

HOUSE LEAGUE PLAYING RULES OUTDOOR 2018

RULE 1: FIELD OF PLAY

Whenever possible, Mini-Soccer should be played on a field designed for that purpose. In many cases, however, a game may be played within or across standard soccer fields.

The size of the goals shall be 5 metres wide and 2 metres high whenever possible.

Whenever possible, goal nets shall be used.

RULE 2: THE BALL

1. The ball shall be spherical and shall be constructed of material which is not dangerous to the players.
2. Ball size for 5 – 7 year olds: size 3.
3. Ball size for 8 – 12 year olds: size 4.
4. Ball size for 13 year olds and higher: size 5.

RULE 3: NUMBER OF PLAYERS

1. For U6B and U6G the game will be played by two teams, each consisting of 3 players. There is no goal keeper.
2. For U7B the games will be played by two teams, each consisting of 4 players. There is no goal keeper.
3. For U7/8G, and U8B the game will be played by two teams, each consisting of 5 players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. Teams must field a minimum of 4 players.
4. For U9/10B, and U9/10G, the game will be played by two teams, each consisting of 7 players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. Teams must field a minimum of 5 players.
5. For U11/12G and U11/12B, the game will be played by two teams, each consisting of 9 players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. Teams must field a minimum of 7 players.
6. The regular full size field game shall be played by two teams, each consisting of 11 players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. Teams must field a minimum of 7 players.
7. In the event of a team having less than 4, 5, or 7 players in mini soccer, or less than 9 players in 9 v 9 field or less than 11 players in a full size field, the opposing team must use the same number of players in the spirit of the game.
8. When the goal differential is 3, the losing team adds a player. When the goal differential is 4, the winning team takes off a player. When the goal differential is 5, the winning team takes off a player. The score that will be recorded officially at the Vaughan Soccer Club's web site and office will not exceed more than 3 goal differences. No scores or standings will be recorded at Vaughan Soccer for ages U12 and under.
9. Each player must play at least half of the game.
10. Substitution may be unlimited but must be done as follows:
 - After a goal has been scored
 - Goal kick
 - At the beginning of the halves
 - At your own kick in or throw in and piggyback is allowed
 - At the referee's discretion in the event of injury.

RULE 4: PLAYER'S EQUIPMENT

1. Equipment shall consist of shorts, socks, shin guards, footwear, and a numbered shirt. The goalkeeper must wear colours which are distinguishable from those of other players. Goalkeepers may wear gloves and track pants.
2. Shin guards must be worn, and must be worn on the inside of the socks. Failure to do so will result in the player not being allowed to play.

RULE 5: DURATION OF THE GAME

1. The mini soccer game shall be divided into two equal halves of 25 minutes. The interval between periods of play shall be five minutes.
2. The regular full size field game shall be divided into two equal halves of 35 minutes for the U13 and up. For the 9 v 9 size field game shall be divided into two equal halves of 30 minutes for the U11/12 or U12. The interval between periods of play shall be five minutes.
3. The Referee shall be the sole timekeeper.
4. Games may be shortened by the Referee if playing time is restricted by bad weather, darkness or other unforeseen circumstances. Both coaches must be told on any such change but the decision to terminate game will rest with the Referee. In such an instance, the score will stand if one complete half has been played, otherwise the game will be rescheduled.

RULE 6: START OF PLAY

1. At the beginning of the game, choice of halves and the kick-off shall be decided by the toss of a coin. The team which wins the toss shall have choice of halves and the opposing team gets the kick-off. The order is reversed for the start of the second half.
2. At a kick-off, all players shall be in their own half of the field of play. All players opposing the team taking the kick-off shall be no less than 5 metres on a mini-field and 9.15 metres on a full field from the ball until it is kicked off. The game shall be started by the referee giving a signal (whistle). The ball is in play

when it is kicked and clearly moves. For any infringement, the kick off shall be retaken.

3. The player taking the kick-off must not play or touch the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player. If the player touches the ball a second time, then an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team.
4. After a goal has been scored, the game shall be restarted by a kick-off, to be taken by a player of the team against which the goal was scored.
5. After the first half of play, the teams shall change halves and the kick-off shall be taken by a player of the team opposing that which started the game.
6. For any stoppage not mentioned elsewhere in these rules, the Referee shall restart the game by dropping the ball at the place where it was when play was stopped, unless play was stopped in the goal area. In this case, the ball shall be dropped on that part of the goal area line that runs parallel to the goal line, at the point nearest to where the ball was when play was stopped. The ball shall be in play as soon as it touches the ground.
7. A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-off on mini-fields and the 9 v 9 fields.

Rule 7: BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

1. The ball is out of play
 - When the whole of the ball has crossed the goal-line, or touch-line, whether on the ground or in the air
 - When the game has been stopped by the referee.
2. The ball is in play at all other times.

