



NORMAN YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

U4 – U5 Rules of Competition

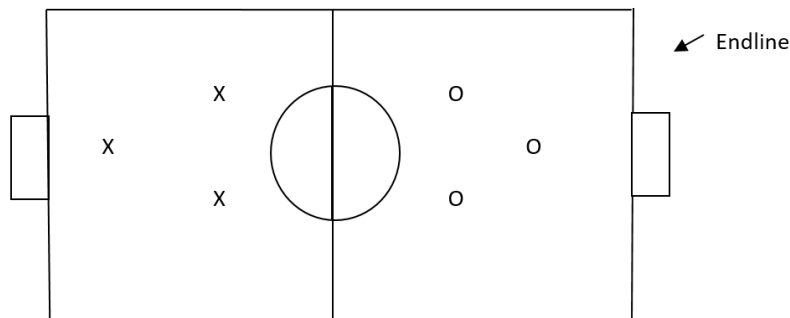
Key Facts:

- Play Format: 3v3
- No Goalkeeper
- 4x Quarters (6min for U4, 8 min for U5)
- No Offside
- No Slide Tackling

Game Format:

- 50% Minimum Play Time
- Size 3 Ball
- Field Length: 25yds
- Field Width: 17yds
- Goal Size: 9ft x 4ft

Field Diagram



Laws of the Game

All rules of competition will conform to the current edition of the IFAB Laws of the Game unless otherwise stated below.

Law 1. The Field of Play

- a. The center circle will have a radius of 4 yards
- b. Field width: 17 yards
- c. Field length: 25 yards
- d. Goal Size: 9ft wide, 4ft tall
- e. Corner flags not required

Law 2. The Ball

- a. A size 3 ball will be used

Law 3. The Players

- a. Each team will consist of not more than 4 players and not less than 2 players on the field
- b. During the match, if a team gains a 5 goal lead, the opposing team may add (play up) one player (5v4) at the next stoppage of play. If a team gains an 8 goal lead, the opposing team may add (play up) an additional player (6v4) at the next stoppage of

play. If the teams lead falls to below 8 or 5 goals, the opposing team must reduce their numbers back to the regulation amount.

- c. There are no goal keepers. NYSA strongly discourages teams from designating a defender/sweeper that is positioned by the goal at all times.
- d. Substitutions will be unlimited and at any stoppage of play.
- e. Each player must play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time
- f. If a player is suspected to have suffered a head injury, the referee will immediately stop play and allow for treatment/evaluation. If the player leaves the field for treatment they may be replaced by a substitute immediately, however they may not return to the game without clearance from a Health Care Professional or Certified Athletic Trainer. No exceptions can be made to this policy. Any team attempting to violate or circumvent this policy will result in the referee terminating the match.

Law 4. The Players' Equipment

- a. Players must wear their Official NYSA Jersey above all other clothing
- b. Players must wear shin guards, covered by soccer socks
- c. Teams should wear matching socks and shorts
- d. Hoodies will only be allowed if the hood part of the hoodie is tucked into the player's jersey
- e. **All jewelry is considered dangerous and will not be allowed. Taping over jewelry will not be allowed. No exceptions to this rule will be made.**

Law 5. The Referee

- a. Referees are generally not assigned to these games. However, a US Soccer Licensed, Grade 09 (Grassroots) or higher referee may be assigned to certain games for development purposes.
- b. If a referee is used, the referee will briefly explain infringements to the offending player.
- c. If a referee is used, Referee decisions are final, no protests will be heard on matters of referee opinion; a protest can only be filed with regards to misapplication of the Laws of the Game.

Law 6. The Other Match Officials

- a. No Assistant Referees will be used at this level

Law 7. The Duration of the Match

- a. The match shall be divided into four quarters of 8 minutes for U5 and 6 minutes for U4.
- b. There shall be a 5 minute halftime interval, and a 2 minute interval between quarters.

Law 8. The Start and Restart of Play

- a. All kickoffs will be indirect
- b. A kickoff will be used to begin each quarter
- c. Opponents must be at least 4 yards away during kick-off and all other restarts except for a throw-in and goal kick. Opponents must be at least 2 yards away during throw-ins.

Law 9. The Ball In and Out of Play

- a. Conforms to IFAB

Law 10. Determining the Outcome of a Match

- a. Teams are responsible for reporting the final scores of their games as played, however our system is designed so that no team will be awarded more than 5 points toward their goal differential in any single match regardless of the reported score.

Law 11. Offside

- a. There is no offside at this level

Law 12. Fouls and Misconduct

- a. All free kicks will be DIRECT
- b. Slide tackling will be considered dangerous play in all instances and awarded a free kick. To be a slide tackle both components of tackling and sliding MUST be present
- c. Intentional heading of the ball will be considered dangerous play in all instances and awarded a free kick.
- d. Opponents must be at least 4 yards away during all free kicks
- e. No cards will be shown for misconduct; however, the Referee may ask a team's coach to substitute out a player who is repeatedly violating the Laws of the Game.
- f. Coaches may be dismissed through the Ask, Tell, Dismiss procedure or the match terminated for a coach's failure or the failure of their teams spectators to abide by the Laws of the Game and the NYSA Code of Conduct

Law 13. Free Kicks

- a. All free kicks are direct and opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play

Law 14. The Penalty Kick

- a. There are no Penalty Kicks at this level

Law 15. The Throw-in

- a. Throw-ins are not utilized at this age level. Kick-ins will be taken by the opposing team from the spot where the ball wholly left the field of play across the sideline.

Law 16. The Goal Kick

- a. Play is considered live once the ball is kicked and moves, prior to a goal kick the opposing team will retreat to the top of the center circle closest to the goal. Failure to retreat will result in a retake of the goal kick.

Law 17. The Corner Kick

- a. Conforms to IFAB