

## SPIRIT OF THE GAME

At the ages of U4 - U6 the primary objective is to introduce children to the game of soccer and begin to teach them game fundamentals and skills. We officially do not keep score at these age groups as this is intended to be an introduction and learning experience, not a competitive situation.

We also encourage teams to **NOT** position any player as a Goalkeeper, to reinforce this belief we will have instituted the Goal Box rule outlined below. All four players on the field should participate in the overall attack or defense in order to work on foot skills, passing, formations and enjoyment of the game.

### U5, U6

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| <b>Ball Size:</b>     | 3  |
| <b>Field Size:</b>    | 30 yd x 20 yd (TYP)  |
| <b>Time Periods:</b>  | U4 = 4 x 8 Minute Quarters<br>U5-U6 = 4 x 10 Minute Quarters   |
| <b>Rest Periods:</b>  | 2 minutes between quarters for substitutions and 5 minutes at halftime   |
| <b>Substitutions:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- At possession throw in or kick-in</li><li>- At opponent throw-in or kick-in only if your opponent is making a substitution</li><li>- Any goal kick</li><li>- Any kick off</li><li>- For injured player (opponent may substitute)</li><li>- Discretion of the referee</li></ul> |
| <b>Total Players:</b> | 4  |
| <b>Goalkeeper :</b>   | <b>* No - Please see Goal Box rules below</b>  |

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| <b>Throw-Ins:</b>           | Kick-ins also allowed   |
| <b>Throw-In Attempts:</b>   | 2   |
| <b>Direct Free Kicks:</b>   | No (Goal <b>may not</b> be scored directly from free kick)  |
| <b>Indirect Free Kicks:</b> | Yes (Goal <b>may not</b> be scored directly from free kick)   |
| <b>Free Kick Distance:</b>  | 3 feet  |
| <b>Offside:</b>             | No  |
| <b>Misconduct:</b>          | No  |
| <b>Notes:</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All kicks (goal, corner, kick-off, kick-ins) are indirect</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Goal Box Rules:</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>THERE SHOULD BE NO GOAL KEEPERS IN THESE AGE GROUPS</b></li> <li>• No player may stand or play in the Goal Area until the ball enters the Goal Area or they are actively playing an attacking player with the ball.</li> <li>• Attacking and Defending players may play within the Goal Area if the play is in the attacking zone but defenders must be playing the ball or defending attacking players, but NOT playing as a Goal Keeper within the discretion of the Referee.</li> <li>• Initial violations will result in a warning to the coach and players, additional violations will result in an indirect free kick awarded from the top of the center circle or goal line depending on the team in violation.</li> </ul> |