



## BCYA/CWJRD/LUYSA League Soccer Rules U8-U12

**FIFA Laws of the Game with US Youth Soccer recommended modifications and league specific modifications as listed below.**

- 1. Code of Conduct.** All Commissions, Coaches, Players and Spectators will adhere to their respective leagues code of conduct.
- 2. Formation of Teams.** Teams are formed based on age, not grade, as of August 1<sup>st</sup> each season. Teams should be formed to the best of each leagues ability to balance skill.
- 3. Player Eligibility.** Under no circumstances may an individual practice or compete with a team unless he/she is a registered player with their respective league. Players are only allowed to play on one team. Teams and their rosters should be declared to the league prior to the state of games for that season.
- 4. Substitute Players.** Teams may Play Up a player who is registered within their respective leagues if they are short players for a game due to vacation, sickness, injury other reasonable circumstances. When playing up, a team should not play up more than their full roster size. The team playing up any players must notify the opposing team's coach prior to the start of the game.
- 5. Starting number of Players on the Field During Games.** Current approved per division. U8 6v6. U10 7v7. U12 8v8.
- 6. Mercy Rule.** If a team leads by 4 or more goals, the trailing team may add a player. The extra player may stay on field until the goal differential is below 4.
- 7. Game Cancellations.** Cancellations will be announced by Commissions, as soon as possible, to the coaches who will contact all of their players. When games are cancelled due to inclement weather or other circumstances, attempts will be made to schedule make-up games. The league reserves the right to mutually agree not offer make-up games.
- 8. Lightning / Thunder.** In case of lightning or thunder in the area, play will be suspended. Participants will be asked to not leave the park but to take shelter in parents cars or safe location until games are officially postponed or play is resumed. Play will not be resumed until 30 minutes after the last visible lightening or sound of thunder in the area.
- 9. Game Changes.** All game changes must be approved by both teams and scheduled through the Commissioners to confirm field availability and referee(s).
- 10. Playing Time.** All players are to play comparable time (whenever possible). Exception: players may play less due to injury or disciplinary reasons.
- 11. Concussion Protocol.**
  - a. Coaches, referees, or officials must remove an athlete from play if the athlete is exhibiting the signs and symptoms of a concussion during practice or a game.



- b. The athlete cannot return to play on the same day that the player is removed and is not permitted to return to play until they have been assessed and received written clearance by a physician (MD or DO) or by any other licensed health care provider approved by the league.
- 12. Blood Born Pathogens.** As soon as the game official has observed blood or bodily fluid on a player (including uniform), he/she must stop the game immediately. The injured player must leave the game immediately and receive first aid attention. The injured player is not permitted to re-enter the game until the injury sufficiently covered (with band-aid, tape, gauze, etc.) or uniform changed. Officials are not permitted to administer first aid to any player.
- 13. Position Specialization.** Coaches are not permitted to require position specialization for U8 through U12. Coaches should expose players to as many positions as possible throughout the course of the season to offer the greatest opportunity for player development and enjoyment of the game.
- 14. Appropriate Attire.** All players are required to wear approved shin guards covered with socks, and soccer cleats (no baseball or football cleats). Teams will wear matching color jerseys. Goalies are required to wear a contrasting color shirt from both teams on the field. U8 goalies can wear a pinnie or contrasting color.
- 15. Jewelry.** No jewelry is allowed during practice or games; Medical jewelry is permitted, and it must be taped down to the skin for player's safety.
- 16. Sportsmanship.** Good sportsmanship will be demonstrated at all times by players, coaches, and spectators as outlined in each leagues Code of Conduct regardless at home field or away.
- 17. Ties.** Regular season games that end in a tie will be recorded as such.
- 18. Protests.** Due to the nature of Youth Sports, protests will not be permitted concerning calls by officials and/or interpretation of league rules. Referee(s) should not be approached by Coaches or Parents during the game or challenge calls made. Failure to respect the referee(s) and their calls may result in suspension from future games. Coaches should address any concerns or questions to their league Commissioners following the games.
- 19. Sidelines.** Parents and spectators are to be on one side of the pitch and the coach and players are to be on the other side. This will help the referee(s) and coach(es) with substitutions and providing direction to players. This will be enforced at all ages. The game is about the players, not the parents. In the event of injury, a player or coach may go to the parent and spectator's side. In no event or at any time should a parent or spectator approach the coach and players side of the field. Only registered coaches and players through the league and on that team should be on the bench during a game. Spectators may not watch a game or stand behind the goal line.
- 20. HEADING RULE:** All players U8 through U12 are prohibited from deliberately striking a soccer ball with any portion of their head (a.k.a. heading), during any game, practice, tryout, or other soccer related activity.



