



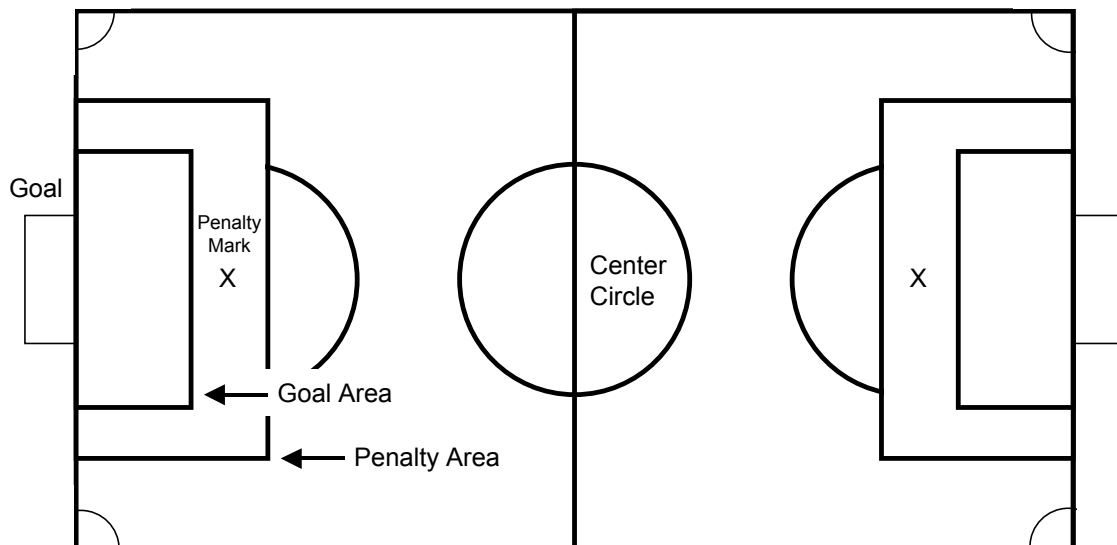
# Capital Soccer Association

## MODIFIED RULES OF THE GAME FOR U12

### 8v8 Under 12 - Laws of the Game

Soccer has 17 rules called Laws of the Game. These are Capital Soccer Association's recommended modifications to the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Laws of the Game for U12.

**Law 1.) The Field of Play** – flat, grassy field; Field dimensions at Tom Brown Park will be determined by Leon County Parks and Recreation.



**Law 2.) The Ball** - Size 4.

**Law 3.) The Number of Players** - A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than 8 players, 1 of whom is the goalkeeper.

*Substitutions:* At any stoppage and unlimited. However, only the offensive team can call substitution prior to their throw-in.

*Playing time:* Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. Teams and matches may be coed.

**Law 4.) The Players' Equipment** - A player must not use equipment or wear anything, which is dangerous to himself or another player including jewelry. The basic compulsory equipment of a player is: a jersey or shirt, shorts, stockings, footwear, shinguards are covered entirely by the stockings, are made of a suitable material and provide a

reasonable degree of protection. Each goalkeeper wears colors that distinguish him/her from other players, the referee and the assistant referees or linesmen/women. Non uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

**Law 5.) The Referee-** Registered referee through the North Florida Referees Association. No referees are allowed to accept games except through a certified assignor. CSA provides a referee assignor at Tom Brown Park and the Meadows to help resolve referee issues, provide education, ensure games start on time, and to supervise.

**Law 6.) The Assistant Referees** - Not required. May use club linesmen/women if desired.

**Law 7.) The Duration of the Match** - The match shall last two equal periods of 25 minutes. There shall be a half-time interval of 5 minutes.

