

City of Plymouth Recreation Soccer League

7U & 8U HOUSE RULES – Fall 2019

5 v 5 Format

GAMES SHALL BE PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE “LAWS OF THE GAME” AS PUBLISHED BY FIFA, INCLUDING THE MODIFICATIONS MADE BY WSSL, AND THE FOLLOWING PLYMOUTH RECREATION MODIFICATIONS.

PRE GAME RULES

- No Jewelry is allowed to be worn during play as describe in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- Ball – Size 3 Ball will be used for game play.

Players on the Field:

- 1) The teams will play 5 vs 5 (4 field players and 1 Goal Keeper).
- 2) If Coaches mutually agree, they may increase or decrease the number of players on the field to optimize the participation. However, if both coaches cannot agree on the number of field players, the game will be played in the standard 5v5 format.
- 3) Each child that is present for the start of the game shall play a minimum of 40% of each game. Players should also be given the opportunity to play a variety of positions over the course of the season.

Coaching on the field:

Head Coaches

1. One (1) head coach from each team is allowed on the field to instruct the players during the game. The head coach is to be completely outside of the penalty area (8 yard box) areas during live play.
2. U8 Head Coaches in the Spring should stay near the side lines or off the field altogether to prepare players for U9 in the Fall. Coaches are not allowed on the field at U9 and older.
3. Head coaches should not touch / move the players during a live ball or interfere with play.
4. On dead balls, the head coach may enter the penalty areas for instruction but must be completely out of the penalty area when play resumes.

Assistant Coaches

One Assistant Coach is allowed to enter the field during a dead ball only to assist with the players. The assistant coach must leave the field before play resumes.

No Coaches, adults or siblings are allowed behind the goals or goal lines at any time during play.

LAW V. REFEREES

Referee shall stop the game upon noticing an obvious injury to any player.

LAW VII DURATION OF THE GAME

Two – 20 minute halves. Teams change ends at half-time.

LAW X METHOD OF SCORING

Kick off: Two offensive players must touch the ball before a goal can be scored. If a kick-off goes in to the goal without two offensive players touching ball, the defensive /opposing team is awarded a Goalkeeper possession.

Mercy Rule:

Whenever a team has a five goal advantage, the leading team must remove 1 player from the field. If the goal differential increases, one additional player will be removed for each goal scored until the leading team is down to 3 players (2 players and 1 keeper).

However, if teams have enough players present at the game, coaches may add a player instead of removing player to compensate for the Mercy Rule.

If the goal differential decreases, player(s) shall return to the field in the same manner

LAW XI OFF-SIDE

The offsides rule will not be called in the “house” format but please instruct the players not to “Cherry Pick” in the offensive end. Offsides is called starting at U-11 age groups (WSSL).

LAW XII FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

All penalty kicks shall be in-direct.

- Slide tackling is prohibited and shall be considered a foul.
- The goalkeeper shall be allowed the normal possession of six seconds with unlimited steps while in the penalty box area.
- The intentional “kick back to the Keeper” rule will not be in effect.
- **No "Purposeful" Heading of the Ball. If a player purposely plays the ball with their head, a foul shall be called. Incidental contact of the ball with the head is not a foul.**

LAWXV THROW-IN

Players shall be given two attempts to make a successful throw-in.

LAW XVI GOAL KICK

NO Goal Kicks - Goalkeeper Possession will be used.

Keeper Possession – When an offensive team makes the last touch before the ball crosses the end line, the Goalkeeper for the defensive team shall restart the game.

The Goalkeeper will restart the game from anywhere inside the penalty area. The Goalkeeper can throw, kick, punt or dribble the ball back into play. The ball is not live until the ball crosses outside the penalty area box line.

Opponents may not obstruct the Goalkeeper while restarting the play.

SUBSTITUTIONS - as of FALL 2018 as adopted by WSSL.

Substitutions during the game are allowed at the following times:

- a. Beginning of each half
- b. After a goal
- c. Prior to a goal kick by either team
- d. For an injured player. (the opposing team may sub an equal number of players)
- e. **Prior to a throw in by either team, only if the team that has possession of the ball is making a substitution**