

RCYSL U8 League Play Rule Modifications

The following are the specific rule modifications utilized for RCYSL U8 League play. These rules are utilized in addition to the general RCYSL rules for all ages.

Law 1: The Field of Play

Dimensions 30yd x 20yd (min-max = 25-35yd x 15-25yd) **Penalty Box:** None
Goal Box: 5 x 3 / **Penalty Spot:** None / **Center Circle:** 20 ft radius **Goal Size:** 6ft x 4ft
Ball Size: 3

Law 3: The Players

Matches will be played 4 players per side with no goalkeepers. Games may not start or continue if there are less than 3 players on the field for either side.

Law 5: The Referee

Due to the nature of U8 play, referees are encouraged to explain their decisions to the players.

The referee's judgment regarding the physical condition of the field and its acceptance for play, the actual happenings and occurrences related to the conduct of the game, and those prerogatives granted to him/her by the "Laws of the Game" shall not be challenged.

Law 7: The Duration of the Match

u8 Matches will be 40 minutes long, divided into 4, 10-minute quarters.

There will be a 1-minute break after the 1st and 3rd quarters and a 10-minute break at the half.

Law 8: The Start and Restart of Play

A kick-off starts all four quarters of the match and restarts play after a goal has been scored.

Initial kickoff will be determined by a coin toss. The team that begins the first half with possession will kick off the second quarter, and the team that begins with possession at half time will kick off the 4th quarter.

There are no penalty kicks or direct free kicks in u8 matches.

Law 11: Offside

Offside is generally not called at u8, unless it is the opinion of the referee that a player is being coached into an offside position. The penalty for offside will be an indirect free kick.

Law 12: Fouls and Misconduct

Slide Tackling: Slide tackling is not allowed. The penalty shall be the award of an indirect free kick to the opposing team.

Heading: Intentional heading is prohibited. The penalty is the award of an indirect free kick to the opposing team.

Handball: Not every touch of a player's hand/arm with the ball is an offence. It is an offence if the player: (1) Deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm, for example moving the hand/arm towards the ball. (2) Touches the ball with their hand/arm when it has made their body unnaturally bigger. (3) Scores in the opponents' goal.

Law 13: Free Kicks

There are no direct free kicks at u8. All infractions that would typically result in a direct kick will instead result in an indirect kick.

All opposing players must be at least 10 feet from the spot of an indirect kick.

Law 14: The Penalty Kick

There are no penalty kicks at u8. Infractions that would result in a penalty kick will be awarded an indirect kick.

Law 15: The Throw-in

Repeat throw-in may be granted by the referee to a player after an explanation.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in.

Law 16: The Goal Kick

Goal kicks shall be taken from any point inside the goal area.

All opposing players must be at the half line for the kick.