

Upstate 5v5 Fall League

Rules of Play

FIFA RULES APPLY IF NOT MODIFIED WITHIN

Number of Players

All Age Groups Play 4v4 plus goalkeepers (5v5)

A minimum of three (3) players are needed, for all age groups, to avoid a forfeit.

	Age Groups	Ball Size	Max. Roster Size
U8	Born on or after 8/1/06	4	8
U9	Born on or after 8/1/05	4	10
U10	Born on or after 8/1/04	4	10
U11	Born on or after 8/1/03	4	10
U12	Born on or after 8/1/02	4	10

Combining of age groups will be done at the League Directors discretion, if needed.

Field Dimensions

The playing field will be a minimum of 25 yards wide and a maximum of 35 yards wide, with a minimum field length of 35 yards and a maximum length of 45 yards long.

The Goal Arc (If Applicable)

The goal arc is located in front on each goal. No player from either team is allowed to enter the goal arc. If a defending player makes contact with the ball in the goal arc a goal is awarded to the attacking team. If an attacking player makes contact with the ball in the goal arc the ball is awarded to the defending team. Players may pass through the goal arc as long as they don't make contact with the ball. If the ball comes to rest in the goal box, a goal kick is awarded, regardless of who touched the ball last.

Any part of the ball or player's body on the line is considered in the goal box and is an extension of such. Once the ball has broken the plane of the goal box, if the ball is touched by the defensive team, a goal will be awarded. If the offensive player touches after the ball has broken the plane, a goal kick will be awarded.

Tournament Equipment

All players must wear shin guards. Any player without shin guards will not be allowed to play. There will be NO exceptions. Cleats with metal spikes will NOT be allowed. Teams are responsible for providing game balls.

Duration of the Game

2x20 minute halves All age divisions

Game Clock Format

The game shall consist of two 20 minute halves, separated by a five-minute halftime period. A coin toss will determine direction and possession before the start of the game. The team winning the coin toss will choose which goal to defend and the other team will kick. Games tied after regulation play shall end in a tie, except in the playoffs. If a team is not present fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled game time start, a 3-0 forfeit win will be recorded for the opposing team. Teams are responsible for waiting until the seed for playoffs has been determined. No timeouts in 4v4 soccer. In the case of overtime during a playoff game, there will be a five-minute intermission prior to starting overtime. Officials may stop the clock at their discretion. Tournament officials reserve the right to reduce, shorten, or reschedule games due to inclement weather or any other unforeseen circumstances.

Substitutions

Players may enter the field:

1. Any time the ball leaves the field of play, regardless of possession.
2. After a goal is scored
3. At half time

Players/coaches must receive the referee's approval, and must enter and exit from midfield.

There Are No Offsides In 5v5 Soccer

Five Yard Rule

In all dead ball situations, including kickoffs, defending players must stand at least five yards away from the ball. If the defensive player's goal area is closer than five yards, the ball shall be placed five yards from the goal area in line with the place of the penalty.

Kick-ins

The ball shall be kicked into play from the sideline instead of thrown in. The ball is considered in play when the ball is touched with a foot and moves one full rotation. All kick-ins are considered indirect kicks.

Goal Kicks

Goal kicks will be taken from anywhere inside the goal arc and are in-direct kicks.

Kick Off

The start of play will be from the midpoint on the centerline. The kick-off is an indirect kick and may be taken in any direction. The ball must make one full rotation before another player touches it.

Goalkeepers Distribution

Goalkeepers may not punt, dropkick, or throw the ball into the opponent's goal.

Penalty Kicks

Shall be awarded if, in the referee's opinion, a scoring opportunity was nullified by an infraction (the infraction does not automatically result in a red card).

1. U8 and Up Penalty kick will be taken from the top of the penalty box.

Delay Of Game

Any player may be cautioned with a yellow card, if it is deemed by the referee that the player is intentionally wasting time (for example, a player intentionally kicks the ball long distances away from the playing field in order to waste time).

