

Rules for U-7/8 Soccer

1. Referee is to explain each call to the offending player(s) during the game.
2. Improper throw-ins are allowed. The referee will explain the proper technique after the first attempt. Play on after the second attempt even if the technique was still improper.
3. Deliberate handling of the ball is not allowed. Touching the ball unintentionally or in a protective manner with the hand is permitted.
4. Defensive players must be at least 10 yards from the ball on any free kick. An indirect free kick must be touched/played by a second player (offensive or defensive) prior to a second touch by the kicker or a goal being scored. A goal scored without a second touch shall not count and play resumes with a goal kick. If the kicker plays the ball twice the opposing team is awarded an indirect kick at the point of infraction.
5. All infractions for deliberate handling, tripping, kicking, pushing, and holding will result in the stoppage of play and an explanation of the offense by the referee. Play resumes with a direct free kick at the point of the infraction. A penalty within the penalty box results in a direct free kick at the point where the infraction occurred. Blatant fouls within the penalty box may result in a penalty kick at the discretion of the referee. A penalty kick is taken from the penalty line and is opposed only by the goalkeeper. The goalkeeper must stay on the goal line until the kick is taken. The distance of the Penalty Kick is to be 8 yards.
6. All infractions for dangerous play will result in the stoppage of play and an explanation of the offense by the referee. Dangerous plays include high kicks, playing the ball while the player is on the ground, and slide tackles. Play resumes with an indirect free kick at the point of the infraction.
7. Intentional / blatant fouls will result in a yellow card warning or in extreme cases a red card (send off). A second yellow card results in a red card send off. A player receiving a red card will be held out of the next game.
8. A drop ball will be used at the point of infraction whenever a call is uncertain or for dual penalties. A drop ball within the penalty box is taken at a point closest to where the infraction occurred.
9. A drop ball is used to restart play for any stoppage of play due to an injury. The drop ball will take place where play stopped.
10. Unsportsmanlike conduct, offensive language or gestures result in a yellow card warning. A second offense results in a red card send off. The ball is put back in play with a drop ball where play stopped.
11. If a ball crosses the sideline in its entirety, it is put back in play with a throw-in by the opposing team.
12. If a ball crosses the goal line in its entirety, it is put back in play with a corner kick by the offensive team and a goal kick by the defensive team. Corner and goal kicks must be touched/played by a second player (offensive or defensive) prior to a second touch by the kicker. A goal kick must leave the penalty box before being played by another player. The ball may be moved off the goal box to accommodate weaker players. A goal kick that does not leave the penalty box is replayed.
13. There will be a goalkeeper. Goalkeepers are permitted to use their hands only inside the penalty box.
14. A ball purposely kicked back to the goalkeeper by his teammate may not be played by the keeper with the hands.
15. Play changes direction at halftime.
16. The game clock only stops for injuries. The referee is the official timekeeper.
17. Players and coaches will be located on the opposite side of the field from parents and spectators. Coaches are encouraged to stay between the midline and a point parallel to the top of the penalty box on his/her own half of the field. Coaches are not allowed on the field during play. No one is allowed to stand behind the goal line, including spectators.