



RULES OF PLAY & POLICIES OF THE SOCCER FOR KIDS. ORG SAYS SOCCER

23

FIFA RULES

23.01 The rules of play for all competitions sanctioned by the shall be the “Laws of the Game” as published by FIFA with modifications made by Soccer For Kids.Org, SAYS Soccer playing rules as amended each year.

2302 SPORTSMANSHIP. The common interest that members of this Corporation share is to inspire youth to practice the ideals of sportsmanship and fair play. Any player, coach, assistant, team mom, parent, spectator, administrator or referee whose behavior detracts from this purpose is subject to disciplinary action regardless of technical soccer background, expertise, accomplishment or standing.

23.03 POLICY: FIFA DIMENSIONS. FIFA Law 1 provides for flexible external field dimensions within a given maximum and minimum width length. These dimensions should be adhered to for all fields used by teams under 12 and older.

A. Dimensions the field of play, marking, goal area, penalty area, corner area, and goals. The field must conform to all FIFA Laws of the Game requirements, including the size being no less than 100 yards in length and 50 yards in width. (Except in small –side games).

B. On open field where most youth games are played, the field shall be marked, where possible, with a spectator control line parallel to the touch line (Side line) at a distance of at least three (3) yards from the touch line. All coaches, referees, linesmen, and other officials are asked to ensure that spectators remain behind this line.

C. With the exception of photographers who have received authorization from the referee, and who must remain quiet and sufficiently back from the goal line, spectators should not be allowed behind the goal line.

23.04 EQUIPMENT. We will abide by and accept equipment standards as defined by FIFA, USSF and/or an organization that this Corporation is affiliated member.

23.05 DURATION OF GAMES:

- A. SUB-6 games shall be two (2) halves not to exceed twenty (20) minutes each.
- B. SUB-8 games shall be two (2) halves not to exceed twenty (20) minutes each.
- C. SUB-10 games shall be two (2) halves not to exceed twenty-five (25) minutes each.
- D. SUB-12 games shall be two (2) halves not to exceed thirty (30) minutes each.
- E. SUB-14 games shall be two (2) halves not to exceed thirty-five (35) minutes each.
- F. SUB-16 games shall be two (2) halves not to exceed forty (40) minutes each.
- G. SUB-19 games shall be two (2) halves not to exceed forty-five (45) minutes each.
- H. Note: Half-time periods shall be a minimum of five (5) and maximum of ten (10) minutes as designated by the referee.

23.06 SIZE OF BALL

- A. SUB-19, 16 and 14 Divisions: must be 26.5 to 28.0 inches in circumference and weigh between 14 and 16 ounces (Size 5)
- B. SUB-12 and 10 Divisions: must be 25.0 to 26.5 inches in circumference and weigh between 12 and 14 ounces (Size 4)
- C. SUB-8 and 6 Divisions: must be 23.0 to 25.0 inches in circumference and weigh between 10 to 12 ounces (Size 3).

23.04 NUMBER OF PLAYERS.

- A. SUB 12, 14, 16 and SUB 19 divisions shall consist of eighteen (18) players maximum and not less than eleven players. A team must have at least seven (7) players present and able to play before referees are permitted to star a sanctioned game. No more than eleven (11) players per team may be on the field at any time during the game.
- B. SUB 10 divisions shall consist of fourteen (14) players maximum and not less than nine (9) players. A team must have at least five (5) players present and able to play before referees are permitted to star a sanctioned game. No more than eleven (9) players per team may be on the field at any time during the game.
- C. SUB 8 divisions shall consist of fourteen (14) players maximum and not less than nine (9) players. A team must have at least five (5) players present and able to play before referees are permitted to star a sanctioned game. No more than nine (9) players per team may be on the field at any time during the game
- D. SUB 6 divisions shall consist of twelve (12) players maximum and not less than eight (8) players. A team must have at least five (5) players present and able to play before referees are permitted to star a sanctioned game. No more than eight (8) players per team may be on the field at any time during the game.

23.04 POLICY: NEW PLAYERS. Every team must have at least four (4) new players each seasonal year.

23.05 POLICY: GIRLS. Every team must have at least 1 girl play on their games.

- A. **It is recommended that every team registered at least 3 girls on their team roster.**

23.06 POLICY: PLAYING TIME AND SUBSTITUTIONS. All players in attendance at their teams practice days, must participate and play at least half of each game. Players must be recognized by the referee prior to entry onto the playing field.

- A. Respective coaches of each team may substitute as many players or none during game interruptions and/or if a player is injure, as long as all players meet the minimum playing requirements.
- B. Players substituting must report to the referee.

23.07 POLICY: TRANSFER OF PLAYERS. A player may transfer from one team to another within the currently season, after the following conditions have been met:

- A. Approval of both coaches of the teams involved.
- B. Approval of player parent or guardian.
- C. Approval of the Registrar

23.08 POLICY: IDENTIFICATION CARDS

- A. All players, coaches, teams officials shall present their credentials to the referee before the game.
- B. A player, coach and/or team official will not be allowed to play or coach a game without his/her credential.

