



**SMALL SIDED REFEREE
QUICK REFERENCE CARD**

U7-U10

Offside: Do not play with the offside rules. A player in these age groups cannot be offside.

Fouls: Direct free kicks and penalty kicks are NOT awarded - ALL free kicks are taken as indirect free kicks awarded to the opposing team, if a player commits any form of foul or misconduct.

Misconduct: Cautions and Sending Off (Yellow and Red Cards) NO cards are shown to players in these age groups. It is recommended that coaches should recognize serious foul play and substitute off an offending player. A team official guilty of misconduct may be shown a yellow card (caution) or red card (sending-off).

Free Kicks: All opponents shall be not less than the following distance from the ball until it has been kicked and clearly moves : 7 metres (8 yards)

Kick-ins: A kick-in, replaces the throw-in at this age groups. After the winter break, some clubs replace kick-ins with throw-ins.

Scoring:

- A goal may not be scored directly from a Kick-off; if the ball directly enters the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded.
- A goal cannot be scored directly from a corner kick.

Heading: no heading is permitted, in order to reduce head related trauma. Restart is in an indirect free kick.

Slide Tackling: not permitted at u10 and below.

Team Lists: not required for u10 and below.

U11-U13

Offside: Play with the offside rules in the attacking third of the field. The offside line is the same line as the retreat line.

Fouls: both direct and indirect free kicks apply.

Misconduct: caution (yellow) and sending off (red) cards are used for players. A team official guilty of misconduct will be shown a yellow card (caution) or red card (sending-off). Penalty kicks are awarded at this level.

Free Kicks: All opponents shall be not less than the following distance from the ball until it has been kicked and clearly moves: 9 metres (10 yards)

Throw-ins: throw-ins apply.

- *u11:* If the player fails to complete the throw-in correctly, their team shall be permitted a second attempt. If the second attempt is unsuccessful, the throw-in shall be awarded to the opposing team.
- *u12/13:* If the player fails to complete the throw-in correctly, the throw-in shall be awarded to the opposing team.

Scoring:

- A goal may be scored directly against the opponents from a kick-off.
- A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.

Heading:

- *u11/12:* no heading is permitted at U12 and below, in order to reduce head related trauma. Restart is in an indirect free kick.
- *u13:* heading is permitted.

Slide Tackling: permitted at u11-u13.

Team Lists: required for u11-u13, must include the coaches names.

ALL AGE GROUPS

- Shin Guards are compulsory at all levels
- Unlimited substitutions may be made throughout the game. All substitutions are only allowed at the discretion of the Referee and the Referee shall be advised of all substitutions. Substitutions can be made on any stoppage, but only after the referee has given permission. After the referee has given permission, the player being replaced shall leave the field. Once the player has left the field, the substitute may enter the field.
- Corner flags may be used but are not mandatory.

Retreat Line: The retreat line for all age groups is marked by a line across the field and/or cones placed 1 metre outside the touch line. The retreat line for U7 through U13 is marked at the 2/3 line (1/3 of Field)

All opposing players must be on their side of the retreat line and cannot pursue the ball until: The ball is touched by a teammate of the kicker; *OR* the ball travels over the retreat line; *OR* the ball leaves the field of play.

Encroachment of Retreat Line: If the opposing team encroaches across the retreat line before one of the above conditions, the referee shall stop play and allow a re-take of the goal kick. When the goalkeeper makes a save and is in possession of the ball, players must back away to the retreat line to allow for play to build up from the back.

GAME LENGTH* AND BALL SIZE

Age Group	Playing Numbers	Playing Time	Ball Size
U6	3 vs 3 (no goalkeeper)	2 X 20 Minutes	3
U7/U8	4 vs 4	2 X 20 Minutes	3 or 4
U9/10	5 vs 5	2 X 25 Minutes	3 or 4
U11/12	8 vs 8	2 X 30 Minutes	4
U13	8 vs 8	2 X 35 Minutes	4

* Game length can be subject to change at the local level.