Cautioned Players (Yellow Card)

A player receiving two yellow cards in one game will result in a red card *[please see Player Ejection (Red Card) section below]*. Any player accumulating three yellow cards during a tournament will automatically be suspended for their next game (no exceptions). All fouls are subject to further review and subsequent action as may be imposed by the Tournament Director.

Player Ejection (Red Card)

Referees have the right to eject a player or coach from the game for continual disobedience or as a result of an incident that warrants sending off.

The team may then continue with their remaining two, three or four players; however, if the player receiving the card was on the field of play, the team must complete the entire game a player short. The player receiving the red card will automatically be suspended for their next game (no exceptions). Players that are red-carded need to leave the immediate playing area, including the fan and team areas. If a player is ejected in his/her last game of the tournament they must serve their one game suspension in their next sanctioned match excluded State Cup games.

All fouls are subject to further review and subsequent action as may be imposed by the Tournament Director.

Divisional Tiebreakers

When two teams are tied for one place in the preliminary games, the following criteria will be used to determine seeding for the playoffs:

1. Head-To-Head Competition (in the event of a tie among three or more teams, this criteria will not be considered), then
2. Most Wins, then
3. Goal differential (max. four goals per game)
4. Least Goals Allowed, then
5. FIFA Penalty Kicks*

** Penalty kicks will consist of each player (alternating between teams) taking a turn until one team scores unanswered. Once all players have taken a penalty kick, the rotation of those players will start over until a winner is determined.*

Overtime (playoffs only)

Two five minute overtime periods will be played. If at the end of the second overtime period the score is still tied then, each team will remove one player. After the end of the second overtime period each team will remove a one player and play a third overtime period. The third overtime period will be golden goal. The first team to score in the third overtime period will win the match. At the end of the third overtime period if neither team has scored then penalty kicks will then be taken. If a team receives a red card during the course of the game or overtime period they must continue to play short for all of the overtime periods.

Penalty Kicks (Playoffs only)

In the event that the game is still tied after the first three periods of the overtime, then penalty kicks will be taken to determine the winner. If after three shooters the score is still tied, then one on one rounds will be conducted until a winner is determined. Each player must shoot before the first person can shoot a second time.

League Director

SITUATIONS OR OCCURRENCES THAT THESE RULES DO NOT ADDRESS SHALL BE LEFT TO THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE LEAGUE DIRECTOR.

Sportsmanship

Players, coaches and spectators are expected to act in the nature of good sportsmanship at all times. Fighting will not be tolerated! Players, coaches, and fans guilty of fighting will be banned for the duration of the event. Abuse of the referee, verbal or otherwise, will not be tolerated.

Trash Talking Will Not Be Tolerated.

The referee has the authority to determine language which is offensive. The referee will have the authority to eject any offending player or an entire team. Any indication of such behavior by a player, coach, or parent will result in immediate removal from the tournament site. We are all here to play soccer and have fun.

Addressing the Officials

Verbal and/or physical abuse of any of the Tournament staff or officials may result in an ejection from the property and/or arrest. If abuse happens during a game, the official has the discretion to have your team lose by forfeit. Officials and players are to show respect for each other.

Repeated poor sportsmanlike conduct from officials or players will not be tolerated. Officials will be replaced and players will be ejected. Remember, these are games for all to enjoy.

Weather Related Issues

The Upstate 5v5 League reserves the right to modify, reschedule or cancel the tournament due to inclement weather. The League Director has the right to move or reschedule any game, as well as the right to shorten game time. In case of bad weather, call (716) 713-3240.

In case of lightning a 30 minute delay in the game is adhered to. After 30 minutes without thunder or lightning the game may resume. If an extended delay occurs it is the discretion of the referee or League Director to determine the outcome of the game. If the second half of the game has begun and the game must be cancelled due to weather then the current score at the time will be considered the final score.

Conduct

This is a game. Remember to enjoy yourselves, and conduct yourselves in a manner that is respectful to others involved in this tournament. Refrain from foul language or be subject to ejection from the property.

Please help keep the park clean by depositing all trash into the appropriate receptacles. Intentionally trashing/polluting the property may result in ejection from the property, with authorities being notified.