

Lake Cities Soccer Association
4 v 4 Official Laws (7/19)
Under 5, 6, 7 and 8

LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

Dimensions:

The field of play shall be rectangular, its length being no more than 30 yards, and its width no more than 20 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width. 5 yards may be added to length and width for U8.

U.S. Youth Soccer 2017-18 mandate:

Length: 25-35 yards Width: 15-25 yards

Markings:

1. Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide.
2. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field.
3. A center circle with a five (5) yard radius.
4. Four corner arcs with a two (2) foot radius.
5. Goal kicks: marks are three (3) yards from each goal post and three (3) yards into the field of play.

Goals:

The size of the goals shall be 4 ft high by 6 ft wide.

LAW 2 – THE BALL: Size three (3)

LAW 3 - THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

Maximum number of players on the field at any one time: four (4) no goalkeeper. Coaches on field @ U5.

Maximum number of players on the roster is eight (8).

Substitutions:

1. Either team at an injury, when the referee stops the play:
2. At quarter/halftime.

There are no Player yellow or red cards at this level.

Playing Time: Each recreational player, when present at a game, shall be required to play a minimum of 50% of the time, unless the player's time has been reduced for medical reasons, in which case the coach must notify the player, and the opposing coach prior to the beginning of the game.

LAW 4 - THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT:

1. A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry).
2. Shin Guards are required for all practices and games. The shin guards must also be completely covered by the player's sock.
3. Footwear: Tennis shoe or soft-cleated soccer shoe.

LAW 5 – THE REFEREE:

1. Small Sided Games Associate Referee (Grade 9).
2. Parent/coach or assistant (logical choice).
3. All rules infractions should be explained to the offending player.

All team officials are required to have a valid, non-expired league issued ID upon request when acting as representative of LCSA. The league ID will act as proof of a current, valid background check. Team officials who fail to produce the league ID will not be allowed to act in an official capacity during games or practices.

LAW 6 – THE ASSISTANT REFEREE:

There shall be no assistant referees.

LAW 7 – THE DURATION OF THE MATCH:

1. The match shall be divided into four (4) equal ten (10) minute quarters with a running clock; eight (8) minutes at U5.
2. There shall be a five (5) minute break between quarters.
3. There shall be a half-time break of five (5) minutes.
4. At discretion of referee, water breaks will be given at the approximate five (5) minute mark with no stoppage of the game clock.

LAW 8 – THE START AND RESTART OF PLAY:

1. Opponents must be at least ten (10) feet away from the center mark while a kick-off is in progress.
2. 2nd & 4th quarter will start where the ball ended the previous quarter. 1st & 3rd quarter start with a kick-off.
3. A kick-off falls under the same rules as LAW 13.

LAW 9 – THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:

The ball is out of play when:

1. It has wholly crossed the goal line or touch line whether on the ground or in the air.
2. Play has been stopped by the referee.

The ball is in play at all other times, including when:

1. It rebounds from a goalpost, crossbar or corner flag post and remains in the field of play.
2. It rebounds from either the referee or an assistant referee when they are on the field of play.

LAW 10 – THE METHOD OF SCORING:

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, provided that no infringement of the Laws of the Game has been committed previously by the team scoring the goal.

LAW 11 – OFFSIDE:

There shall be no offside.

LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT:

1. All fouls result in an indirect free kick.

2. The referee must explain all infractions to the offending player.
3. At referee's discretion, intentional goal keeping is a foul and results in an indirect kick.
4. Players shall not engage in heading. Deliberate game heading results in an indirect free kick (IFK) from spot of offense or within the goal area, the IFK shall be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point. Non-deliberate heading, play continues.

LAW 13 – FREE KICKS:

1. Shall be classified under one heading: **INDIRECT.**
2. Opponents must be at least ten (10) feet away at the taking of a free kick.
3. A goal may not be scored until the ball has been touched by another player on either team. If the resulting kick enters the goal without touching another player, a goal kick will be awarded.
4. No kicks shall be taken by the attacking team within the defending team's goal area. Place the ball at the closest spot immediately outside the goal area.

LAW 14 - THE PENALTY KICK:

There shall be no penalty kicks.

LAW 15 - THE THROW-IN:

1. A throw-in will be awarded to the opponents of the player that last touched the ball. A re-throw, not kick-in, will be allowed. Kick-ins are acceptable for U5-U6.
2. Any infringement of the law, the throw-in is taken by a player on the opposing team.
3. If the player taking the throw-in is the first player to touch the ball, this will result in an indirect kick by the opposing team at the point where contact was made.

LAW 16 – GOAL KICK:

1. Opponent must be ten (10) feet away from the ball.
2. The ball may be kicked for any point inside the goal area.

LAW 17 – CORNER KICK:

Opponents must be at least ten (10) feet away from the ball.

U.S. Youth Soccer Recommendations:

- Opposing parents/coaches and players should shake hands after each game.
- Do not record league standings.
- Do not record final score
- Participation awards for ALL – No trophies or awards just for the best team.

Slide tackling NOT allowed at this age level.