

## 6346 Modified Rules of Play

### 1. Law 1 - The Field of Play

a. 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 eight (8) yards is marked around it.

#### b. The Penalty Area:

1. U9 & U10: The goal box shall be a total of eight (8) yards wide regardless of the size of the goal, and shall extend (4) yards into the field of play. The penalty area shall be a total of twenty-four (24) yards wide regardless of the size of the goal, and shall extend (12) yards into the field of play. Within each penalty area, a penalty mark is made ten (10) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of eight (8) yards from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

2. U11 & U12: The goal box shall be a total of twelve (12) yards wide regardless of the size of the goal, and shall extend (5) yards into the field of play. The penalty area shall be a total of thirty-six (36) yards wide regardless of the size of the goal, and shall extend fourteen (14) yards into the field of play. Within each penalty area, a penalty mark is made ten (10) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of eight (8) yards from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

c. Goal Size (Required): (1) See Appendix A Field Dimensions

d. Field Size (Recommended) (1) See Appendix A Field Dimensions

#### e. Build-out Lines (U-9 and U-10 only)

- (1) A build-out line shall be established on each side of the field from one sideline to the other at a point that is halfway between the top of the penalty area and the midfield line.
- (2) When the goalkeeper has the ball in his/her hands or has a goal kick, all of the players on the opposing team must move to the opposite side of the build-out line away from goal from which the goalkeeper has the ball or the goal kick is being taken.
- (3) Once the opposing team is behind the build-out line, the goal kick may be taken or, in the case where the goalkeeper has the ball in his/her hands, the goalkeeper may distribute the ball with his/her hands or drop the ball to the ground and dribble or pass with the feet, but may not punt or drop kick the ball.
- (4) After the ball leaves the penalty area on a goal kick or is released by the goalkeeper in live play, the opposing team may cross the build-out line and play resumes as normal.
- (5) The goalkeeper may, at his/her discretion, play the ball before or as the opposing team is retreating behind the build-out line.
- (6) An indirect free kick shall be awarded to the team in possession if an opposing player inside the build-out line is preventing the goalkeeper from releasing or trying to play the ball, or an opposing player moves within the build-out line prior to the goalkeeper releasing the ball. This shall not apply if the goalkeeper releases the ball prior to the opposing player moving outside the build-out line.

2. Law 2 – The ball size shall be four (4).

### 3. Law 3 - The Number of Players:

a. For U9 and U10 matches, each team shall consist of not more than seven (7) players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of less than five (5) players.

b. For U11 and U12 matches, each team shall consist of not more than nine (9) players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of less than six (6) players.

c. Substitutions – unlimited and may be allowed during any stoppage of play.

4. Law 4 - The Players Equipment: Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

5. Laws 5 & 6 - The Referee: Registered referee.

a. The U9 and U10 age groups will have one registered center referee. Each team must provide one linesmen. The team linesmen are responsible only for signaling when the ball goes out of play for a throw-in, corner, or goal kick. They may not call offsides or fouls.

b. The U11 and U12 age groups will have a normal, three-person registered referee crew like the older age groups.

6. Law 7 - The Duration of the Match:

A. Matches in the U9 and U10 age groups shall consist of two (2) halves of twenty-five (25) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of at least five (5) minutes.

B. Matches in the U11 and U12 age groups shall consist of two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of at least five (5) minutes.

7. Law 8 - The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to US Soccer/FIFA with the exception that opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.

A. In the U9 and U10 age groups, restarts from a goal kick must comply with the Build-Out Line Policy (see Law 1 above).

B. During the 2016-17 season, kickoffs must go forward.

8. Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to US Soccer/FIFA except as follows:

A. If a player deliberately heads the ball in the field of play, except for the goal area, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.

B. If a player deliberately heads the ball within the goal area, an indirect free kick is awarded and taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the offense occurred. The same applies if the goalkeeper punts the ball in a U9 or U10 age group match.

C. A player competing in a U9 or U10 match cannot be penalized for an offside offense between the midfield line and the opposing team's build-out line.

9. Law 13 - Free Kicks: Conform to US Soccer/FIFA with the exception that opponents are at least eight (8) yards from the ball.

