

**Oldsmar Youth Soccer Association
Spring Fling Program
Official Under 8 Playing Recommendations**



HEADING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE U8 AGE GROUP PER USSF MANDATE

Law 1 – The Field of Play:

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line. Length: minimum 25 yards maximum 40 yards / Width: minimum 20 yards maximum 30 yards

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of four (4) yards is marked around it.

The Goal Area: The goal area is defined by an arch (6 yards) centered on the goal line. Once the ball enters this area it cannot be touched by any player;

- ***If the Defense touches the ball, while it's moving, in the Goal Area a goal is awarded to the opposing team. The game is restarted from the center circle.***
- ***If the Offense touches the ball, while it's moving, in the Goal Area a Goal Kick is awarded to the Defense to be taken anywhere along the Goal Line.***
- ***If the ball comes to a stop prior to completely crossing the Goal Line a Goal Kick is awarded to the Defense to be taken anywhere along the Goal Line.***

The Penalty Area: none.

Flagposts: Not required.

The Corner Arc: None.

Goals: Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corners and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The goals shall be 6 feet in height by 12 feet in width centered on the goal line.

Safety: Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size three (3).

Law 3 – The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than four players. There are NO goalkeepers.

Substitutions: At any stoppage of play and unlimited.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. Teams and matches may be coed.

Law 4 – The Players Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams. HOME TEAM is to wear training vests provided by OYSA.

Law 5 – The Referee: An OFFICIAL (Game Manager or Coordinator or Parent or Coach or Grade 9 referee) may be used. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees: None.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: The match shall be divided into four (4) equal, twelve (12) minute quarters. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarters one and two and another two (2) minute break between quarters three and four. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA, with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – The Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all kicks are direct and all opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: None.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA. Opponents are required to be at least two (2) yards away from the thrower.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: The goal kick should be taken anywhere along the Goal Line. ***Opposing players must be on their defensive half (midline) until the ball is in play.***

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

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