



Developmental Rules of the Game



U6-U8

The U6 – U8 game is generally a player's first introduction to soccer. The emphasis is on creating a fun and safe environment for kids to develop their love of the game. Coaches serve as officials for these games, guiding the players and explaining the rules.

RULES

- 1) 6 – U8 game is 4-a-side (4 v 4).
- 2) Home team wears RED and Away team wears BLUE.
- 3) Games are 40 minutes long. The game shall be broken into either eight (8) 5-minute periods or four (4) 10-minute periods. with a 5 minute half-time. Please confer with opposing coach prior to kick-off on preference.
- 4) Each game shall have a designated timekeeper (Parent or Asst. Coach)
- 5) Player positions must be rotated.
- 6) Players shall have equal playing time.
- 7) No Heading the ball.
- 8) No goalies allowed and no "puppy guarding". Defenders shall move up with attacking play.
- 9) Each ball played over the end line shall be returned to play as follows:
 - (U6-U7) Every ball over the end line is a goal kick regardless of who last touched the ball. Attacking players shall return to behind the half line. Defending players shall return ball to the goal area and resume play by kicking it to another player. Attacking players shall not cross the half line until the pass is received by the second player.
 - (U8) If the attacking team was the last to touch the ball, play shall be resumed via a goal kick as described in (a) above. If the defending team was the last to touch the ball, a corner kick shall be taken. The attacking team shall place the ball on the corner of the field on the side of the goal where the ball exited play. The ball shall then be kicked into play to a player other than the one taking the kick.

10) Each ball over the sideline shall be returned to the line at the place that it left play and played as follows:

- (U6-U7) The ball shall be placed on the sideline and be kicked in.
- (U8) The ball shall be thrown into play. The thrower must 1) face the field of play, 2) have part of each foot on the ground at or behind the sideline at the moment the ball is thrown, and 3) throw the ball with both hands over the head

11) Uniforms (PYSL Jersey and shin guards) are required. Red socks, blue shorts and cleats are encouraged but not required.

12) Score shall not be kept. In order to ensure a positive experience for all, coaches **shall** take the following steps when their team is scoring considerably more goals than the other team:

- a. Rotate high scoring players to defense
- b. Insist on 5 completed passes before scoring
- c. Insist on 3 completed passes before crossing the half line