23.09 REFEREE RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Referees shall at all times impose FIFA laws of the game and the Rules of play and policies as defined by SAYS Soccer, member organizations.
- B. Referees shall at all times put great emphasis on the welfare on the players and officials the game in a manner inducing clean competition and good sportsmanship. If a player is injured, the referee, at his/her discretion may stop play to ensure the welfare of the player even if the ball has not gone out of play.
- C. The Laws of the Game are intended to provide that games should be played with as little interference as possible, and in this view it is the duty of the referees to penalize only deliberate breaches of the Law.
- D. The referees shall verify the identity of all players and coaches with his/her player or coach pass. The referee shall collect the passes of all players and coaches who will be participating in the game. Any player who does not have a valid player pass shall not play in the game. Any player whose name is not entered on the game card shall not play until their name has been entered.
- E. Forward reports of send-off, game cards and sent-off player or coach passes, within 24 hours of the receipt, to Stockton American Youth Soccer, SAYS Soccer office.
- F. Field inspection by the referee will include proper uniform as set forth herein. The condition and play-ability of the field shall be determined by the referee.
- G. The referee must be at least two years older than the age group that they are officiating.

23.10 FORFEITS, CANCELATIONS AND RAINOUTS

- A. Rain-out notification will come from an official of the Stockton American Youth Soccer.
- B. If a game was cancel for a rain-out the date and time will be given later to re-schedule the game (s) by an official of the Stockton American Youth Soccer.
- C. A team will forfeit a game if has less than minimum number of player required to starts a game 10 minutes after the schedule game time.
- D. In the event a game is abandoned or terminated before completion of the game time specified by the age group, a decision regarding whether the game will be replayed in full or the result of the match to stand at the time of the stoppage shall be decided by Stockton American Youth Soccer.

23.11 DUTIES AND RESPONSABILITIES OF COACHES AND OFFICIALS

It shall be the duty of each coach and official to:

- A. Conduct him/her in a manner becoming a member of SAYS Soccer and/or an organizations that SAYS Soccer is member.
- B. At all times, encourage clean competition and good sportsmanship.
- C. Uphold the Constitution, Bylaws Rules of play and other policies of Stockton American Youth Soccer and/or member organizations that is affiliated.
- D. Limit their sideline participation during games to positive instruction and encouragement. Sideline participation shall be limited to two officials from each team and they shall remain within the area of the coaches. Negative comments and/or complains about refereeing shall not allow.
- E. Upon team information, each coach must have in his/her possession a registration copy of each player assigned to the team, during team gatherings, practices, scrimmages and games.
- F. Present a healthy, athletic environment for players by, in the case of coaches and referees neither consuming alcoholic beverages nor using tobacco products during practices or games or in immediate vicinity of the soccer fields.
- G. All coaches must be attend the meetings the will be a least two per month during the season or as often as necessary to conduct season business.
- H. A coach, assistant coach and/or team official must obtain an authorization from Stockton American Youth Soccer to participate in non-sponsored events.

23.12 PROPER DRESS

- A. Each team must wear a matching uniform that consisting of jersey shorts and socks. Such uniform shall be properly marked with the SAYS Soccer logo on and numbers on the back of the jersey.

23.13 Policy:

- A. A player must wear regulation soccer shoes.
- B. Player shall not be allowed to participate in any game or practice unless they are wearing soccer shoes, shin guards.
- C. Players shall not be allowed to practice or participate in any game with any type of cast or splint.
- D. Players shall not wear anything, which is dangerous to either themselves or other players.

23.14 INJURIES.

- A. Any injury or damage involving a SAYS Soccer participant shall be reported to and by, the Safety Director no later than 72 Hours.

23.15 ALCOHOL BEVERAGES & ILLEGAL DRUG PROHIBITION.

The use or consumption of any alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs immediately before, during or immediately after the playing of a game by any player, coach, other team official or spectators is expressly prohibited.

23.16 Policy:

- A. Any player, coach or other team official who violates this prohibition shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Discipline Committee and/or SAYS Soccer Board of Directors.
- B. Spectators shall not possess or consume alcoholic or illegal drugs during the game. If spectator continues to violate this rule, the referee must not let the game continue.

23.17 POINTS AND STANDINGS. Will be maintained on the basis of points, which are awarded as follows:

A. Points

Win	3 Points
Tie	1 Point
Lose	0 Points

B. Standings

GP	Games Play
GW	Games Win
GT	Games Tie
GL	Games Loss
GS	Goals Score
GA	Goals Allowed
DIFF	Difference
PTS	Total Points
PG	Pending games

C. Tie-Breaking

Goals differential (goals scored minus goals allowed.) In case of team's ties with the same points and goals differential within bracket/division they will be a game play. In event no winner is determined; both teams will take penalty kicks as per FIFA rules and the winner will advance to the next round. **Only the championship games** will have two overtime periods, which will be two 5 minutes halves. However, during overtime no winner is determined after the overtime play; both teams will take penalty kicks as described by FIFA until a winner is determined. Only the eleven players (9 players U8 and U10 divisions) and (8 players U6 divisions) on the field at the conclusion of overtime may participate.

23.18 AWARDS

- A. All the champ's teams will receive team trophy and individual awards.
- B. Second place teams will receive team trophy and individual medals.
- C. Third place team will receive team trophy and individuals awards.
- D. Four place team will receive team trophy and individuals awards

Any question and/or problems that develop and are not covered in the prior paragraphs will be resolved by and at the discretion of the discipline committee and/or Board of Directors.