

**ENID SOCCER CLUB**  
**U-7 and U-8 PLAYING RULES**

July 2, 2007

**Playing Time**

1. All players in attendance at a match must play at least half the game except for health or disciplinary reasons.
2. For Enid Soccer Club (ESC) league games, coaches shall notify in writing the referee and the opposing coach before the match starts, if a player will not play at least half the match. The notice will become part of the ESC game report.

**Exceptions to FIFA for Recreational U-7 and U-8**

1. The Field:
  - A. Length – 25-35 yards, Width – 20-30 yards.
  - B. Both teams will occupy the north or west side of the field as appropriate. Spectators from both teams will occupy the south or east sideline.
2. The Ball: Size 3.
3. Number of Players
  - A. Each team will play with a maximum of 4 and a minimum of 3 players on the field at a time. There are no goalkeepers. A player in a defensive position in front of the goal is not considered a goalkeeper as long as the player does not attempt to handle the ball with his or her hands.
  - B. Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage of play and are unlimited. Substitutions by either team are allowed for an injury to a player from either team, after a foul, or prior to a goal kick, a corner kick, a throw-in, or a kick-off.
  - C. Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.
  - D. Team rosters should have a minimum of 6 players and a maximum of 8 players.
  - E. Teams and games may be coed.
4. Player's Equipment: Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:
  - A. Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes.
  - B. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.
5. Referee: May be a registered referee, an associate referee, a coach, an assistant coach, or a parent. All rule infractions will be briefly explained to the offending player.
6. Assistant Referee: None.
7. Duration of the Game:

- A. The game will be divided into 4 equal 12-minute quarters.
  - B. There shall be a 2-minute break between the first and second quarters and between the third and fourth quarters. The second and fourth quarters are started with an indirect free kick by the team last in possession, unless play stopped naturally around the end of the quarter. For example, if the ball goes across the touchline and time runs out in the first quarter, start the second quarter with a throw-in for the team that would have normally done so.
  - C. There shall be a halftime interval of 5 minutes. The second half is started with a kickoff from the center spot.
8. The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA except all opponents of the team taking the kickoff are 4 yards from the ball until it is in play.
9. Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.
10. Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.
11. Offside: None.
12. Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:
- A. All fouls result in a direct free kick with opponents 4 yards away.
  - B. The game official must explain ALL infringements to the offending player.
  - C. No cards are shown for misconduct.
  - D. If a player is being too rambunctious, the game official will ask the coach to make a substitution for that player to give the child a chance to calm down before returning to play.
- Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA except all kicks are direct with opponents at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.
- Law 14 – Penalty Kick: None.
- Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA except an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken once. The game official shall explain the proper method before allowing the second attempt.
- Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain outside the goal area and at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.
- Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.