

**HSC: Nashville Youth Soccer Association  
Modified FIFA Laws  
Under 10 Division**

**Law I – The Field**

- A. Field Size: 35 yd x 70 yd
- B. Goal Size: 21'W x 7'H x 5'D

**Law II – The Ball**

- A. Ball Size: four (4)

**Law III – The Number of Players**

- A. Maximum of 13 players per team
- B. On Field: 7 players and a goalkeeper (8 v. 8)
- C. The coach must remain in the coach's box (from the top of the penalty area to the sideline.) The coach or anyone filling in for a coach must be at least 18 years of age. Only the coach and one assistant coach are permitted on the player's bench side of the field during the game. All other parents and spectators must watch the game from the opposite touch line. No assistant coaches or spectators may sit/stand/coach from behind the goal or along the goal lines.
- D. Coaches should refrain from talking to the referee (including the assistant referees) during the game. If the coach has a question, he/she should wait for half time or the conclusion of the game. The referee will not stop the game or the clock to talk to a coach.
- E. Substitutions
  - 1. Teams have an unlimited number of substitutions;
  - 2. When a player is substituted, he/she may return to the game at a later point;
  - 3. Substitutions may be made at a stoppage that requires a kick-off, throw-in, or goal kick to restart play. (Substitutions may not be made at corner kicks or free kicks.) A team may substitute prior to a throw-in when that team is in possession of the ball, or with the referee's permission, if the opposing team is also substituting. With the referee's permission, either team may substitute before a goal kick or kick-off.
  - 4. Substitutes should stand outside the touch line at the sideline and wait for the referee to signal them to come on the field.
  - 5. Changing the goalkeeper: Any of the other players may change places with the goalkeeper provided that the referee is informed before the change is made and that the change is made during a stoppage in the game when substitutions are permitted.
- F. All players must be given the opportunity to play at least ½ of the game.

**Law IV – Player's Equipment**

- A. Soccer cleats or tennis shoes (cleats are preferred). Baseball or Football cleats (cleats which contain a single cleat at the toe or very front of the shoe) are not allowed.
- B. Shin guards are required to be worn underneath the sock. The sock must completely cover the shin guards at all times. Players are not permitted to take the field without shin guards.
- C. ALL items of jewelry are strictly forbidden and must be removed prior to game time. This includes all necklaces and bracelets (whether string, leather, metal, or plastic), rings, earrings (including nose rings, tongue studs, and other piercings), leather bands, rubber bands etc. Using tape or band-aids to cover jewelry is NOT acceptable - the item must be removed. Furthermore, players must remove from their hair ALL hard clips, beads, or large bows from their hair. Soft "scrunchies" or pony-tail holders are permissible. The referees will inspect teams prior to each game and will ask a player out of compliance in this area to remove the jewelry or hair accessory.
- D. The player will not be permitted to play unless they are in compliance.

**Law V – The Referee**

- A. Certified Referee.

**Law VI – The Assistant Referees**

- A. Certified Referee Linesman

### **Law VII – The Duration of the Match**

- A. Length: The game shall be divided into two equal halves of 30 minutes each.
- B. Breaks: 5 minute half
- C. Teams shall switch goals at half time.

### **Law VIII – The Start of Play**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

### **Law IX – Ball in and out of play**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

### **Law X – Method of Scoring**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

### **Law XI – Offside**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

### **Law XII – Fouls and Misconduct**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.
- B. In accordance with FIFA rules, yellow cards (warning) and/or red cards (ejection from game) may be issued to a player by the referee. If a player receives two yellow cards or one red card in a single game, the player will be ejected from the game. The team may not replace the ejected player with a substitute; they must play one player short. **If a player is ejected from the game, he/she will also be required to sit out the next game played, and is required to be at the game and support his/her team.**
- C. In accordance with the U.S. Soccer Concussion Initiative, **deliberate heading of the ball is prohibited.** When a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If a player does not deliberately head the ball, then play should continue.

### **Law XIII - Free Kicks**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

### **Law XIV – The Penalty Kick**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

### **Law XV – Throw-Ins**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

### **Law XVI – Goal Kick**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

### **Law XVII – Corner Kick**

- A. Conform to FIFA law.

The International Football Association Board *Laws of the Game* may be downloaded from the USSF web site at:

<http://www.ussoccer.com/referees/laws-of-the-game>

or from the FIFA web site at:

<http://www.fifa.com/worldfootball/lawsofthegame.html>