

RULE MODIFICATIONS FOR 12U RECREATION LEAGUE (as sanctioned by Gwinnett Soccer Academy)

revised 8/15/21

Field of Play (Law 1):

- No one shall be allowed behind the end lines during the course of a match.
- Coaches and players will be on opposite side of field from spectators.*
- Coaches and substitutes are to remain in the technical area during match play.

Ball Size (Law 2):

- Size 4 ball shall be used.

Number of Players (Law 3):

- Maximum number on the field – 9
- Number to start match – 7
- Number to finish match – 7
- Prior to the start of a match, a complete team roster shall be prepared by each team coach and presented to the match official. Ineligible players shall be marked with an “X”. A player not listed on the roster at the start of the game shall be ineligible to play in that game.

Substitutions (Law 3):

- Players being substituted must exit the field of play prior to players coming on the field.
- All players should leave and enter the field at the middle of the field.
- Half of each half is the mandated playing time minimum per player.
- Substitutions shall be unlimited.
- Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the match official, at the following times:
 - Prior to a throw-in in your favor.
 - Prior to a goal kick, by either team.
 - After a goal is scored.
 - After an injury, by either team, when the match official stops play. Substitutions shall not be limited to only the injured player on his team.
 - At half time.
 - After a caution, by either team.
 - Substitutions are NOT allowed during the stoppage of play for a player being sent off.
- No player shall leave the field of play without the consent of the match official.
- The goalkeeper must be given at least as much time in each match as a field player as he or she plays as goalkeeper.
- Please note that the game clock will run during the “substitution times” in both halves of play. The game clock does not stop.*

Player’s Equipment (Law 4):

- Players shall wear only soccer specific molded cleats/turfs or tennis shoes.
- Players shall not play with a cast.
- All players must wear shin guards covered **entirely** with socks.
- Goalkeepers shall wear a shirt of a **different** color from his/her teammates and his opponents.
- Jewelry and metal hair clips are not permitted.*

Duration of Game (Law 7):

- Two 30-minute halves.

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- Half-time shall last 10 minutes.

Start of Play (Law 8):

- Opponents must be ten yards from the center mark while a kick-off is in progress.
- Goals **may** be scored directly from a kick-off.

Fouls and Misconduct (Law 12):

- A goalkeeper shall be penalized for handling the ball ***intentionally passed*** to him from the feet of a teammate. The penalty for this is an indirect free kick for the opposing team at the point the goalkeeper handled the ball.
- Note: if a goalkeeper punts the ball which strikes a teammate within the penalty area and rebounds into the goal, a goal shall be awarded to the opposing team.

Goal Kick (Law 16):

- Opposing players may not play the ball until it clears the penalty area.
- Goals **may** be scored directly from goal kicks.

Corner Kick (Law 17):

- Opponents must be ten yards away from the ball.

Sportsmanship (Section 7000):

- All persons in authority will conduct themselves in a manner that will not contribute to the delinquency of minors.
- Offensive, insulting and abusive language will not be tolerated, either on field of play or in field's general area.
- Respect for match officials must be shown by all.
- Proper respect for opposing teams and spectators must be exhibited by all.
- Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, team officials and spectators.
- Physical violence, foul and abusive language, or harassment of players or match officials **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**
- Any player or coach ejected from a game shall be automatically suspended from the next scheduled game. In the event a player or coach refuses to leave the premises after having been ejected by the match official, he shall be automatically suspended from the next 2 games. (Note: Since some coaches coach more than one team, game suspensions will apply to the team for which the coach received the ejection.)
- Anyone not acting within the spirit of the above sportsmanship guidelines may be suspended by the Gwinnett Soccer Academy Board of Directors. *