

BURLINGTON KINDERGARTEN SOCCER RULES AND REGULATIONS

Revised, September 2023

Kindergarten Soccer is a game of participation, fun, and fundamentals. In order to promote these qualities, the rules have been revised to decrease the emphasis on winning and losing. It will be important that the players, parents, and coaches all work together and promote the fun of participation in sports.

Ball - Size 3

Field – All games will be played on the midget field at HS Softball Field.

Number of Players - The maximum number of players on a roster should not exceed Twelve. The maximum number of players on the field at one time is eight. There is no goalkeeper at this age group. Substitutions may be done at any time, however players should be given a chance to play. Substitutions should be as discrete as possible in order to benefit the flow of the game. All players should play a minimum of 50% of the entire game.

Players' Equipment - Tennis shoes or soccer shoes with rubber cleats. NO toe cleats allowed. Shin guards are mandatory. They must be covered completely by socks. Shoelaces should be double-knotted. If a player has an arm cast, the cast must be wrapped with at least two inches of soft padding, which must be secured to the cast. (Suggest wrapping the cast in bubble wrap and securing it with an Ace bandage.) NO jewelry is allowed. Players should remove all jewelry (earrings, necklaces, bracelets, etc.) before warming up.

Game Days - Official may or may not be provided for the Kindergarten league depending on availability. Coaches will be allowed to be on the field to help coach their team. Only 1 coach per team will be allowed on the field. Coaches will be responsible for officiating the game. They will need to keep track of time left in the quarter and make calls such as out of bounds, throw-ins, goal kicks, etc. If there are any concerns throughout the game, please find the field supervisor.

Duration of the Game - Two 15 minute halves. Five-minute break between halves.

Start of Play - Opponents must start outside the center circle while the kick-off is in progress. A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-off. If the ball goes directly into the goal without touching another player on a kick-off, the team will be allowed to redo the kick-off. The reason for the re-kick should be explained to the player. In case of an injury, the game restarts with a drop ball.

Out of Bounds - The whole ball must cross the whole line in order to be out of bounds. If any part of the ball is touching the line, it is still in play.

Method of Scoring - The whole ball must cross the whole goal line to count as a goal. Scores will not be kept.

Off-Side - The off-side rule does not apply. No off-side infractions will be called.

Fouls and Misconduct - All fouls result in an indirect free kick with the opponents at least five yards away. Coaches should explain all infractions and fouls to the players. In the case of serious or repeated fouls (i.e. purposely hitting/kicking another player, pushing, etc.) the offending player should be substituted out of the game and sent to his or her own sideline. The player may re-enter the game on any restart after the coach has explained the infraction.

Free Kicks - All free kicks are indirect. Opponents must be at least five yards away from the ball on all free kicks.

Penalty Kicks - There will be no penalty kicks. All fouls in the box will be treated as any other foul and result in an indirect free kick.

Throw-Ins - For a legal throw-in, both feet should remain on the ground and should be brought behind the head and thrown forward with both hands. Coaches should explain throw-in infractions to the player and the player should be given a second chance to do the throw correctly. After the second chance, play on whether the throw was legal or not.

Goal Kicks - Goal kicks are taken from the end line. The game may be restarted by passing in by one player of the offensive team. All opposing players (defensive team) are positioned behind the midline in their own defensive half of the field until the ball is played. Offensive players may be positioned on their defensive half of the field.

Corner Kicks - Corner kicks are taken inside the corner arc on the appropriate side of the field.

Glossary of Terms:

Corner Kick - A corner kick occurs when the defending team sends the ball out of bounds along its own goal line. The kick is taken by the attacking team.

Defensive Team - The team that does not have possession of the ball.

Drop Ball - One player from each team stands opposite the other. The referee drops the ball between the two players, who try to win possession for his or her team.

Goal Kick - A goal kick occurs when the attacking team sends the ball out of bounds along the defending team's goal line. The kick is taken by the defending team.

Indirect Kick - The ball must touch another player (from either team) before entering the goal.

Offensive Team - The team that has possession of the ball.