10. Law 14 - The Penalty Kick: Conform to US Soccer/FIFA with the exceptions that the penalty mark is at ten yards and players other than the kicker and defending goalkeeper are at least eight (8) yards from the penalty mark.

11. Law 17 - The Corner Kick: Conform to US Soccer/FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards away from the ball until it is in play.

**Field Size Recommendations**

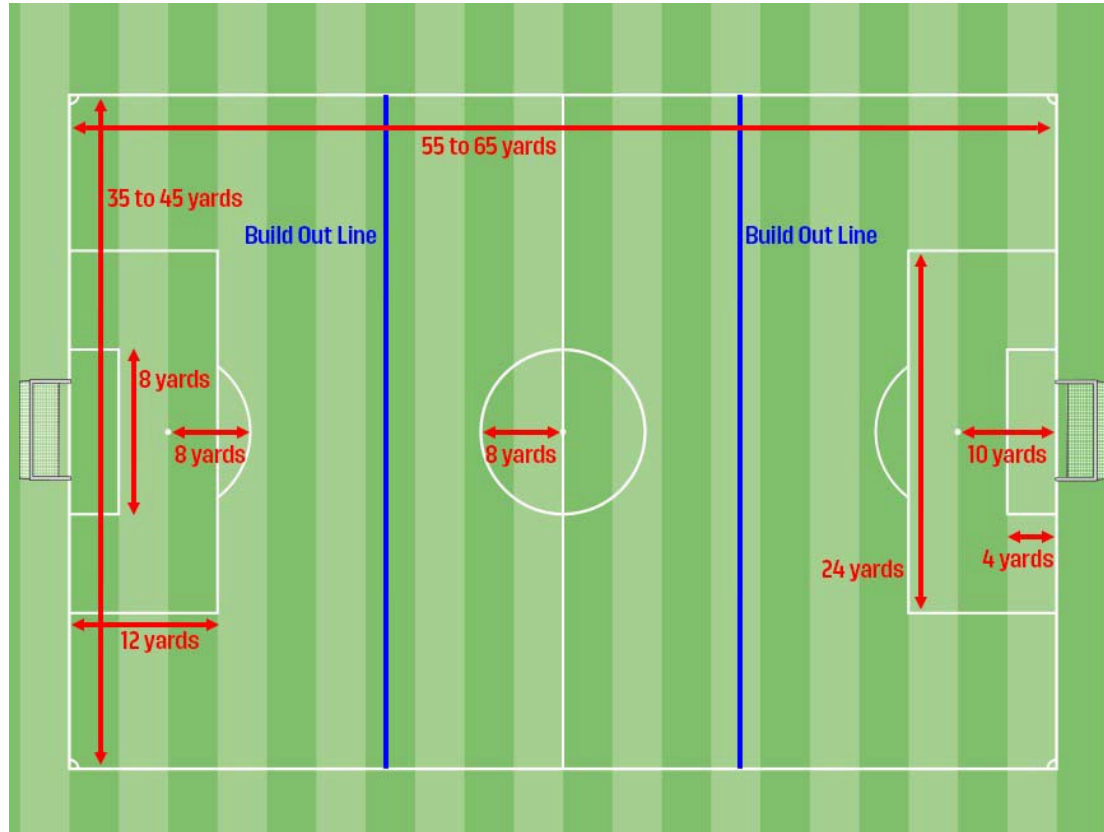
6.6 Appendix A

Fields must be rectangular, cannot be square.					
Age	U6/U7/U8 Plays 4v4 (no Goalie)	U9 & U10 Plays 7v7	U11 & U12 Plays 9v9	U13/U14/U15 Plays 11v11	U16 and Older Plays 11v11
<b>Play Info</b>	4 Quarters no more than 10 mins each w/ 5 min breaks between	2 x 25 Min Halves 5 min Halftime No added time	2 x 30 Min Halves 5 min Halftime No added time	U13/U14 = 2x35 Min Halves U15 = 2x40 Min Halves	U16 = 2x40 Min Halves U17+ = 2x45 Min Halves
<b>Ball Size</b>	3	4	4	5	5
<b>Referee Structure</b>	Specific to Rec Program	1 Center (each team to provide a club AR)	Full 3 Ref Crew	Full 3 Ref Crew	Full 3 Ref Crew
<b>Traning/ Games</b>	1 to 2 tranings a week no formal games necessary	Min 5 Players to start Play, recommended each player should play 50% of game, Substition on anv Stoppoage	Min 6 Players to start Play, Recommended each player should play 50% of game, Substition on anv Stoppoage		
	Each player should play 50% of games/scrimmages when played	Game/Training Ratio - 1 to 2 trainings per game played. Players should play in no more than 20 games a year and no more than 1 per day.	Game/Training Ratio - 2-3 trainings per game played. Players should play in no more than 30 games a year and no more than 1 per day.		
	Recommended 6 (or 12 for two team break for scrimmages)	Roster no more 12	roster no more 15	roster no more 18	roster no more 22 with only 18 active on game day roster
<b>Length</b>	25-35	55-65	70-80	95-112	100-112
<b>Width</b>	15-25	35-45	45-55	60-75	60-75
<b>Goal Size- Min</b>	4 x 6	6.5' (H) x 12' (W) Recommended	6.5' (H) x 18 (W) Recommended	8' (H) x 24 (W)	8' (H) x 24 (W)
<b>Max</b>	4 x 6	6.5' (H) x 18' (W) Allowed 7.5' (H) x 21' (W) to be Phased out over the next 5 years	7.5' (H) x 21' (W) Allowed	Max and Min The Same	Max and Min The Same
<b>Goal Area</b>	Not Applicable	A total of 8 yards wide and 4 yards into the field of play	A total of 12 yards wide and 5 yards into the field of play	6 yards from each post and 6 yards into the field of play	6 yards from each post and 6 yards into the field of play
