



# 2nd-Grade Rules



**Registration:** All players **MUST** have a current 2023-24 Club membership, a signed COVID-19 release form and all fees paid prior to participating in the 2023-24 Fall/Spring Soccer Leagues.

## Equipment:

- The Ball: Size 3.
- Uniform: BGCLCV issued uniform. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions. Face coverings are optional during play and recommended on the sidelines if social distancing cannot be maintained (and IF COVID restrictions are in place).
- Footwear: tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes. No baseball/softball cleats/spikes allowed.
- Shinguards: Must be worn and be under the socks.
- Illegal Equipment: No hard objects (i.e., casts, jewelry, etc.) or hazardous items may be worn.
- Goal: 6 ft. wide x 4 ft high.

## Number of Players:

- Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is five (5). **NO GOALKEEPER.** Teams may use a defender who stays on their side of the field, but must move to midfield when ball is in the attacking half of the field (defenders allowed in the no-touch zone **ONLY** when playing the ball).
- Maximum roster size is ten (10). Rosters may exceed 10 **ONLY** if coach & AD approve.
- Substitutions: At any time during play. Coaches – make sure the referee stops play & waves subs onto field.
- Teams and games are coed. An uneven number of boys & girls per team are allowed.
  - If a team does not have five (5) players to start a game they have the option to play with less players (minimum of 4). Teams may use one or more players from the opponent roster **IF** they have enough to share.

## Field Size:

- Dimensions: The field of play shall be rectangular, 20x40yds
  - Markings: Distinctive lines no more than five (5) inches wide.
  - Midfield Line: shall be marked out across the field.
  - Center Circle: with a three (3) yard radius.
  - Corner Arcs: Four (4) each with a two (2) feet radius.
  - Goal Kick Lines: **A dotted/jagged line midway between the goal and the midfield line.**
  - No Touch Zones: **A rectangular area (4 feet x 9 feet) in front of each goal.**

## Start of the Game:

**Pre-game equipment check** – Three (3) minutes before start time. Have all players line up near the goal-kick line (on their bench side) for the equipment (shoes & shin guards) check.

**Pre-game conference** – One (1) minute before start time. Only 1 coach and 1 player (captain) per team will go to midfield for the conference. Have starters out on the field in their positions during the conference. Designated HOME team will kick-off to start game. Possession will alternate each quarter.

## Duration of the Game:

- The game shall be divided into four 10-minute quarters with a 3-minute halftime break and a one-minute break between quarters.

## The Start of Play:

- 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 half of the field.
- The offense will kick the ball in any direction to signal the start of play from the center mark.

**Ball in and Out of Play:**

- Ball must completely cross the line to be “out of play/bounds.” The ball is “in play/bounds” if any part of the ball is on or above the line.

**No-Touch Zone: the marked area around goal where the ball cannot be played by either team. If the ball is played while in this zone, referee stops play (and disallows goal if scored) and awards goal kick to the defending team OR a corner kick if the ball was played by the defending team.**

**Method of Scoring:**

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

**Offside:** Not called at this age level/division.

**Fouls and Misconduct:** No cautions or ejections issued. If a player is getting too aggressive, the referee will require the coach to substitute player and give them a chance to calm down before re-entering.

**Free Kicks (No Penalty Kicks):**

- All free kicks will be direct.
- Opponents must be a minimum of five (5) yards away from the ball on a free kick.

**Throw-In:**

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

**Goal Kick:**

- Awarded when the team that is attempting to score a goal, kicks the ball over the goal line outside of the goal posts. The opposing team puts the ball back into play with a goal kick.
- The goal kick should be taken from the goal kick lines marked on the field.
- Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball.

**Corner Kick:**

- Awarded when the defending team last touches ball when it goes over the goal line.
- The opposing team puts the ball back into play with a corner kick inside the corner arc.
- Opponents must be five (5) yards away from the ball on a corner kick.

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

**Heading policy/rule:** 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; including our No Tolerance Policy that deals with coach/player/fan sportsmanship & behavior. Any rule or incident/situation not covered by the sport rules will be reported to the field monitor and reviewed by the Athletic Director. All leagues will be governed by the Athletic Director, who will arbitrate any problems, issues and/or penalties.

For more information, contact.

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