

## TCRSA Youth Recreational Rules of the Game

TCRSA Youth Recreational Rules of the Game shall be the FIFA Laws of the Game as modified in the NTSSA Rules of Competition unless otherwise stated. The Under 6, Under 8, and Under 10 age divisions shall play under the additional Developmental Player Program Modified Rules for Under 6, Under 8, and Under 10 as recommended by NTSSA or as modified in accordance with League playing rules.

### Law I – The Field of Play

TCRSA conforms to the FIFA recommended minimum field and goal specifications, and will meet these recommendations when possible subject to field space and availability. See NTSSA Rules of Competition and Modified Playing Rules for U6, U8 and U10 for specifications.

### Law II – The Ball

| Age Group                       | Ball Size |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Under 19, Under 16 and Under 14 | Size #5   |
| Under 12 and Under 10           | Size #4   |
| Under 8 and Under 6             | Size #3   |

### Law III – The Number of Players and Substitutions

| Age Group           | Maximum # of Players on Field | Maximum # of Players on Roster | Minimum # to Start Game | Goalkeeper |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Under 19 - Under 16 | 11                            | 22                             | 7                       | Yes        |
| Under 15 - Under 11 | 11                            | 18                             | 7                       | Yes        |
| Under 10            | 8                             | 14                             | 6                       | Yes        |
| Under 9             | 7                             | 12                             | 5                       | Yes        |
| Under 8             | 5                             | 10                             | 4                       | Yes        |
| Under 6             | 4                             | 8                              | 3                       | No         |

### Playing Time

Each recreational player, when present at a game, shall be allowed to play a minimum of 50% of the time, unless the player's time has been reduced for medical or disciplinary reasons, in which case the coach must notify the player, and the opposing coach prior to the beginning of the game that the minimum time has been reduced. Non-attendance at practice and non-payment of fees may be cause for disciplinary action.

### General Substitution Rule

Substitutions may be made at the following times and only with the consent of the referee:

At a throw-in, by the team in possession only

By either team, at a goal kick

By either team, after a goal is scored

By either team, at an injury when the referee stops play

By either team, at halftime (and also at quarter breaks for U8 and below)

When a caution (yellow card) is given, that player may be substituted for

### Law IV – The Players' Equipment

Each player shall have a number on the back of his/her jersey not less than four (4) inches high. Shin guards, meeting the standards set forth in the FIFA Laws of the Game or subsequent memoranda, shall be mandatory. Socks must cover the shin guards.

## **Law V – The Referee**

Referees and Assistant Referees shall be assigned to games according to FIFA Laws of the Game and standard assignor guidelines.

U9 and Above Referees – Only current registered referees in uniform shall be assigned to games U9 and above. Assistant referees will be assigned to each U9 and above game. If assistant referees are not available, then a parent or spectator may run the line at the referee’s approval.

U8 and Below Referees – Referees will be assigned to U8 and below games. Assistant referees are not assigned to games U8 and below. However, U5/U6 and U7/U8 age groups are not required to have a certified referee present to play a game. Parent or coach volunteers may substitute in the absence of a referee. Both teams should agree on the substitution.

## **Law VI – The Assistant Referee**

See Law V above.

## **Law VII – The Duration of the Game**

| <b>Age Group</b> | <b>Length of Halves/Quarters</b> | <b>Length of Breaks</b>   | <b>Length of Overtime</b> |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Under 19         | Two 45 min. Halves               | 15 min.                   | Two 15 min.               |
| Under 16         | Two 40 min. Halves               | 15 min.                   | Two 15 min.               |
| Under 14         | Two 35 min. Halves               | 15 min.                   | Two 10 min.               |
| Under 12         | Two 30 min. Halves               | 10 min.                   | Two 10 min.               |
| Under 10         | Two 25 min. Halves               | 5 min.                    | Two 10 min.               |
| Under 8          | Four 12 min. Quarters            | 2 min. Qtr. / 5 min. Half | None                      |
| Under 6          | Four 10 min. Quarters            | 2 min. Qtr. / 5 min. Half | None                      |

## **Law VIII – The Start and Restart of Play**

Conform to FIFA.

## **Law IX – The Ball In and Out of Play**

Conform to FIFA.

## **Law X – The Method of Scoring**

U9 and Above – Conform to FIFA.

U8 and Below – Teams in the U5, U6, U7, and U8 age groups shall not record scores or keep standings..

U5 and U6 – The use of a dedicated defender acting in the capacity of a goalkeeper inside the goal area is prohibited.

## **Law XI – Off-Side**

U9 and Above - Off-side rules apply to U9 and above age groups only. Off-side rules do not apply if a player receives a ball directly from a goal kick, throw-in, or corner kick.

U8 and Below – Teams in the U5, U6, U7, and U8 age groups shall not play using the off-side rule.

## **Law XII – Fouls and Misconduct**

**Charging the Goalkeeper** - Charging the goalkeeper in possession of the ball is not allowed in any youth play in TCRSA or NTSSA. Possession is defined as: “One or two hands on the ball, holding it, bouncing it, tossing it up and then catching it, or patting it along the ground.”

**Hand Balls** - It is not an intentional “hand ball” offense for any player to attempt to protect the vital areas of his or her body (chest, crotch, face) by placing hands or arms across them to protect them from being struck at close range by the ball. The referee shall be the sole judge of whether the hands or arms were used to deliberately propel the ball.

**Slide Tackling** – Slide tackling is not allowed in U8 and below age groups.

**Cautions and/or Ejections** - Coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, and spectators are subject to the same game disciplinary procedures by the referee as are the players.

## **Law XIII – Free Kicks**

U9 and Above – Conform to FIFA.

U8 and Below - All free kicks shall be indirect kicks with the opponents being a minimum of three (3) yards away in U6 and five (5) yards away in U8 . A goal may not be scored until the ball has been played or touched by a second player of either team. No indirect kicks shall be taken by the attacking team within the defending team’s goal box.

## **Law XIV – The Penalty Kick**

U9 and Above – Conform to FIFA.

U8 and Below - No penalty kicks are to be taken during these games.

## **Law XV – The Throw-In**

All age groups – Restarts from outside the touchline shall occur by throw-ins.

U9 and Above – Conform to FIFA.

U8 and Below - A second throw-in must be allowed if the player commits an infraction on his/her initial attempt. The referee shall explain the proper method before allowing the player to re-throw.

## **Law XVI – The Goal Kick**

U9 and Above – Conform to FIFA.

U7 and U8 – Goal kicks may be taken from any point inside the goal area. Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball.

U5 and U6 – Goal kicks may be taken from any point inside the goal area. Opponents must be three (3) yards away from the ball.

## **Law XVII – The Corner Kick**

U11 and Above – Conform to FIFA.

U9 and U10 – Opponents must be eight (8) yards away from the ball.

U7 and U8 – Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball. The corner kick shall be an indirect kick.

U5 and U6 – Opponents must be three (3) yards away from the ball. The corner kick shall be an indirect kick.