RULE 8: METHOD OF SCORING

1. A goal is scored when the whole of the ball has crossed over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, provided it has not been thrown (or kicked-in), carried, or intentionally propelled by hand or arm, by a player of the attacking team, except by a goalkeeper in his/her own penalty area.

RULE 9: FREE KICK

1. For any infringement of the Rules of the Game when the ball is in play, the Referee may award a free kick to the team opposing that of the offending player. The free kick shall be taken from the place where the infringement occurred, unless the free kick is awarded to the attacking team within the opponents' goal area. In this case, the kick shall be taken from that part of the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal line, at the point nearest to where the offence was committed.
2. At the taking of a free kick, the ball shall be stationary and all opponents shall not be less than 5 metres from the ball if playing mini soccer and 9.15 metres playing full size field until it has been kicked. The ball shall be in play when it is kicked and moves.
3. A player taking a free kick, inside his/her own penalty area, shall kick the ball. The ball is in play when it has been kicked, moves and has passed outside the penalty area. All opponents shall be outside the penalty area and no less than 5 metres from the ball on a mini-field and 9.15 metres on a full field until it has been kicked. For any infringement of this rule, the free kick shall be retaken.
4. A player taking a free kick shall not play or touch the ball a second time until it has been played or touched by another player.

RULE 10: PENALTY KICK

1. A penalty kick shall be taken from the penalty mark. If there is no penalty mark, the penalty kick shall be 7.4 metres from the goal line on a mini field and 11 metres on a full field. All players, with the exception of the defending goalkeeper and the player taking the kick shall be outside the penalty area and behind the ball but within the field of play, and not less than 5 metres on a mini-field and 9.15 metres on a full field from the ball until it has been kicked. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward.
2. The goalkeeper remains on his/her goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked.
3. The player taking the penalty kick must not play or touch the ball a second time until it has been played or touched by another player.
4. The penalty kick is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play, or the referee stops play for any infringement of the Laws.
5. The time of play shall be extended at half-time or at full-time to allow a penalty kick to be taken.

RULE 11: FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

1. A player who, **in the opinion of the Referee**, intentionally, commits any of the following offences shall be penalised by awarding a free kick to the opposing team:
 - Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
 - trips an opponent
 - Jumps at an opponent
 - Charges an opponent in any manner
 - Strikes, attempts to strike, or spits at an opponent
 - Holds an opponent
 - Pushes an opponent
 - Handles the ball, i.e. strikes, carries or propels the ball with hand or arm, the exception would be the goalkeeper within his/her own penalty area tackles an opponent
 - Spits on an opponent

On a full field, any of these offences would result in a direct free kick. All free kicks on a mini-field or a 9 v 9 field should be indirect unless it occurred in the penalty area.

Should a player commit one of the above offences within his/her own penalty area while the ball is in play, irrespective of the position of the ball, a penalty kick shall be awarded to the opposing team.

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, whether on a mini or full field, if a goalkeeper, inside his/her own penalty area, commits any of the following offences:

- Controls the ball with his/her hands for more than six seconds before releasing -touches the ball again with his/her hands after it has been released and before it has touched another player
- Touches the ball with the hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him/her by a team-mate
- Touches the ball with the hands after a team-mate has thrown (or kicked-in) the ball directly to the keeper

RULE 12A: THROW-IN (for U11/12 & older)

1. When the whole of the ball has crossed the touch line, either on the ground or in the air, the ball shall be thrown-in, from the point where it left the field of play, by a member of the team opposing that of the player who last played or touched it.
2. The player taking the throw-in shall face the field of play and part of both feet shall be on the ground, and on or behind the touch-line. The thrower shall use both hands to deliver the ball from behind and over his head. The ball shall be in play immediately after it enters the field of play.
3. The player taking the throw-in must not play or touch the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player.
4. All opponents must stand at least 2 metres from the thrown-in spot.

RULE 12B: KICK-IN (for U6 to U10)

1. When the whole of the ball has crossed the touch line, either on the ground or in the air, the ball shall be kicked-in, from the point where it left the field of play, by a member of the team opposing that of the player who last played or touched it.
2. The player taking the kick-in shall face the field of play and kick the ball from or behind the touchline. The ball shall be in play immediately after it enters the field of play.
3. The player taking the kick-in must not play or touch the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player.
4. All opponents must stand at least 5 metres from the kick-in spot.

RULE 13: GOAL KICK

1. When the whole of the ball has crossed the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, excluding that portion between the goalposts and under the crossbar having last been played or touched by a member of the attacking team, a goal kick shall be awarded to the defending team. The ball shall be kicked into play from any point within the goal area.
2. At the taking of a goal kick, all opponents shall be outside the penalty area 9.15 metres on a full field from the ball until it has been kicked into play. The ball shall be in play when it has left the penalty area.
3. At the taking of a goal kick, mini and 9 v 9 games (U7 to U12) the opposing team must retreat their side of the half way line until the ball is play. The ball is in play when it has touched by a second player.
4. The player taking the goal kick must not play or touch the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player.
5. A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick on a full field, but only against the opposing team. A goal may not be scored directly from a goal kick on a mini-field or a 9 v 9 field.
6. A goalkeeper cannot use his/her hands outside the penalty area.

