



# Kindergarten Rules



**Registration:** All players MUST have a current 2024-25 Club membership, have signed waiver forms on file, and all fees paid prior to participating in the 2024-25 Fall/Spring Soccer League seasons.

## Equipment:

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

## Number of Players:

- Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is three (3). NO GOALKEEPER. May use a defender who stays on their side of the field, but must move to center circle when ball is on opposing team side (don't let players just stand by the goal).
- Maximum roster size is six (6). Rosters may exceed 6; but only if agreed upon by coach & AD.
- Substitutions: At any time during play. Make sure referee stops play & waves players on to field.
- Teams and games are coed. An uneven number of boys & girls per team are allowed.
  - If a team does not have three (3) players to start a game; they have the option to play with less players (minimum of 2). A team may borrow players from the other team if they have enough to share and field a team.

## Field Size:

- Dimensions: The field of play shall be rectangular, 15x30yds
  - 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 Line: a dotted/jagged line midway between goal line & midfield line.
  - No Touch Zone: A rectangle area (4 feet x 9 feet) in front of each goal.

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

**Pre-game conference** – One (1) minute before start time. One coach and one captain per team will go to midfield for the pre-game conference. Have starters out on the field in their positions during the conference. Designated HOME team will kick off to start first quarter. Visiting team will kick off to start 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

## Duration of the Game:

- The game shall be divided into four equal eight (8) minute quarters with a three (3) minute half-time 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 bounds.” Ball is “in play/bounds” if any part of the ball is on or above the line.

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

**Method of Scoring:**

- Ball must completely cross the goal line between goal posts and under crossbar for a goal.

**Offsides call/position:** Not called/administered at this age level.

**Fouls and Misconduct:** No cautions or ejections issued. IF players are getting too aggressive, then the referee will ask coach to substitute player to give them a chance to calm down.

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

- All free kicks will be direct.
- Opponents must be four (4) yards away from the ball during a free kick.

**Throw-In:**

- Awarded when the ball completely crosses the sideline.
- Opponent must be three (3) yards away from corner kick spot.

**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 line marked on the field.
- Opponents must be at least three (3) yards away from the ball.

**Corner Kick:**

- Awarded when the team defending the goal last touched the ball when it crosses goal line.
- The opposing team puts the ball back into play with a corner kick inside the corner arc.
- Opponents must be at least three (3) yards away from the ball.

**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/Guidelines:** 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 situation not covered by the rules will be reported by 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 about Club soccer or any of our sports, contact:

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