

# U6 Simplified Rules

U6 is a fun division; however, it is also challenging for our coaches. Players in the U6 division should be learning how to properly kick a soccer ball (passing and “scoring”), they should be learning to keep the ball in play, and they should be learning to keep their arms down and hands to themselves. Please do your best to give them a positive path forward by teaching them what the penalties are, without enforcing free kicks and penalty kicks. Players should also learn to respond to a coach’s whistle and begin learning to spread out.

## Law 1: Field of Play (in yards, adjusted to availability)

- 15-20 yds X 20-30 yds; approximate
- Approximately equal to the U14 Penalty Area

## Law 2: The Ball

- Size 3 Soccer Ball

## Law 3: Number of Players

- 4v4; 3 + keeper
- All players should have equal playing time
  - o Exceptions to the Law:
    1. A player arrives late
    2. A player becomes injured
    3. A player is not wearing proper soccer equipment (see Law 4)
    4. See the note at the beginning of this document regarding playing time
- Substitutions welcome only when a coach/referee blows the whistle
- For every four goals a team is ahead, the opposing team may add an extra player; up to 2 players may be added

## Law 4: Player Equipment

- Players must wear
  - o Shoes (tennis shoes or cleats)
  - o Shin guards
  - o Socks (completely covering shin guards)
  - o Shirt
  - o Shorts
  - o NO JEWELRY (of any kind, unless medical alert taped to body)
  - o NO RIGID CASTS allowed
  - o NO HATS

## Law 5: Referee

- No assigned referees

- Only **1** coach from each team may be on the **field** to assist players in keeping the ball in the area of play and to direct their team; neither coaches nor parents should be near or behind/next to the goal

#### Law 6: Assistant Referee

- No assistant referees assigned or used in U6

#### Law 7: Duration of Game/Session

- Each match is no longer than 50 minutes long
- **A match is divided into 2 equal halves, with a 5 minute intermission between each half**

#### Law 8: Start and restart of Play

- Ball at approximate center, players on their own side of the half, coach blows whistle to signal start of play
- Player taking kick-off may only kick the ball once and may not touch the ball again until another player touches the ball
- NO dropped balls within the penalty area

#### Law 9: Ball in and out of Play

- Ball is out of play when it COMPLETELY crosses the touch line or the goal line

#### Law 10: Method of Scoring

- Ball must completely cross the goal line between the goal posts for a goal to legally count

#### Law 11: Offside

- Not enforced

#### Law 12: Fouls and Misconduct

- There **are** fouls in U6; within reason. A child bouncing off of or in the way of another player, has not been fouled just because they've fallen to the ground or have been kicked in the leg
- It is the coaches and parent's commitment to direct their players to keep their hands to themselves and to not be too aggressive on the field
- **Parents should help their child's coach direct their players to keep their hands to themselves and to not be too aggressive on the field**
- **Players under the age of 11 years old may not head the ball; any ball that comes into contact with a players head shall stop the play and be forfeited to the other team for a free-kick**

#### Law 13: Free Kicks

- All kicks are direct

- Opposing players to be at least 5 yards from the ball during a free kick

#### Law 14: Penalty Kick

- There are to be zero penalty kicks in U6

#### Law 15: Throw-in

- U6 uses a “kick-in” instead of a throw in

#### Law 16: Goal Kick

- Ball is placed approximately 3 yds (9 feet) from the goal line to restart
- A goal kick is awarded when the entire ball, having touched a player of the attacking team, passes over the goal line, either in the ground or in the air, outside of the goal

#### Law 17: Corner Kick

- Is awarded when the entire ball, having last touched a defending player, passes over the goal line, either in the air or on the ground, outside of the goal area
- Ball should be placed at the intersection of the nearest touch line and the goal line

### Team & Spectator Location

The home team and away team will occupy opposite sides of the field. Home spectators should sit with their team and away spectators should sit with their team. Opposing teams are not permitted to sit on the same side of the field.

The home team will always occupy the east or north side of the field. Away teams should always occupy the west or south end of the field. Teams will always occupy the side of the field that contains the touch lines.

Parents are not permitted to walk beyond the goal line. A goal coach or parent is **NOT** permitted near the goal keeper and goal.

### U6 Director Contact Information

You can contact our Scooter Shooters Director, Sarah Lanyon, via email at [CoachSarah313@gmail.com](mailto:CoachSarah313@gmail.com). Turnaround time for most emails is 24-48 hours.