RULE 14: CORNER-KICK

1. When the whole of the ball has crossed the goal-line, either on the ground or in the air, excluding that portion between the goal-posts, having last been played or touched by a member of the defending team, a corner-kick shall be awarded to the attacking team.
2. The corner-kick shall be taken from within the corner-arc nearest to where the ball crossed the goal-line. All opponents shall be less than 5 metres on a mini-field and 9.15 metres on a full field from the ball until it has been kicked. The ball is in play when it is kicked and has clearly moved.
3. The player taking the corner-kick must not play or touch the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player.
4. A goal may be scored directly from a corner-kick on a full field. A goal may not be scored directly from a corner kick on a mini-field or a 9 v 9 field.

RULE 15: OFFSIDE

1. No offside rule will be used in mini soccer.
2. Offside rule will apply when teams are playing full field and the 9 v 9 field.
3. It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position. A player is in an offside position if: he/she is nearer to his/her opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second last opponent.
4. A player is not in an offside position if: he/she is in his own half of the field of play, or he/she is level with the second last opponent, or he/she is level with the last two opponents.

5. A player, in an offside position, is only penalized if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his/her team, he/she is, in the opinion of the Referee, involved in active play by:

- interfering with play, or
- interfering with an opponent, or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

6. There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:

- a goal kick, or
- a throw-in, or
- a corner kick

7. For any offside offence, the referee awards an indirect free kick to the opposing team to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred.

RULE 16: GOALKEEPER

1. For games using a retreat line, the goalkeeper is allowed to handle the ball anywhere in the penalty area. To restart play after a save or gathering the ball with their hands, the ball must be thrown or rolled from the hands or played from the ground with their feet, within 6 seconds. The goalkeeper is not allowed to kick or drop kick the ball directly from their hands. The opposing team retreats to the retreat line until the ball is in ball. The retreat line is the halfway line. The goalkeeper in possession does not have to wait for the opposition to retreat and has the option to restart the game before should they choose to. The ball is in play when touched by a second player.

RULE 17: PARENT

1. No parents, spectators, or coaches are allowed to stand behind the goal lines during the course of play. No exceptions.
2. Parents must stand at least 2 metres away from the touch-lines of the field to prevent interference.
3. Parents must refrain from the use of foul language.
4. Team benches should be on the opposing side of the field from the spectators and parents.
5. If determined by the Disciplinary Committee that parents/or team officials have abused the game officials or players he/she shall be suspended up to three games.
6. Any parents violating the above five rules may be barred from the playing fields.

RULE 18 REFEREES

1. The referee shall have sole authority on the field in accordance with Law V of FIFA. Any protest should be made formally (together with \$25) to the Vice President of the House League after the game. DO NOT ABUSE THE REFEREE. In case there is NO REFEREE for the game, the two Coaches shall referee one half of the game each or appoint a parent.
2. Coaches, team officials and parents shall not criticize game officials at any time and must encourage players to do the same.
3. Only the Referee may postpone a game prior to game kick-off due to unsuitable field or weather conditions.

RULE 19: GAME SHEETS & REPORTING SCORES

1. The Vaughan Soccer Club will not keep track of scores for ages **7 to 12**.
2. Game sheets must be completely filled out and given to the Referee prior to the game. If game sheets are not properly filled out it might result in forfeiting the game. In the event that there is no Referee, the home coach must submit the game sheet to the Club office. Standings for ages 13 and over will only be adjusted when the game sheets come in. The winning coach must e-mail with the age division, teams playing, date, field's name and final result **within 24 hours**. Again, failure to do so might result in winning team forfeiting the game.

RULE 20: DISCIPLINE

1. Disciplinary Committee shall consist of one Board of Directors, one Members of the soccer club, and the Director of Officials.
2. The use of profane language by players or team officials will not be tolerated. The Referee shall warn individuals for this misdemeanour and continued similar conduct will be reported by the Referee for action by the Disciplinary Committee.
3. If a player receives two yellow cards he/she will miss the rest of the game he/she is playing and the team must play the remainder of the game one player short as per FIFA rule. He/she will be automatically suspended for one game.
4. If a player receives a red card he/she will miss the rest of the game that he/she is playing and the team must play the remainder of the game one player short as per FIFA rule. He/she will be automatically suspended for the next two games.

ANY RULES NOT LISTED ABOVE WILL BE GOVERNED BY FIFA'S LAWS OF THE GAME OF SOCCER.