

GUIDANCE FOR U7-U10 GAMES

Guidance about Refereeing U7-U10 for WYSA Recreational League (April 14, 2021)

U7 and U8 games

1. How many players are there on the field at one time?
Each team fields four players. For U7 games, the quarters are 11 min and we encourage the referees to not stop play but at an opportunity around 5 1/2 minutes, let other players replace those on the field. For U8 games, the quarters are 12 min and we encourage the referees to not stop play but at an opportunity around 6 minutes, let other players replace those on the field. So 8 on field at any one time, 4 from each team
2. Any ball crossing the touch line (the side line) is restarted with a kick-in from the touch line where it crossed the touch line. This is to prevent excessive handling of the ball.
3. Any ball crossing the goal line is restarted with a kick.
If a goal, restarted with a kickoff
If the defending team touches it last before it crosses the goal line, and it is not a goal, play is restarted with a corner kick. If the ball crosses the goal line and is last touched by an attacker and is not a goal, play is restarted with a goal kick. The defending team must retreat to the half way line on goal kicks. The ball is often placed on the goal line but I like to have them place it 2 or 3 yards into the field in front of the goal.
4. Other procedures

The arc - a 4 yd arc will be placed in front of each goal to keep players from being a goalie or camping out. Players should not enter the arc unless the ball is there first. Remedy is stop play and an IFK to the other team. They can cross it on a corner kick for example to get to the ball if necessary. This is hard to enforce but just try to remind the players to get out of the arc if they are camping out there. Let me know if you any problems with this rule.
On goal kicks, the defending team must be in its half of the field until the ball is put in play. The ball is often placed on the goal line but I like to have them place it 2 or 3 yards into the field in front of the goal.

Change goals at half time

One coach may be on the field for each team for U7 for the first 3 games of the season.

The coaches are not on the field for U8 games.

Make sure to call all fouls (all restart with an IFK) and to explain to the player what he or she did wrong

We use a single referee for U7 and U8 games.

If a player, who is playing in the u7 or u8 division, deliberately heads the ball in a game, the referee will award an indirect free kick (IFK) to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the arc, the indirect free kick should be taken on the field parallel to the goal line at a point 6 yards from the goal.

U10 games

1. How many players are there on the field at one time?
Each team fields seven players, 6 field players and one goalie. The halves are 25 minutes. Substitutions should be at possession throw-in (or any throw-in if both teams have substitutes ready), goal kick, after a goal or on an injury (unlimited).
2. Any ball crossing the touchline (the sideline) is restarted with a throw-in done correctly. We ask the referee to try to get near the player and if done incorrectly, explain what was wrong and have the player rethrow it correctly. In U10 (other than the first game) give the ball to the other team for a throw-in in the event of an incorrect throw-in.
3. Any ball crossing the goal line is restarted with a kick.
If a goal, restarted with a kickoff
If the defending team touches it last before it crosses the goal line, and it is not a goal, play is restarted with a corner kick. If the ball crosses the goal line and is last touched by an attacker and is not a goal, play is restarted with a goal kick. The defending team must retreat to the half way line on goal kicks except for two players who may be between the halfway line and the buildout line. The ball can be placed anywhere in the penalty area.
4. other procedures

Build-out line

A line will be placed across each end of the field about 14 yards from the goal line. When there is a goal kick or the goalkeeper has possession in his/her hands, the opponents must drop behind the build out line until the ball is distributed into play, except for two defenders who may be between the halfway and buildout line.

Goalie may not punt the ball (may drop-kick, throw, roll, or place on ground and kick over half-way line); remedy is the ball returned to the goalie to restart correctly. This is to encourage teams to build from the back.

Change goals at half time

The coaches are not on the field for U10 games.

Make sure to call all fouls (restart with an IFK, DFK or PK as appropriate) and to explain to the player what he or she did wrong

We use a three referee system for U10 with two assistant referees so offside is called as appropriate.

If a player, who is playing in the u10 division, deliberately heads the ball in a game, the referee will award an indirect free kick (IFK) to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within 6 yards from the goal, the indirect free kick should be taken at a point 6 yards from the goal.

Let me know if any questions about the U7-U10 rules - Bruce Carlstedt