



## REC LEAGUE SPRING SOCCER REFEREE GUIDELINES

### Under 5 Dual Field

#### Referee Responsibilities:

- Player safety, enforcement of game laws (rules), and time keeping
- Explain the rules to the players at each correction and instruct/assist them in proper positioning, if needed
- Use your whistle to gain players attention, as needed to start or stop game play
- Time is only stopped on an injury, and all player on the field should be asked to take a knee

#### Prior to Game:

- Referee should introduce themselves to the team coaches
- Have coaches line-up teams for equipment check, all players **MUST HAVE** shin guards and cleats (no metal cleats allowed), and no player may wear jewelry during the game.
- Set your watch

#### Equipment and Field:

- Field Size: 20 x 30 Yards
- Ball Size: #3
- Net Type: Pugg

#### Game Play:

- (2) 12 minutes halves, with a 6 minute halftime
- Game is played with a 3v3 format, **NO GOAL KEEPER** or **GOAL TENDING ALLOWED**
- Coaches **MUST** remain on the sidelines, they are not allowed on the field during the game, and **MUST** remain on their assigned half of the field
- Substitution of players can be made at any stoppage of play, regardless of which team has the ball. Coaches must inform the referee of a substitution.
- The game is started or restated after a goal with a kick-off in the center of the field.
- The Referee places the ball, checks player positions and blows the whistle to begin play.
- Players should be lined up on their own side of the field, with players on the opposing side **NOT** kicking off, should be at least 5 feet back. The player performing the kick-off **MAY NOT** touch the ball a second time, until it is first touched by another player.
- To restart play after an injury, ball should be **PASSED/DRIBBLED** in from the sideline, at a spot nearest the spot of the injury



- Restart of play after the ball goes out of bounds, whether on the sideline or end line, the ball should be PASSED/DRIBBLED back into play from the sideline (this is used in place of throw-ins, corner kicks, and goal kicks)
- Referee assigns the player from the team to PASS/DRIBBLE the ball in. Referees should refrain from assigning the same player over and over, all players should have an opportunity
- Referee will signal to the player selected when to proceed to PASS/DRIBBLE in

*For the first few weeks of the season, try to explain what is going on, for example, "The ball went out off of a white player, so it's the blue team's ball on the sideline." Then, tell the player, "You can pass it in to a teammate or dribble it in."*

#### **Fouls or Misconduct:**

- When a foul occurs, play is stopped and the coaches and players involved are instructed of the infraction
- A **Free Kick** is awarded to the team on which the infraction was committed from the spot of the foul
- **FOULS Include: pushing, tripping, kicking, elbows, and handballs**
- The Referee can ask the coaches for assistance (if needed), when dealing with unruly players or if repeated infractions occur

#### **Scoring:**

- Official Score is not kept
- Goals **CANNOT** be scored directly from a kick-off, pass/dribble in, or free kicks. The ball must be touched by another player. Play is restarted by placing the ball at midfield for a kick-off.
- A goal is awarded if the ball deflects off a defensive player and crosses the goal line.

*\*\*A the discretion of the coaches and with agreement from the referee the number of players and the duration of the game can be amended due to player attendance and weather conditions.*



## REC LEAGUE SPRING SOCCER REFEREE GUIDELINES

### Under 6 Dual Field

#### Referee Responsibilities:

- Player safety, enforcement of game laws (rules), and time keeping
- Explain the rules to the players at each correction and instruct/assist them in proper positioning, if needed
- Use your whistle to gain players attention, as needed to start or stop game play
- Time is only stopped on an injury, and all player on the field should be asked to take a knee

#### Prior to Game:

- Referee should introduce themselves to the team coaches
- Have coaches line-up teams for equipment check. All players **MUST HAVE** shin guards and cleats (no metal cleats allowed), and no player may wear jewelry during the game.
- Referee should set their watch

#### Equipment and Field:

- Field Size: 20 x 30 Yards
- Ball Size: #3
- Net Type: Pugg

#### Game Play:

- (2) 12 minutes halves, with a 6 minute halftime
- Game is played with a 4v4 Dual Field format, **NO GOAL KEEPER** or **GOAL TENDING ALLOWED**
- Coaches **MUST** remain on the sidelines, they are not allowed on the field during the game, and **MUST** remain on their assigned half of the field
- Substitution of players can be made at any stoppage of play, regardless of which team has the ball. Coaches must inform the referee of a substitution.
- The game is started or restated after a goal with a kick-off in the center of the field.
- The Referee places the ball, checks player positions and blows the whistle to begin play.
- Players should be lined up on their own side of the field, with players on the opposing side **NOT** kicking off, should be at least 5 feet back. The player performing the kick-off **MAY NOT** touch the ball a second time, until it is first touched by another player.
- To restart play after an injury, ball should be **PASSED/DRIBBLED** in from the sideline, at a spot nearest the spot of the injury