<b>Heading</b>	Not Allowed - If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense	Not Allowed - If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the penalty occurs in the goal box (tradional 6 yard box). The indirect free kick its awarded on goal area line closest to the spot of the offense paralell to the goal.	Not Allowed - If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. In the penalty box its awarded at on penalty box line closest to the spot of the offense.	Allowed	Allowed
<b>Buld Out Line</b>		build-out line shall be established on each side of the field from one sideline to the other at a point that is halfway between the top of the penalty area and the midfield line.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
<b>Build Out Line / Punting</b>		If a goalkeeper punts the ball, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense If the punt occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

		play (from the opponent) or from a goal kick, the opposing team must move behind the build out line until the ball is put into play Once the opposing team is behind the build out line, the goalkeeper can pass, throw or roll the ball into play (punting is not allowed) After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes as normal. During a goal kick the ball is not live until it leaves the penalty area. Any other time the ball is live the moment it is released by the keeper.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
<b>Offsides</b>	None	Players cannot be penalized for an offside offense between the halfway line and the build-out-line. Players can be penalized for an offside offense between the build out line and goal line	Per Fifa Rules	Per Fifa Rules	Per Fifa Rules
<b>Penalty Area</b>	Not Applicable	A total of 24 yards wide and 12 yards into the field of play	A total of 36 yards wide and 14 yards into the field of play	18 yards from each post and 18 yards into the field of play	18 yards from each post and 18 yards into the field of play
<b>Penalty Spot</b>	Not Applicable	10 yards from center of goal line and the Arc 8 yards out. 10 yards	10 yards from center of goal line and the Arc 8 yards out. 10 yards	12 yards from center of goal line 12 yards	12 yards from center of goal line 12 yards
<b>Center Circle</b>	Not Applicable	8 yard radius	8 yard radius	10 yard radius	10 yard radius
<b>Corner Arc</b>	Not Applicable				
<b>Penalty Arc</b>	Not Applicable	8 yards from penalty spot	8 yards from penalty spot	10 yards from penalty spot	10 yards from penalty spot
<b>Notes:</b>					
<b>Goals:</b>		It is recommended that when buying goals you purchase the new standard of 6.5 x 12 or 6.5 x 18 for U9 and U10 and 6.5 x 18 for U11 and U12			
<b>Recreation:</b>	U.S. Soccer Recommendations - Implementation is recommended but not mandatory				

Based on guidelines set by U.S. Youth Soccer - Updated August 2016

# 7v7



# 9v9

