



Kentucky Youth Soccer Association

443 South Ashland Avenue, Lexington, Kentucky 40502

Voice: 859 268-1254 - Fax: 859 269-0545

Email: StateOffice@kysoccer.net

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Kentucky Youth Soccer Playing Rules – U7 & U8

Recommended Playing Rules - Small Sided Soccer Under 7 and Under 8 (4 v 4)

The State Board of Directors has approved the following Playing Rules to regulate play between member associations and their teams to be effective as of 9/1/2003.

Members may form teams in alternative formats for internal member play; however, all competitions shall be governed by the rules stated therein, unless the rules of a specific competition state otherwise:

- [Kentucky Youth Soccer Playing Rules – U5 & U6](#) - Recommended Playing Rules - Small Sided Soccer Under 5 and Under 6 (3 v 3)
- [Kentucky Youth Soccer Playing Rules – U7 & U8](#) - Recommended Playing Rules - Small Sided Soccer Under 7 and Under 8 (4 v 4)
- [Kentucky Youth Soccer Playing Rules – U9 & U10](#) - Recommended Playing Rules - Small Sided Soccer Under 9 and Under 10 (7 v 7)
- [Kentucky Youth Soccer Playing Rules – U11 & U12](#) - Recommended Playing Rules - Small Sided Soccer Under 11 and Under 12 (9 v 9)
- [Kentucky Youth Soccer Playing Rules – U13 & Above](#) - Recommended Playing Rules – Full Sided Soccer Under 13 and above (11 v 11)

The State Board of Directors has approved the following Rules of Competition for competitions sponsored by the State Association.

All teams playing in state sponsored or state approved inter-member competition must play as described within these playing rules and as described below.:

- [Snickers Cup Policies and Rules of Competition](#)
- [Eurosport Challenge Cup Policies and Rules of Competition](#)
- [Recreational Cup Policies and Rules of Competition](#)

Law I-The Field:

Dimensions: The field of play shall be rectangular, its length being not more than 50 yards nor less than 40 yards and its width no more than 30 yards or less than 20 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width.

US Youth Soccer Recommendation: Length 50 Yards Width: 30 Yards

Markings:

- Coaching Areas shall be restricted to the areas along and a minimum of three (3) yards outside the touchlines



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Coaches and assistant coaches must remain within 10 yards on either side of the half way line.

- Spectator Areas shall be restricted to the areas along and a minimum of three (3) yards outside the touchlines. No one shall be permitted directly behind the goal, or within four yards of the goal line; and
- No dangerous objects (cars, benches, chairs, etc.) shall be permitted within three (3) yards of the boundary lines of the field. Play shall not be allowed to begin or continue until this condition is met.
- Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide.
- A halfway line shall be marked out across the field.
- A center circle with a five (5) yard radius.
- Goals: Six (6) feet high and twelve (12) feet wide.

Law II-The Ball:

Size three (3), FIFA approval not required.

Law III-Number of Players:

Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is four (4).

Maximum number of players on the roster should not exceed eight (8), seven (7) is strongly recommended. (If playing "Dual field" method roster size may be larger.)

There are NO Goalkeepers.

Substitutions:

- At any stoppage of play by either team.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time

Teams and games may be coed.

Law IV-Players Equipment:

Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:

- Jerseys: Numbers are NOT required.
- Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes
- Shin guards: Shin guards are mandatory for all players during all games and all practices.

Sportsmanship:

- After appropriate warning and refusal to comply with this warning, the Referee has the right to direct the coach and/or assistant coach to leave the area of play, should they, in the opinion of the Referee, be affecting the game.



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- Unsportsmanlike conduct, harassment, or any other act directed toward the Referee will be considered as affecting the game: If both coach and Assistant coach(es) are asked to leave the field of play after appropriate warning, the Referee shall suspend the game unless a responsible adult can assume coaching responsibilities;
- Should the spectators become unruly, the game will be stopped, opposing coaches and referees will consult and spectators will be asked to maintain order. If, in the opinion of the referee, order is not restored, the game will be terminated.
- A player or coach ejected from a game for any reason shall be suspended for one (1) additional game. The appropriate administrative body may take further disciplinary action.
- When you stop play for a foul or other reason, take the time to explain to the players WHY! This is their first experience with soccer, too, and the best time to educate all on the Laws of The Game.
- USSF Grade 11 Referees are recommended.

Law VI-Assistant Referee:

Not used in the small-sided game.

Law VII-Duration of the Game:

- The game shall be divided into four (4) equal, ten (10) minute quarters.
- There shall be five (5) minute breaks between quarters.
- There shall be a half-time break of ten (10) minutes.

Law VIII-The Start of Play:

- Conform to FIFA, with the following exception:
- Opponent must be five (5) yards from the center mark while kick-off is in progress.
- All kick-offs will be indirect.

Law IX-Ball in and Out of Play:

Conform to FIFA

Law V-The Referee:

Rather than require a Certified Referee, an OFFICIAL (Game Manager, Coordinator, Observer, or Parent/Coach) may be used.

- Their job is to keep the playing environment FUN, SAFE and focused on the child. Duties are the same as a Referee under the FIFA Laws of The Game: keep time, enforce the rules, stop and restart play.



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Law X-Method of Scoring:

Conform to FIFA

Law XI-Off-Side:

There is no offside in small-sided games.

Law XII-Fouls and Misconduct:

Conform to FIFA with the following exception:

- All fouls shall result in an indirect free kick with opponent five (5) yards away.
- The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infractions to offending player.

Law XIII-Free Kicks:

Conform to FIFA with the following exception:

- All free kicks will be indirect.
- Opponents must be five (5) yards away

Law XIV-Penalty Kicks:

There are no Penalty Kicks in small-sided games.

Law XV-Throw-In/Kick-In:

Replaced by a Kick-in awarded when ball completely crosses sideline.

Kick-in is considered as an indirect free kick with the opponent five (5) yards away from the ball.

Law XVI-Goal Kick:

Conform to FIFA with the following exception:

Goal kick may be taken any where within the goal box.

Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball.

Law XVII-Corner Kick:

Conform to FIFA with the following exception:

Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball.

Corner Kicks are Indirect Free Kicks.

Kentucky Youth Soccer Recommendations

- ◆ Competitive teams are not permitted.
- ◆ Out of state travel is strongly discouraged except for Kentucky Youth Soccer approved league play.
- ◆ No team should travel more than one (1) hour for any game.
- ◆ Coaches should have a minimum of a "USSF State E License", "USSF Youth Module I" or "NSCAA State Diploma".
- ◆ Coaches, Players and Parents must be familiar with and abide by the "State Code of Conduct" for all team activities.



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- ◆ If awards are given, must be same for ALL- No trophies or awards just for best team, no final or championship games.

- ◆ Parent/coaches, non-playing players and spectators should be there to enjoy and encourage the activity of the youngsters.

US Youth Soccer Recommendations

- ◆ Opposing parents/coaches and players should shake hands after each game.

- ◆ No alcoholic beverages will be consumed or allowed near the playing area.