- Restart of play after the ball goes out of bounds, whether on the sideline or end line, the ball should be PASSED/DRIBBLED back into play (this is used in place of throw-ins, corner kicks, and goal kicks)
- Referee assigns the player from the team to PASS/DRIBBLE the ball in. Referees should refrain from assigning the same player over and over, all players should have and opportunity
- Referee will signal to the player selected when to proceed to PASS/DRIBBLE in

*For the first few weeks of the season, try to explain what is going on, for example, "The ball went out off of a white player, so it's the blue team's ball on the sideline." Then, tell the player, "You can pass it in to a teammate or dribble it in."*

#### **Fouls or Misconduct:**

- When a foul occurs, play is topped and the coaches and players involved are instructed of the infraction
- A **Free Kick** is awarded to the team on which the infraction was committed from the spot of the foul
- **FOULS Include: pushing, tripping, kicking, elbows, and handballs**
- The Referee can ask the coaches for assistance (if needed), when dealing with unruly players or if repeated infractions occur

#### **Scoring:**

- Official Score is not kept
- Goals **CANNOT** be scored directly from a kick-off, pass/dribble in, or free kicks. The ball must be touched by another player. Play is restarted by placing the ball at midfield for a kick-off.
- A goal is awarded if the ball deflects off a defensive player and crosses the goal line.

*\*\*A the discretion of the coaches and with agreement from the referee the number of players and the duration of the game can be amended due to player attendance and weather conditions.*



## REC LEAGUE SPRING SOCCER REFEREE GUIDELINES

### Under 7 Dual Field

#### Referee Responsibilities:

- Player safety, enforcement of game laws (rules), and time keeping
- Explain the rules to the players at each correction and instruct/assist them in proper positioning, if needed
- Use your whistle to gain players attention, as needed to start or stop game play
- Time is only stopped on an injury, and all player on the field should be asked to take a knee

#### Prior to Game:

- Referee should introduce themselves to the team coaches.
- Have coaches line-up teams for equipment check, all players **MUST HAVE** shin guards and cleats (no metal cleats allowed), and no player may wear jewelry during the game.
- Referee should set their watch.

#### Equipment and Field:

- Field Size: 20 x 30 Yards
- Ball Size: #3
- Net Type: Pugg

#### Game Play:

- (2) 12 minutes halves, with a 6 minute halftime
- Game is played with a 4v4 Dual Field format, **NO GOAL KEEPER** or **GOAL TENDING ALLOWED**
- Coaches **MUST** remain on the sidelines, they are not allowed on the field during the game, and **MUST** remain on their assigned half of the field
- Substitution of players can be made at any stoppage of play, regardless of which team has the ball. Coaches must inform the referee of a substitution
- The game is started or restated after goal with a kick-off in the center of the field.
- The Referee places the ball, checks player positions and blows the whistle to begin play.
- Players should be lined up on their own side of the field, with players on the opposing side **NOT** kicking off, should be at least 5 yards back. The player performing the kick-off **MAY NOT** touch the ball a second time, until it is first touched by another player
- To restart play after an injury, a drop ball is done at the spot were play was stopped
- To restart play after the ball goes out of bounds on the sideline, a **Throw-In** is awarded to the team **NOT** having touched the ball last



- To restart play after the ball goes out of bounds on the end line, a **Goal Kick** is awarded to the team NOT having touched the ball last, and is executed from the nearest corner to where the ball went out of bounds
- Referee assigns the player from the team to perform the **Throw-In** or **Goal Kick**. Referees should refrain from assigning the same player over and over, all players should have an opportunity
- Referee will signal to the player selected when to proceed with the **Throw-In** or **Goal Kick**.

#### **Fouls or Misconduct:**

- When a foul occurs, play is stopped and the coaches and players involved are instructed of the infraction
- A **Free Kick** is awarded to the team on which the infraction was committed at the spot of the foul
- **FOULS Include: pushing, tripping, kicking, elbows, and handballs**
- The Referee can ask the coaches for assistance (if needed), when dealing with unruly players or if repeated infractions occur

#### **Scoring:**

- Official Score is not kept
- Goals CANNOT be scored directly from a kick-off, pass/dribble in, or free kicks. The ball must be touched by another player. Play is restarted by placing the ball at midfield for a kick-off.
- A goal is awarded if the ball deflects off a defensive player and crosses the goal line.

