

# DIVISION SPECIFIC RULES

## General Notes

- Coaches need to let the referees know if there are any medical concerns among their players prior to the start of the game.
- If the number of players on the field needs to be adjusted, coaches need to come to an agreement and let the referee know.
- Before, during, and after a game, the referee has control of the field and is expected to enforce both the Laws of the Game and the regulations of BWSA. The referee's decisions are final and are not to be openly or directly challenged.

## Pre-K

- Officials Team: One timekeeper
  - The official will keep time, check players in at the beginning of game and whistle restart after a goal scored.
- Field Size 20X30
  - Fields #10, 11, 12, and 13
- Ball Size: 3
- 4 v 4, no goalkeeper
  - Players are NOT allowed to remain in front of the goal or in any kind of defensive position.
- 4 – 8-minute quarters
  - Substitutes at approx. 4-minute mark.
  - Short breaks between each quarter and at the half.
  - Do not swap goals at the half.
- One coach from each team may stand in their half of the field to help with mechanics, etc.
- No throw-ins – coaches are to restart play, aka “master of the ball”.
- No heading!
- If there isn't an assistant coach, try to get a parent to assist with sideline control.
- Mercy Rule doesn't apply in this division. Coaches are encouraged to help players find creative ways to score once a game becomes lopsided.

## Kindergarten

- Officials Team: One timekeeper
  - The official will keep time, check players in at the beginning of game and whistle restart after a goal scored.
- Field Size 20X40
  - Fields #8 and 9
- Ball Size: 3
- 5 v 5, no goalkeeper
  - Players are NOT allowed to remain in front of the goal or in any kind of defensive position.
- 4 – 10-minute quarters
  - Substitutes at approx. 5-minute mark.
  - Short breaks between each quarter and at the half.
  - Do not swap goals at the half.
- One coach from each team may stand in their half of the field to help with mechanics, etc.
- Players may throw or kick the ball in to restart play.
- No heading!
- If there isn't an assistant coach, try to get a parent to assist with sideline control.
- Follow the Mercy Rule

## 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

- Officials Team: 1 unlicensed referee
  - The referee will keep time, check players in at the beginning of the game, look for and enforce proper FIFA restarts for fouls, corners and goal kicks.
- Field Size 25X40
  - Fields #4 and 5
- Ball size: 3
- 6 V 6, includes a goalkeeper.
  - Minimum 4 players needed to start the game.
- 4 – 12 minute quarters
  - Substitutes at approx. 6 minute mark.
  - Short break at halftime
  - Do NOT swap goals
- Goal kicks can be taken anywhere inside to goal area.
  - Opposing players need to move away from the goal box to allow room for the keeper to restart play.
- Throw-ins – two tries then other team takes possession
- Protect the keeper/benefit of doubt to the keeper.
  - The keeper cannot punt/dropkick.
- No slide tackling or reckless behavior.
- No heading!
- Coaches are not permitted on the field.
- Follow the Mercy Rule.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade (U8)**

- Officials Team: 1 licensed referee or 2 unlicensed referees
  - The referee will keep time, check players in at the beginning of the game, look for and enforce proper FIFA restarts for fouls, corners and goal kicks.
- Field Size 35X50
  - Fields #14, 15, and 16
- Ball size: 4
- 6 V 6, includes a goalkeeper.
  - Minimum 4 players needed to start the game.
- 2 – 24 minute halves
  - Free substitutions on goal kicks, after goals, and possession throw-ins.
  - Short break at halftime
  - SWAP goals
- Goal kicks can be taken anywhere inside to goal area.
- Throw-ins – two tries then other team takes possession
- Protect the keeper/benefit of doubt to the keeper.
  - The keeper cannot punt/dropkick.
- No slide tackling or reckless behavior.
- No heading!
- Coaches are not permitted on the field.
- Discourage offside/"cherry picking"
- Follow the Mercy Rule.

## **5th & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade (U12)**

- Officials Team: 1 licensed referee and 1 unlicensed referee
  - The referees will keep time, check players in at the beginning of the game, look for and enforce proper FIFA restarts for fouls, corners and goal kicks.
- Field Size 48X75
  - Field #17
- Ball size: 4
- 9 V 9, includes a goalkeeper
- 2 – 30 minute halves
  - Free substitutions on goal kicks, after goals, and possession throw-ins.
  - Short break at halftime
  - SWAP goals
- Goal kicks can be taken anywhere inside to goal area.
- Protect the keeper/benefit of doubt to the keeper.
  - The keeper is allowed to punt and receive pass-backs.
- No slide tackling or reckless behavior.
- Heading is allowed
- Offside is enforced
- Coaches are not permitted on the field.
- Follow the Mercy Rule.

## **MSSA**

- Officials Team: 2 licensed referees
  - Laws of the Game are fully enforced
- Fields #1 and 2
  - Field Size 50x110
- Ball Size: 5
- 11 v 11
- 2 – 35-minute halves
  - 5-minute halftime
- Slide tackling is allowed