

STYSA U5-U6 League Rules

A) The Field

- 1) No one is allowed behind the goal line or goals except in bleachers. The only exception is those fields where one or both ends are near a street or ditch. In this case a parent can be posted to stop/chase ball (however, this person cannot coach or participate verbally or by gesture in the game).
- 2) Coaching/Team areas:
 - a) Team areas are located on the same side of the field, but opposite the side of the spectators.
 - b) Coaching areas are the same as team areas. A maximum of three (3) coaches are allowed in the coaching area.
 - c) Parents are not allowed in team/coaching areas.

B) Equipment

- 1) Ball: size 3
- 2) Shin guards and proper footwear are required.
- 3) No exposed jewelry, watches, etc. (for safety purposes).
- 4) All players must have jerseys and strings from shorts tucked in, and socks over their shin guards.
- 5) Opposing teams must wear different color jerseys. The home team is the team listed first on the schedule; it is the home team's obligation to change jerseys if there is a conflict.

C) Duration of the Game

- 1) The game is split into 4 12 minute quarters.
- 2) Half time will be five (5) minutes

D) Referee

- 1) Coach from each team shall act as refs.

E) Players

- 1) Maximum number of players: per team on the field at one time is Three (3).
- 2) Minimum number of players: per team on the field to start or continue the game is two (2).

F) Rules

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1) Start of Play

a) Beginning the game:

(i) A coin toss between the captains of the opposing teams will be conducted by the referee. The team winning the toss shall select the field to defend. The team losing the toss shall kickoff first.

(a) Following a goal, restart with kickoff by a player of the team losing the goal.

(b) After halftime, the teams change ends and the kickoff is taken by a player of the team opposing that which took the kickoff at the start of the game.

(c) For a violation of this Law, the kick shall be retaken, except in the case of the kicker playing the ball a second time before it has been touched or played by another player: for this offense an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team.

(d) A goal cannot be scored directly from a kickoff (directly means no one other than the kicker touches it before it goes into the goal). If the ball is kicked directly into the goal, award a goal kick (however, if anyone from either team touches the ball after the kickoff, but before it goes into the goal, then the goal is good).

2) Substitutions:

a) STYSA substitutions are unlimited. Players may be substituted in the following manner during stoppage of play or as the coaches deem necessary.

3) Goal Kick:

a) When the ball has completely crossed the goal line, except through the goal, either on the ground or in the air, and was last played or touched by a player of the attacking team, it shall be kicked into play from any point inside the goal area (including the goal area lines) by the defending team.

b) All opposing players must be at least eight (8) yards from the ball.

c) The ball must leave the goal area before it is considered in play. If it does not, retake kick.

d) The kicker cannot play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player. The punishment for this, except in cases where (c) applies, will be an Indirect Free Kick awarded to the other team at the point the ball was played a second time.

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- 4) Corner Kick:
 - a) When the ball has completely crossed the goal line, except through the goal, either on the ground or in the air, and was last played or touched by a player of the defending team, it shall be kicked into play from the corner arc on the side of the goal on which it went across the goal line by the attacking team.
 - b) All opposing players must be at least six (6) yards from the ball.
 - c) The ball must travel its own circumference before it is considered in play. If it does not retake the kick.
 - d) The kicker cannot play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player. The punishment for this will be an Indirect Free Kick awarded to the other team at the point the ball was played the second time.
 - e) A goal can be scored directly from a corner kick.
- 5) Ball out of play:
 - a) The ball is out of Play:
 - (i) When it has entirely crossed the goal line or touch line, either on the ground or in the air
 - (ii) When the game has been stopped by the referee
 - b) All balls out of play over the touch line will be restarted with a kick-in, awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball.

G) Game Conduct

- 1) Players and coaches are expected to abide by the principles of good sportsmanship and fair play at all times. However, players and coaches are specifically prohibited from:
 - a) Being behind either goal line during the game
 - b) Consuming alcohol or tobacco at games
 - c) Making derogatory gestures or statements to referees or opposing players and/or spectators, including particularly dissenting from referee's rulings during the game.

H) End of Play

- 1) The coach will blow his whistle several times to indicate that play is suspended for half-time breaks and the end of the game.
- 2) At the end of the game the players from each team should line up and shake hands.

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I) Parents Responsibilities

- 1) Parents should respect the commitment made by their coach and try to make all practices and games. Please be on time.
- 2) Parents and other spectators should be respectful of the players and coaches/referees. They should cheer and encourage all players and should leave the coaching to the coach.
- 3) Teams and parents should not enter the field if another game is in progress.
- 4) No one should cross a field in use during a game.
- 5) Parents should help their children pick up all trash and dispose of it properly as well as reminding them to pick up their belongings after games and practices.
- 6) If a problem arises during the game parents should inform their coach. Parents should never directly confront a referee, opposing player/coach. It is the responsibility of the coach and not the parent to address these matters. Parents who violate this rule will be asked to leave the area of play by either the referee or STYSA board member.

- J) The US Soccer Laws of the game as amended by LSA will be used for any rules not specified. The STYSA League rules comply with the LSA procedure that allows associations to amend rules to fit the playing formats of the respective association.