- a. If a player engages in heading a soccer ball during games, practices, or other soccer related activities, contrary to the above listed prohibition, the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the player accept the risk and/or peril of doing so.
- b. If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game with any portion of their head, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the infraction.
- c. If within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infraction occurred.
- d. If the ball makes contact with a player's head and the player has not deliberately played or attempted to play the ball, then play should continue as no infraction has occurred.

**21. Kick-Off Rule.** The ball may be kicked in any direction, this includes backwards.

**22. Post-Season Tournament.** There will be a post season bracket tournament for all divisions U8-U12

### **BCYA/CWJRD/LUYSA League Division Specific Soccer Rules**

#### U8 -

- Size 3 Soccer Ball
- Length of Match (4 x 10 minute quarters)
- Game Play 6v6 includes goalie
- No punting
- No heading
- No offsides
- Kick-off is done from midfield. The opposing team must stay 10 feet back until the ball is in play.  
**A goal cannot be scored from a kick-off.**
- Throw-ins: Players must keep both feet on the ground behind the touch-line. Players must use both hands to deliver the ball from behind and over their head. Players will get one retry.
- Goal kicks can be taken anywhere inside the goal area by goalie or defender. Opposing players must be outside the goal area and at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.
- There are no penalty kicks. All infractions will result in an indirect kick at the spot of the foul.
- Coaches are to remain on the sideline and off the field
- Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage and permission to enter is granted by referee.
- One (1) Referee will be assigned per game. In the event of no referee, coaches from each side will be asked to keep time and referee the game.



- Score cards should be signed by both coaches following the game. Any discrepancies from scores reported must be submitted in 24 hours from when game was played to respective leagues commissioners.

#### U10 -

- Size 4 Soccer Ball
- Length of Match (2 x 25 minute halves) 5 minute half-time.
- Game Play 7v7 includes goalie
- Games will begin with a coin toss. Winner will choose the side of field. Other team begins game with ball.
- Punting is allowed
- No heading
- No slide tackling
- Throw-ins: Players must keep both feet on the ground behind the touch-line. Players must use both hands to deliver the ball from behind and over their head. Throw-in violations will result in loss of possession
- Free Kicks: All Opponents must be at least 8 yards from the pail
- Penalty Kick: Penalty mark is 8 yards from the midpoint between the goalposts
- Penalty Kicks may still be taken after time expires.
- Corner Kick: Opponents must remain 8 yards from the ball until it is in play
- Offsides will be enforced
- Goalkeepers cannot pick up a ball that has been purposely kicked to them or on a throw-in before touching the opposing team first.
- Substitutions allowed during play stoppage when team has possession of the ball and are unlimited. Permission to enter the game is granted by the official.
- Coaches are to remain on the sideline and off the field
- Two referees are preferred. Game can still be played with one referee.
- Score cards should be signed by both coaches following the game. Any discrepancies from scores reported must be submitted in 24 hours from when game was played to respective leagues commissioners.

#### U12 –

- Size 4 soccer Ball
- Length of Match (2 x 30 minute halves) 5 minute half-time.
- Game Play 8v8 includes goalie
- Games will begin with a coin toss. Winner will choose the side of field. Other team begins game with ball.



- Punting is allowed
- No heading
- No slide tackling
- Throw-ins: Players must keep both feet on the ground behind the touch-line. Players must use both hands to deliver the ball from behind and over their head. Throw-in violations will result in loss of possession
- Free Kicks: All Opponents must be at least 8 yards from the ball
- Penalty Kick: Penalty mark is 10 yards from the midpoint between the goalposts
- Penalty Kicks may still be taken after time expires.
- Corner Kick: Opponents must remain 8 yards from the ball until it is in play
- Offsides will be enforced
- Goalkeepers cannot pick up a ball that has been purposely kicked to them or on a throw-in before touching the opposing team first.
- Substitutions allowed during play stoppage when team has possession of the ball and are unlimited. Permission to enter the game is granted by the official.
- Two referees are preferred. If only one referee, a parent from each side may be asked to act as AR and help make calls. Any parent doing so should refrain from coaching their players team and only focus on assisting the referee for this game.
- Coaches are to remain on the sideline and off the field
- Score cards should be signed by both coaches following the game. Any discrepancies from scores reported must be submitted in 24 hours from when game was played to respective leagues commissioners.