

Horsethief Canyon Soccer Association 2008 Under 8 Playing Rules **Modified for 6v6 Small-Sided Soccer**

The following rules are based on USYSA guidelines for small-sided soccer. Rules shall be as listed in FIFA's Laws of the Game unless otherwise specified below. FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at www.fifa.com

Law I – The Field

- A. Dimensions: The field of play shall be rectangular, its length not more than 60 yards nor less than 40 yards, its width not more than 40 yards nor less than 20 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width. Recommended dimensions are: Length 50 yards, Width: 30 yards.

- B. Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide.
A halfway line shall be marked out across the field.
A center circle with a (5) yard radius.
Four corner arcs each with a (2) foot radius.
Goal area: Three (3) yards from each goal post and three (3) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line.

- C. Goals: The size of hockey goals up to 6x18 feet.

Law II – The Ball: Size three (3).

Law III – Number of Players.

- A. Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is six, including the goalkeeper.
- B. Substitutions: Shall be done on the quarter or as needed because of injury with the permission of the referee.
- C. Playing Time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 75% of the total playing time, unless an exception is granted by the Board of Directors.

Law IV – Players Equipment:

- A. Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes.
- B. Shinguards are MANDATORY.
- C. No Jewelry can be worn, including any piercings (new or old). Using band aids or tape to cover piercings is not an acceptable option. The only exception to the no jewelry rule is a medical alert bracelet, which will need to be covered by tape or a wrist band.
- D. Any hair pieces must be of a soft material. Any hair product with a metal exterior is not an acceptable option.

Law V – The Referee – One center referee provided. All rule infractions shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law VI – Assistant Referee – Not used in the under 8 division. Assistant Referees may be supplied for training purposes by the league.

Law VII – Duration of the game.

- A. The game shall be divided into two (2), twenty four (24) minute halves.
- B. There shall be a maximum two (2) minute substitution break near the middle of each half.
- C. There shall be a half-time break of a minimum of 5 minutes and a maximum of 10 minutes.
- D. The clock will be a “running clock” and will not be stopped, except at the discretion of the referee.
- E. The referee is the official time keeper for the game.

Law VIII – The Start of Play – Opponent must be five (5) yards from the center mark while kick-off is in progress.

Law IX – Ball In and Out of Play – ball must completely cross line to be out of play.

Law X – Method of Scoring –

- A. Ball must completely cross goal line between posts and beneath crossbar to count.
- B. Scores and standing are not kept for the U8-Division

Law XI – Offside – There is no offside rule for Under 8.

Law XII – Fouls and Misconduct –

- A. All fouls shall result in an indirect free kick with the opponent five (5) yards away.
- B. The referee/coach must explain all infractions to the offending player.
- C. No Caution cards (red or yellow) are to be issued in the U8 division. Instead, instruction is given to the player and coach. At the discretion of the referee, a player may be substituted for if the child’s play is deemed reckless or a danger to other players.

Law XIII – Free Kicks –

- A. All free kicks will be indirect.
- B. Opponents must be five (5) yards away.

Law XIV – Penalty Kicks – There are no penalty kicks in the Under 8 division.

Law XV – Throw in – Awarded when the ball completely crosses the sideline. Ball must be thrown overhead with two hands touching the ball. If throw-in is done improperly, the player will be instructed and allowed a re-throw. If the second throw is improper. Play will continue as if the throw was done properly.

Law XVI – Goal Kick – If the team attempting to score a goal kicks the ball over the line outside the goal posts, the opposing team puts the ball back into play with a goal kick. The Goal Kick may be taken anywhere within the goal area and opposing players must be more than 5 yards away.

Law XVII – Corner Kick – If team defending goal last touches ball before it crosses goal line, the attacking team puts it into play with an indirect corner kick.