she is nearer the opposing team's goal line than the ball, unless:

- He/she is in his own half of the field of play, or
- He/she is not nearer to his opponents' goal-line than at least two of his/her opponents, including the opposing goalkeeper. This means that "even with the second to the last defender" is not offside.

Note: It is not an offence to be in an offside position.

2. A player shall be penalized for being in an offside if, at the moment the ball touched, or is played by one of his/her own team he/she is in the opinion of the Referee involved in the active area of play by:

- Interfering with play.
- Interfering with an opponent.
- Gaining an advantage by being in an offside position
- Being in an offside position and moving to an onside position but being the next player to play the ball

3. A player shall not be declared offside by the Referee:

- Merely because of his being in an offside position
- Player received the ball directly from a goal kick, corner kick or a throw-in.

A player in an offside position receiving the ball from an opponent who deliberately plays the ball (except from a deliberate save by any opponent) is not considered to have gained an advantage.

4. For an offside infraction, the defending team is awarded an indirect free kick from the place where the offside occurred, unless the offense is committed by a player in his opponents' goal area in which case the free kick shall be taken from any point within the goal area.

LAW 12 - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

1. A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences against an opponent in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- charges
- jumps at
- kicks or attempts to kick
- pushes
- strikes or attempts to strike (including head-butt)
- tackles or challenges
- trips or attempts to trip

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences:

- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- holds an opponent
- impedes an opponent with contact
- spits at an opponent
- slide tackles and makes contact with the opponent

Should a player of the defending team commit one of the above offenses within the penalty area the referee may award a penalty kick to the opposing team".

2. An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent without any contact being made
- is guilty of dissent, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or other verbal offences
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from the hands or kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing it
- commits any other offence, not mentioned in the Laws, for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player
- goalkeeper drop kicks or punts the ball
- Heads the ball

An indirect free kick is awarded if a goalkeeper, inside their penalty area, commits any of the following offences:

- controls the ball with the hands for more than six seconds before releasing it
- touches the ball with the hands after:
 - releasing it and before it has touched another player
 - it has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a team-mate
 - receiving it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate

Note: Referees should be flexible when enforcing the 6 second rule

3. A player shall be cautioned if he:

- Is guilty of unsporting behavior
- Shows dissent by word or action
- Persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
- Delays the restart of play
- Fails to respect the required distance (8 yards) when play is restarted with a corner kick or free kick
- Enters or reenters the field of play without the permission of the Referee
- Deliberately leaves the field of play without the permission of the Referee

4. A player shall be ejected from the game if he:

- Is guilty of serious foul play
- Is guilty of violent conduct
- Spits at an opponent or any other person
- Denies an opponent a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (does not apply to a goalkeeper in his/her own penalty area)
- Denies an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offense punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
- Uses offensive, insulting, or abusive language
- Receives a second caution in the same match
- Denies an opponent a goal

5. Rules infractions shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

LAW 13 - FREE KICKS

1. The two kinds of free kicks are:

- Direct free kicks from which a goal may be scored directly against the offending team (i.e. without any other player making contact with the ball after the kick.
- Any free kick awarded to the defending team within its own goal area shall be taken from any point within the goal area. The kick must be kicked out beyond the penalty area.

2. All free kicks are taken from the place where the offense occurred, except:

- An indirect free kick awarded to the attacking team within its opponent's goal area shall be taken at that part of the goal area line parallel to the goal line on a line perpendicular to the goal line from where the infractions occurred.
- Any free kick awarded to the defending team within its own goal area shall be taken from any point within the goal area. The kick must be kicked out beyond the penalty area.

3. The ball must be stationary on the ground and is in play when it is kicked and moves forward. The ball may not be played by the kicker a second time before being touched by another player.

4. All opposing players must be at least eight (8) yards away from the ball when the ball is put into play, unless the offense occurred less than eight (8) yards from the opponents' goal

line. In which case the opposing players may stand on their own goal line between the goal posts. If this rule is violated the free kick is retaken.

5. On free kicks taken within its penalty area by the defending team, all opposing players must be outside the penalty area and at least eight (8) yards away from the ball. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward and is outside the penalty area. The goal keeper may not receive the ball then kick it into play. If the ball is not kicked into play beyond penalty area the kick shall be retaken.

LAW 14 - PENALTY KICK

1. A penalty kick is awarded as per Law XII.
2. The penalty kick is taken from the penalty mark which is centered 10-yards in front of the goal.
3. All players except the kicker and the goalkeeper must be outside the penalty area and at least eight (8) yards away from the penalty marker, and must stand behind the penalty mark.
4. Players who enter the penalty area before the ball has been kicked need not now be cautioned for a first offense.
5. The goalkeeper remains on his/her own goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked. He/she may move sideways but is not permitted to come off the line by stepping or lunging forward until the ball is in play.
6. The ball must be kicked forward and is in play when it is kicked and moves. The ball may not be played by the kicker a second time before being touched by another player.
7. A goal may be scored directly on a penalty kick (i.e. without any other player making contact with the ball after the kick).
8. For any violation of this Law:
 - a. If by the kicker, no goal is scored and an indirect free kick is awarded to the defending team.
 - b. If by the attacking team other than the kicker, the goals disallowed and the penalty kick shall be retaken if the goal is scored. If the ball does not enter the goal, the referee stops play and restarts with a n indirect free kick.
 - c. If by the defending team and a goal does not result, the penalty kick shall be retaken.
9. Time shall be extended to allow a penalty to be taken.

LAW 15 - THROW-IN

1. A throw-in is awarded at the location where the ball passes wholly over the touch-line (sideline) to the team opposite which touched it last.
2. The thrower must face the field and part of each foot must be on the ground either on the touch-line or outside of the field of play.
3. A goal cannot be scored directly from the throw-in.
4. The ball is in play immediately upon entering the field of play but may not be played by the thrower before being touched by another player.
5. The ball may be thrown in to the keeper, who cannot pick it up even if the keeper is in the goal area.
6. For any violation of this law, the throw-in is awarded to the opponent.

LAW 16 - GOAL KICK

1. A goal kick is awarded to the defending team if the ball passes completely over its goal line, outside the goal, after having last been touched by a player of the attacking team.
2. The goal kick is taken from any point inside the goal area.
3. the ball must clear the penalty area to be "in play". The ball may not be played by the kicker a second time. If the ball is not kicked beyond the goal area the kick shall be retaken.
5. A goal CAN be scored direct from a goal kick.
6. If the player taking the goal kick plays the ball a second time after it has passed beyond the penalty box, but before it has been played by another player, an indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, unless committed within the opponents' goal area, in which case the free kick shall be taken from a point within that half of the goal area in which the infringement occurred.

LAW 17 - CORNER KICK

1. A corner kick is awarded the attacking team if the ball passes completely over the defending team's goal line, outside the goal, after having been touched by a player of the defending team.
2. The ball must be placed inside the corner arc at the nearest corner flag post. The whole ball must be contained within the corner arc with no part extending beyond the lines enclosing the area. It may touch the lines.
3. All opposing players must be at least eight (8) yards away from the ball.
4. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves and may not be played by the kicker a second time before being touched by another player.
5. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.
6. If the kicker plays the ball before it is touched by another player, the opposing team shall be awarded an indirect free kick. For any other violation of this law, the corner kick shall be retaken.

FAIR PLAY - PLEASE!