*\*\*A the discretion of the coaches and with agreement from the referee the number of players and the duration of the game can be amended due to player attendance and weather conditions.*



## REC LEAGUE SPRING SOCCER REFEREE GUIDELINES

### Under 8

#### Referee Responsibilities:

- Player safety, enforcement of game laws (rules), and time keeping
- Explain the rules to the players at each correction and instruct/assist them in proper positioning, if needed
- Use your whistle to gain players attention, as needed to start or stop game play
- Time is only stopped on an injury, and all players on the field should be asked to take a knee

#### Prior to Game:

- Referee should introduce themselves to the team coaches
- Have coaches line-up teams for equipment check, all players **MUST HAVE** shin guards and cleats (no metal cleats allowed), and no player may wear jewelry during the game.
- Referee should set their watch.

#### Equipment and Field:

- Field Size: 40 x 60 Yards
- Ball Size: #4
- Net Type: 6' x 12'

#### Game Play:

- (2) 20 minutes halves, with a 5 minute halftime
- Game is played on a single field with a GOAL KEEPER.
- Each team fields six players, one being the goal keeper.
- Coaches **MUST** remain on the sidelines, they are not allowed on the field during the game, and **MUST** remain on their assigned half of the field along with reserve players
- Substitution of players can be made during play stoppage, when their team has control of the ball. Coaches must inform the referee of a substitution request.
- Players entering the game as substitutes must line up at the half line.
- The game is started or restated after a goal with a kick-off in the center of the field.
- Players should be lined up on their own side of the field, with players on the opposing side **NOT** kicking off, at least 5 yards back. The player performing the kick-off **MAY NOT** touch the ball a second time, until it is first touched by another player.
- The kick-off **MUST** advance forward. The referee can call for a re-kick when the kick-off is **NOT** performed properly
- To restart play after an injury, a drop ball is done at the spot were play was stopped



- To restart play after the ball goes out of bounds on the sideline, a **Throw-In** is awarded to the team NOT having touched the ball last.
- The player must use a legal throw in (arms over head, both feet on ground, behind the line). The Referee can instruct as needed and give another chance to throw in correctly, otherwise the ball will change possession to the other team for a throw in at that spot.
- To restart play after the ball goes out of bounds on the end line,
  - A **Goal Kick** is awarded to the defensive team, if the offensive team last touches the ball. The Goalie or an assigned player by the Coach will take the kick, from the spot designated by the Referee
  - A **Corner Kick** is awarded to the opposing team, if the defensive team last touches the ball. The ball will be placed at the corner closest to where the ball went out.
- The Coach assigns the player from the team to perform the **Throw-In** or **Corner Kick**
- The Referee will signal to the player selected to proceed with the **Throw-In** or **Corner Kick**

#### **Fouls or Misconduct:**

- When a foul occurs, play is topped and the coaches and players involved are instructed of the infraction and whether it will be a **Direct Free Kick** or an **Indirect Free Kick**
- A **Direct Free Kick** is awarded to the team on whose player the infraction was committed. A **Direct Free Kick** is awarded when any of the following are committed;
  - A player kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
  - A player trips or attempts to trip an opponent
  - A player strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
  - A player jumps at an opponent
  - A player charges an opponent
  - A player pushes an opponent
  - A player tackles an opponent
  - A player holds an opponent
  - A player spits at an opponent
  - A player handles the ball deliberately (except for the goal keeper)

A **Direct Free Kick** is taken from the spot where the infraction was committed and is shot directly at the goal

- An **Indirect Free Kick** is awarded to the opposing team, if the goal keeper commits any of the following offenses while inside his own penalty area;
  - Controls the ball with his hands for more than (6) seconds



- Touches the ball again with his hands after he has released it and before it is touched by another player
  - Touches the ball with his hands, after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate.
  - Touches the ball with his hands after having received it from a team-mate on a Throw-In
- An **Indirect Free Kick** can also be awarded to the opposing team, for the following, if in the opinion of the Referee,
- A player plays in a dangerous manner
  - A player impedes the progress of an opponent
  - A Player prevents the goal keeper from releasing the ball from his hands
- The **Indirect Free Kick** is taken from the spot where the infraction was committed and **MUST** be touched by another player before going into the goal
- The Referee can ask the coaches for assistance (if needed), when dealing with unruly players or if repeated infractions occur

#### **Scoring:**

- Official Score is not kept for U8
- Goals **CANNOT** be scored directly from a kick-off, throw-in, or indirect free kicks. The ball must be touched by another player. Play is restarted by placing the ball at midfield for a kick-off.
- A goal is awarded if the ball deflects off a defensive player and crosses the goal line.

*\*\*A the discretion of the coaches and with agreement from the referee the number of players and the duration of the game can be amended due to player attendance and weather conditions.*