

Spring Soccer 2017-

Format & Rules

Games are played 5 v 5 (4 + goalie)

Games are two 25 min halves (half-time is 5 min)

Balls- U6 & U7 - size 3, U8 & U10 – size 4

No heading

Corner kicks- yes for all age groups

Goal kicks- yes for all age groups

Substitution is unlimited. Substitutions can be made on any throw-in or free kick.

All fouls (including tripping, kicking, charging, charging from behind, jumping into an opponent, hand balls, pushing, holding, striking, obstruction, high kicking, etc.) result in INDIRECT FREE KICKS. There are no direct kicks or penalty kicks. On an indirect free kick, two players must touch the ball for a goal to be scored. (They don't necessarily both have to be on the team taking the kick – a ball could carom off a defender into the goal, for example.) If the first kicker plays the ball directly into the net, without it touching another player, the goal is disallowed and a goal kick is awarded to the other team.

On an indirect free kick, players on the defending team must be positioned at least 6 feet from the spot of the foul (where the kick is to be taken). They can charge in toward the ball once it has been touched, but not before that.

Slide tackles are not allowed in Spring Soccer. Players may slide to kick a loose ball if no opponent is within range of it, but are never allowed to slide when challenging an opponent for the ball.

The first kick on a kickoff can be played back. However, the kickoff, like any other free kick, must be played to a second person – i.e., the player taking the kick cannot touch the ball twice in a row.

Throw-ins – U6 & U7- Second chance with no turnover, U8 & U10 – Second chance

There are no off-sides.

Resumption of play following an injury is by either a drop ball (if, in the referee's judgment, the ball was in neutral territory) or an indirect-kick restart (if one team was clearly in sole possession of the ball).

The goalie may handle any ball in their goal area.

For U6 & U7 divisions- Goalies are allowed to use their hands to receive a pass from their teammate; For U8 & U10 divisions- Goalies are not allowed to handle a ball passed from a teammate's feet

When a goalie's hand has ANY form of contact with the ball ("possession" is not required), attacking players may not kick the ball. Foul results in an indirect kick.

Serious foul play, or conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game, is extremely rare in our programs. Our referees do not carry yellow or red cards. However, referees do have the full authority to take whatever measures they view as necessary to ensure safety and sportsmanship during games. This may include telling a coach that a given player needs to "take a break" if persistent fouling, overly rough play, or a disrespectful attitude is infringing on the atmosphere of the match.