

## **U6 Rules**

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### **The Ball**

A size #3 ball should be used. Game ball supplied by home team.

### **The Players**

On game day the coach should be ready with the overall team split according to ability into two squads, A and B, with the A squad having the more skilled players. The head coaches of opposing teams should agree on which field the A and B squads will play. The purpose of this arrangement is to avoid having large mismatches in an age group renown for having a very wide range of player skill levels.

### **Equipment**

Team jerseys will be provided by the club and are to be worn on game day. Shin-guards are required. No players are allowed to play games or practice without shin-guards. Shoes to be worn are soft shoes (tennis/gym) or soft-cleated soccer shoes. (No toe cleat). Players can not wear any type of jewelry (including earrings, hard plastic or metal hair restraining items, rings, bracelets, etc.)

### **Format**

Games on both A and B sides are 3v3- no goalie.

### **Dead Ball Zone**

With no goalie; immediately in front of each goal is a dead ball zone. Neither defense or offense is to touch the ball in the dead ball zone. If an offensive player touches the ball in the zone, the ball is ruled as if the offense kicked it over the end line resulting in a goal kick for the defense. The ball is placed on the edge of goal box line for the goal kick. If a defensive player touches the ball in the zone, the ruling shall be as if it were a goal and result in a restart at midfield (kickoff). A ball that comes to rest in the dead ball zone without entering the goal shall be ruled a dead ball and result in a goal kick.

**Offside rule does not apply.**

### **Fouls and misconduct**

All fouls will result in indirect free kicks, after the nature of the foul is explained to the player. There will be no cautions, ejections or penalty kicks.

### **Indirect Free Kick**

A kick from which a goal can not be scored unless the ball has been touched by another player (either team) after the free kick occurs.

**Duration of game**

The game will consist of 4 quarters, 8 minutes each in duration, 2 minutes between quarters, 5 minute halftime.

**Substitute**

Ideally, you should only sub during quarter changes. Otherwise, line subs up at midfield line and ask the referee to allow substitution. Note that except for injuries, coaches may only sub at specific "change of possession" opportunities during a quarter. These include: goal kicks, kick-offs and throw-ins (only if your team is throwing in).

**Kickoff**

Place kick from center of field. Opponents 3 yards away (outside center circle). Each team must be on their side of the field at moment of the kick. Ball must move forward onto opponent side of the field. Kicker can not play the ball again until another player has touched it.

**Restarts**

A ball over the touchline (sideline) shall result in a throw in for the opponent of the team that last touched the ball. A ball over the goal line last touched by an offensive player shall result in a goal kick for the defense with the ball placed on the edge of the goal box. A ball over the goal line last touched by the defense shall result in a corner kick. GOAL KICK: ball placed anywhere inside the goal box with all opposing players 3 yards away. CORNER KICK: ball place inside corner arc nearest to where ball went out. Opponents must remain 3 yards away from kicker. Kicker can not play the ball until another player has touched it for either goal or corner kick.

**Handball**

Hands in unnatural position and intent to deflect the ball. Officials are instructed not to call unintentional handballs and handballs as self-defense. Handballs result in indirect kicks.

**Coach conduct**

Coach box—stay inside your marked off box. Typically in older age groups the coaches are not permitted on field unless invited by the official during the game. Try to do this as much as possible, especially on the A side. You, your assistant coach and a team mom are the only persons allowed on your side of the field. All parents are to be on the opposite side of the field. No one is allowed by the goal areas. We expect the coaches to keep their parents under control. Positively encourage the players at all times.

**Throw-in**

At the moment of delivering the ball the player must be facing the

field of play with both feet touching the ground on or behind the touchline. Player must deliver the ball from behind and over the head using both hands equally. The player delivering the throw-in cannot play the ball again until another player has touched the ball.