



SPRING 2006 MODIFIED SMALL-SIDED RULES FOR U10, U12, & U15 DIVISIONS

The U10, U12, and U15 divisions will be playing small-sided 4v4 games. The key rule changes are listed below. Please review this document as well as the TSA Rule Book. If a rule is not addressed in this document, refer to the TSA Rule Book. Please note that the rules for U-6 and U-8 will be unchanged from the fall season as detailed in the TSA Rule Book.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

Each team will play with 4 players on the field. There shall be no goalkeeper. A game may be started with as few as 3 players per team. Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game.

THE BALL:

U10 & U12 play with a size 4 ball.

U15 plays with a size 5 ball.

GAME DURATION:

All small-sided games will have a 2 minute break between quarters and a 5 minute break at halftime.

U10 will play four 12 minute quarters.

U12 and U15 will play four 15 minute quarters.

FIELD OF PLAY:

The field is 50 yards long by 30 yards wide. The goals are 8 feet wide by 4 feet high. The no-touch crease (explained below) is 12 feet wide by 6 feet into the field, directly in front of the goal. The center circle has a 5 yard radius. There is not a goal box or penalty box.

THE GOAL CREASE (HALO):

The goal crease is twelve feet wide by six feet into the field, directly in front of the goal. There is no ball contact allowed within the crease. If the ball comes to rest in the crease, a goal kick is awarded regardless of who touched the ball last. Any part of the ball or player's body on the line is considered in the crease. If a defender touches the ball in the crease, a goal is awarded to the offensive team. If an offensive player touches the ball within the crease, a goal kick is awarded to the defensive team. Any player may pass through the crease as long as there is no ball contact in the crease.

FIVE YARD RULE:

In all dead ball situations, including kickoffs, defending players must be at least five yards away from the ball. If the defensive player's goal crease is closer than five yards, the ball shall be placed five yards from the goal crease in line with the place of foul.

OFFSIDE:

There is no offside rule in 4v4 games.

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KICK OFF:

Standard rules except: A goal may not be scored directly from a kickoff, and, a kickoff may be taken in any direction. Players must be in their defending half of the field for the kickoff.

THROW-INS:

There will be no throw-ins. See Kick-Ins.

KICK-INS: (Instead of Throw-Ins)

The ball shall be kicked into play from the sideline instead of thrown in. Defending players must be at least 5 yards from the ball. A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-in. A kick-in is considered in play when the ball is touched with a foot and it moves. Example: The ball is placed on the sideline. Player A touches the ball, with a foot, and Player B shoots or dribbles. A goal can be scored from the scenario given.

GOAL KICKS:

Goal kicks may be taken from any point along the end line or any point on or within the goal crease. A goal may not be scored directly from a goal kick. Defending players must be at least 5 yards from the ball.

CORNER KICKS:

Standard rules apply. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick. Defending players must be at least 5 yards from the ball.

FOULS AND FREE KICKS:

All dead ball kicks (kick-ins, free kicks, kick-offs, goal kicks) are indirect with the exception of corner kicks and penalty kicks.

SLIDE TACKLES:

There is no slide tackling allowed except to stop or intercept the ball. No contact can be made with the opposing players while sliding for the ball.

PENALTY KICKS:

Shall be awarded if, in the referee's opinion, a scoring opportunity was nullified by an infraction (the infraction does not automatically result in a card). It is an uncontested direct kick taken from the center of the midfield line with all players behind the mid-field line and the player taking the kick. This is a "dead-ball" kick. If a goal is not scored, the defense obtains possession with a goal kick.

GOAL SCORING:

A goal may only be scored from a touch (offensive or defensive) within a team's offensive half of the field (the ball must be completely on the offensive half of the field, it can not be touching the mid-line).

SUBSTITUTIONS:

There is no change to the substitution rule. Substitutions must have the referee's permission. Players are to enter and exit at mid-field.