



# 3rd Grade Rule Book



**Registration:** All players **MUST** be registered with the BGCLCV before participating

## **Equipment:**

- **The Ball:** Size 4.
- **Uniform:** BGCLCV issued uniform. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions.
- **Footwear:** tennis shoes or soccer cleats.
- **Shinguards:** Must be worn.
- **Illegal Equipment:** hard protruding objects, casts, jewelry and zippers.
- **Goals:** 6.5 ft high x 12 ft wide.

## **Players:**

- Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is seven (7) (includes goalkeeper).
- Maximum number of players on the roster should not exceed fourteen (14).
- Substitutions: At any stoppage with permission of referee (subs must enter at midfield).
- Teams and games are coed. An uneven number of boys & girls per team are allowed.
- Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. It is the coach's responsibility to follow this rule and monitor playing time. The referees, field monitors and/or Athletic Director may need to intervene if this rule is not being followed.
- If a team does not have seven (7) players to start a game, then they have the option to play with less players (minimum of 5) or forfeit the game. If they choose to forfeit, they may borrow a player from the other team if there are enough players to start a regulation game. In this scenario, the team with enough players to start the game will get the win if team chooses to forfeit (despite the final score).
  - The referee will select the player from other team at random if necessary.

## **Player Placement:**

- See player placement policy on the website ([www.poweroftheclub.org](http://www.poweroftheclub.org)).

## **Field Size:**

- **Dimensions:** The field of play shall be rectangular, 30x50yds.
- **Markings:** Distinctive lines no more than five (5) inches wide.
  - **Halfway Line:** shall be marked out across the field.
  - **Center Circle:** with a four (4) yard radius.
  - **Corner Arcs:** Four (4) each with a one (1) yard radius.
  - **Goal Area:** Five (5) yards from each goal post and five (5) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. All players are allowed in this box.
  - **Penalty Area:** Ten (10) yards from each goal post and ten (10) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. Penalty kick mark is made at eight (8) yards from the goal line. All players are allowed in this box at any time.

## **Start and Restart of Play:**

- Rock, paper, scissor or coin flip administered by referee. Winner chooses if they want to start with the ball 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> half, loser picks which side they start on.
- The offense can have any number of players in the center circle on their half of the field.
- The defense must be outside the center circle and on their own half of the field.
- The offense will kick the ball in any direction to signal the start of play from the center mark.

## **Duration of the Game:**

- The game shall be divided into two 22-minute halves with a 3-minute halftime break. No added time if the game is tied after regulation.

## **Ball in and Out of Play:**

- Ball must completely cross the line to be "out of play," ball is "in play" if any part of the ball is on or above the line.

**Throw-In:**

- Awarded when the ball completely crosses the sideline.
- Opponent must be five (5) yards away.

**Method of Scoring:**

- The ball must completely cross the goal line between goal posts and beneath crossbar for a goal.

**Off-Side:**

- Offside Position - PLAY IS NOT STOPPED FOR OFFSIDE POSITION. A player is in offside position if that player is closer to the opponent's goal line than both the ball and the second to last defender. This only applies in the defender's half of the field.
- Offside Offense - A player in an offside position is penalized **ONLY IF** at the moment the ball touches or is played by a teammate, that player is involved in active play. The opposing team gets an indirect free kick from the spot of the offsides.
- No Offense - There is no offside violation if a player receives the ball directly from a goal kick, throw in, or corner kick.

**Fouls and Misconduct:**

- The yellow card is used to communicate that a player or coach has been cautioned.
- The red card is used to communicate that a player or coach has been ejected.
- A yellow card requires the player to immediately leave the field and be substituted for. The player may return to the field at the next regular substitution.
- A red card results in immediate ejection from game with no player replacement allowed.

**Free Kick:**

- Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball on a free kick.

**Penalty Kick:**

- Awarded when a defending player commits a foul within their own penalty area.
- Penalty Mark is made eight yards from the goal post in the center of the field.

**Goal Kick:**

- Awarded when the ball passes over the goal line and the attacking team and is last in possession.
- The opposing team puts the ball back into play with a goal kick inside goal area.

**Corner Kick:**

- Awarded when the ball passes over the goal line and the defense is the last to possess.
- The opposing team puts the ball back into play with a corner kick inside the corner arc.

**Slide Tackling: Not allowed at this level**

**Heading policy/rule: (New for Fall 2019)** Players cannot use their heads to control a ball in the air, pass the ball OR shoot on goal. If a player heads the ball at this age, the referee will blow their whistle and award a free kick to the opposing team.

**General Rules:** Coaches are responsible for knowing and following the rules and having them available at every game. The rules govern the game and are not open to negotiation. All rules apply. Ignorance of the rules or inadvertent violations will not be tolerated. The rules supersede any error made by a referee during the course of the game. Any situation/incident not covered by the rules will be arbitrated by the Athletic Director (upon consulting with the field monitors, referees and all involved parties).

For more information, contact:

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