

MOD SOCCER PROGRAM

General Information for U9 AND U10

PLAYER'S EQUIPMENT

Shin guards are mandatory for both practices and games and must be worn under the socks.

LEAGUES

Leagues will be formed no later than August 1 each year. There will be a ten (10) game schedule. This does not mean everyone is guaranteed 10 games. There may be a "bye" in the schedule if there is an uneven number of teams in a division. Games will be played on Saturdays.

GAMES

1. PARENTS OR COACHES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STAND BETWEEN THE 9 YARD LINE AND THE END LINE OR BEHIND THE GOAL DURING THE GAME.
2. The Home team gets choice of side of field, with the parents of each team being on opposite sides.
3. It will be the coach's responsibility to insure that GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP is exhibited by everyone.

FIELDS

1. Games will be scheduled on fields specifically selected for mod soccer as follows:

U9 Dimensions:

Length	45 yards
Width	30 yards
Goalkeeping zone	total width of field 9 yards out
Goal Size	Modified size
Center Circle	4 yard radius

U10 Dimensions:

Length	60 yards
Width	40 yards
Goalkeeping zone	total width of field 12 yards out
Goal Size	Modified size
Center Circle	6 yard radius

2. Practice fields may or may not be assigned for mod teams. The coaches will be provided with sufficient equipment to allow use of any grassy area. Large, flat backyards may even be used due to the small size teams and lack of field space.

Dangerous Items of Apparel: No player shall be allowed to practice or play in competition that has any cast, jewelry (including pierced earrings), clothing with pockets or belt loops or any other items that could be a danger to themselves or others.

REFEREES

Home team will provide a referee. This can be a coach, a parent, or an older brother or sister soccer player. Other than as referees, COACHES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD OF PLAY DURING GAMES. Coaching, while on the field as a referee, will not be allowed.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE GAME

Why Are We Here? This program was designed to give players maximum touches on the ball. We are here to teach these players (AND THEIR PARENTS) the basic rules of the game together with good sportsmanship and proper player (and spectator) conduct. Most of all (but within the realm of "teaching") we are here to have FUN. Remember, soccer is still a game.

RULES OF PLAY FOR U9

The rules of play are governed by FIFA laws and modified in accordance with those adopted by SnVYSA for use in the 2002/2003 season. The exceptions to the FIFA laws are as follows:

I - THE FIELD OF PLAY

Size of Field: Games will be played on a field approximately 45 yards long by 30 yards wide. The size of the goal will be eighteen (18) feet wide and six and one-half (6-1/2) feet in height. The goal/penalty area will be modified to an appropriate size for the field size. (See Field Layout.)

II - THE BALL

Size of Ball: The ball will be a size #4 for Under 9 play.

III - NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Team Size: The maximum number of players on the field from each team shall be five (5).

Substitutions: Frequent substitutions are recommended and should be accomplished by rotating players in and out during any dead ball, regardless of possession. Every player shall be allowed equal playing time.

IV - PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

Uniform Colors: All players on a team will wear the same jersey with the exception of the goalkeeper who will wear a shirt, jersey or other vest-type covering of contrasting color to both teams. Players should also have matching shorts and socks.

V – REFEREE

Home team will provide a referee. This can be a coach, a parent, or an older brother or sister soccer player.

VI – ASSISTANT REFEREES

None.

VII - DURATION OF THE GAME

Length of Game: The game will be divided into two periods, each lasting twenty-five minutes. There will be a five (5) minute break at half-time.

VIII - THE START/RESTART OF PLAY

To start the game the ball will be placed in the middle of the field and the team chosen by the toss of a coin will take the kick-off. The other team must stand back at least six (6) yards. The ball must move forward to be considered "in play". The same method will be used to restart the game after a goal is scored. The team not taking the initial kick-off at the start of play will take the kick-off to start the second half.

IX – BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

The ball is out of play when it has wholly crossed the goal line or touch line (whether on the ground or in the air) and when the referee has stopped play. The ball is in play at all other times.

X - METHOD OF SCORING

Goals cannot be scored directly from a goal kick, throw-in, free kick or kickoff. In addition, slide-tackling is not allowed and no goal will be counted that is made by a player on the ground. (Players must stay on their feet at all times when striking the ball.) "Own" goals count.

XI - OFFSIDE

"Offside" shall not be penalized. However, the referee shall warn the coach and may award a free kick to the other team if a persistent infraction occurs. Emphasis should be placed on education of the coach on the intent of the law.

XII - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

Slide Tackling: Slide tackles are NOT allowed. Players must stay on their feet at all times when striking the ball.

Protection of Goalkeepers: Every effort shall be made by the referee to prevent injuries to the goalkeeper. One hand on the ball will result in the goalkeeper being ruled in possession of the ball and the opposing team must "fall back" at that time.

XIII – FREE KICK

Infractions: Any infractions/fouls will result in an indirect free kick. Any indirect free kick means that a goal cannot be scored unless the ball has been played or touched by a player other than the kicker before passing through the goal. The defending team must be at least six (6) yards from the ball on any free kick awarded to the other team.

XIV - PENALTY KICKS

Penalty Kicks: Penalty kicks will not be awarded in U-9. Any infraction committed in the nine (9) yard area will result in an indirect free kick. Any foul or infraction by the attacking or defending team inside the nine (9) yard line will be moved to the nearest point on the nine (9) yard line. Both teams are allowed to be in the nine (9) yard area during the free kick. However the defenders must be at least six (6) yards from the ball.

XV - THROW-IN

Throw-ins: If necessary, only one re-throw will be allowed after a foul-throw. Emphasis will be placed on learning how to properly throw in the ball.

XVI – GOAL KICK

Goals kicks will be taken from any point on the nine (9) yard line. As with a free kick, the defending players must be at least six (6) yards from the ball.

XVII – CORNER KICK

If a defending player is the last to touch the ball prior to the ball going over the end line, the other team will be awarded a corner kick.

Rules of Play for U-10

The rules of play are governed by FIFA laws and modified in accordance with those adopted by SnVYSA for use in the 2002/2003 season. The exceptions to the FIFA laws are as follows:

I - THE FIELD OF PLAY

Size of Field: Games will be played on a field approximately 60 yards long by 40 yards wide. The size of the goal will be eighteen (18) feet wide and six and one-half (6-1/2) feet in height. The goal/penalty area will be modified to an appropriate size for the field size. (See Field Layout.)

II - THE BALL

Size of Ball: The ball will be a size #4 for Under 10 play.

III - NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Team Size: The maximum number of players on the field from each team shall be six (6).

Substitutions: Frequent substitutions are recommended and should be accomplished by rotating players in and out during any dead ball, regardless of possession. Every player shall be allowed equal playing time.

IV - PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

Uniform Colors: All players on a team will wear the same jersey with the exception of the goalkeeper who will wear a shirt, jersey or other vest-type covering of contrasting color to both teams. Players should also have matching shorts and socks.

V – REFEREE

Home team will provide a referee. This can be a coach, a parent, or an older brother or sister soccer player.

VI – ASSISTANT REFEREES

None.

VII - DURATION OF THE GAME

Length of Game: The game will be divided into two periods, each lasting twenty-five minutes. There will be a five (5) minute break at half-time.

VIII - THE START/RESTART OF PLAY

To start the game the ball will be placed in the middle of the field and the team chosen by the toss of a coin will take the kick-off. The other team must stand back at least six (6) yards. The ball must move forward to be considered "in play". The same method will be used to restart the game after a goal is scored. The team not taking the initial kick-off at the start of play will take the kick-off to start the second half.

IX – BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

The ball is out of play when it has wholly crossed the goal line or touch line (whether on the ground or in the air) and when the referee has stopped play. The ball is in play at all other times.

X - METHOD OF SCORING

Goals cannot be scored directly from a goal kick, throw-in, free kick or kickoff. In addition, slide-tackling is not allowed and no goal will be counted that is made by a player on the ground. (Players must stay on their feet at all times when striking the ball.) "Own" goals count.

XI - OFFSIDE

"Offside" shall not be penalized. However, the referee shall warn the coach and may award a free kick to the other team if a persistent infraction occurs. Emphasis should be placed on education of the coach on the intent of the law.

XII - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

All fouls and misconduct listed in FIFA Laws will be enforced. All infractions will result in an indirect free kick.

Protection of Goalkeepers: Every effort shall be made by the referee to prevent injuries to the goalkeeper. One hand on the ball will result in the goalkeeper being ruled in possession of the ball and the opposing team must "fall back" at that time.

XIII – FREE KICK

Infractions: All infractions/fouls will result in an indirect free kick. Any indirect free kick means that a goal cannot be scored unless the ball has been played or touched by a player other than the kicker before passing through the goal. The defending team must be at least six (6) yards from the ball on any free kick awarded to the other team.

XIV - PENALTY KICKS

Penalty Kicks: Penalty kicks will not be awarded in U-10. Any infraction committed within the area will result in an indirect free kick. Any foul or infraction by the attacking or defending team inside the penalty/goal area will be moved to the nearest point on the top of the goal/penalty area. Any infraction committed inside the twelve (12) yard box by the attacking team shall be placed anywhere along the twelve (12) yard line. Both teams are allowed to be in the goal area during the free kick. However the defenders must be at least six (6) yards from the ball.

XV - THROW-IN

If necessary, one or more re-throws shall be allowed after an illegal throw-in. Emphasis should be placed on learning how to correctly throw in the ball. The number of re-throws allowed shall be at the referee's discretion.

XVI – GOAL KICK

Goals kicks will be taken from any point on the twelve (12) yard line. The defending players must outside the goal/penalty area.

XVII – CORNER KICK

If a defending player is the last to touch the ball prior to the ball going over the end line, the other team will be awarded a corner kick.