**Law 8.) The Start and Restart of Play** - A coin is tossed and the team, which wins the toss, decides which goal it will attack in the first half of the match. The other team takes the kick-off to start the match. The teams switch halves at halftime. Each team alternates taking the kick-off at the beginning of each quarter. A goal may be scored directly from the kick-off. After a team scores a goal, the other team takes the kick-off. A kick-off is a way of starting or restarting play:

- At the start of the match
- After a goal has been scored
- At the start of each quarter of play

Procedure:

- All players are in their own half of the field
- The opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least 4 yards from the ball until it is in play
- The ball is stationary on the center mark
- The referee gives a signal
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward
- The kicker does not touch the ball a second time until it has touched another player

**Law 9.) The Ball In and Out of Play** - The ball is out of play when:

- It has wholly crossed the goal line or touch line whether on the ground or in the air
- Play has been stopped by the official.

The ball is in play at all other times, including when:

- It rebounds from a goalpost or crossbar and remains in the field of play
- It rebounds from the official when they are on the field of play

**Law 10.) The Method of Scoring** - A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, provided that no infringement of the Laws of the Game has been committed previously by the team scoring the goal.

**Law 11.) Offside** – It is not an offense 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. A player is not in an offside position if he/she is in his/her own half of the field or he/she is level with the second last opponent or he/she is level with the last two opponents or he/she is level with the ball. A player in an offside position is only penalized if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his/her own 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. There is no offside offense if a player receives the ball directly from a goal kick, a throw-in or a corner kick.

**Law 12.) Fouls and Misconduct** - A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following six offenses in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- Trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- Jumps at or charges an opponent
- Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- Pushes an opponent

A direct free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following four offenses:

- Holds an opponent
- Spits at an opponent
- Handles the ball deliberately (except for the goal-keeper within their penalty area).
- Tackles an opponent to gain possession of the ball, making contact with the opponent before touching the ball

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside his/her own penalty area, commits any of the following four offenses:

- Takes more than six seconds while controlling the ball with his/her hands before releasing it from his/her possession
- Touches the ball again with his/her hands after it has been released from his/her possession and has not been touched by another player
- Touches the ball with his/her hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him/her by a team-mate
- Touches the ball with his/her hands after he/ she has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate

An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player, in the opinion of the referee:

- Plays in a dangerous manner
- Impedes the progress of an opponent
- Prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his/her hands

The indirect free kick is taken from where the offence occurred.

**Law 13.) Free Kicks** - All free kicks are direct and opponents are at least 8 yards from the ball until it is in play. The ball must be stationary when the kick is taken and the kicker does not touch the ball a second time until it has touched another player. If the free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal a goal is awarded. If a free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team.

**Law 14.) The Penalty Kick** - A penalty kick is awarded against a team that commits one of these offences:

- Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- Trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- Jumps at an opponent
- Charges an opponent
- Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- Pushes an opponent
- Holds an opponent
- Spits at an opponent
- Handles the ball deliberately
- Tackles an opponent to gain possession of the ball, making contact with the opponent before touching the ball

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick. Additional time is allowed for a penalty kick to be taken at the end of each half. When a penalty kick is taken during the normal course of play, or time has been extended at half-time or full time to allow a penalty kick to be taken or retaken, a goal is awarded if, before passing between the goalposts and under the crossbar the ball touches either or both of the goalposts and/or the crossbar, and/or the goalkeeper. The ball is placed on the penalty mark (the penalty mark is 8 yards from the center of the goal line.) The player taking the penalty kick is properly identified. The defending goalkeeper remains on his/her goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked. The players other than the kicker are located inside the field of play, outside the penalty area, behind the penalty mark and at least 8 yards from the penalty mark. The referee does not signal for penalty kick to be taken until the players have taken up position in accordance with the Law. The referee decides when a penalty kick has been completed. The player taking the penalty kicks the ball forward. He does not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward.

**Law 15.) The Throw-In** - A throw-in is a method of restarting play from the sidelines. A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in. A throw-in is awarded:

- When the whole of the ball passes over the touch line, either on ground or in the air
- From the point where it crossed the touch line
- To the opponents of the player who last touched the ball

At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower:

- Faces the field of play
- Has part of each foot either on the touch line or on the ground outside the touch line
- Uses both hands
- Delivers the ball from behind and over his head

The thrower may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player. The ball is in play immediately it enters the field of play.

**Law 16.) The Goal Kick** - A goal kick is a method of restarting play. A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team. A goal kick is awarded when:

- The whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the attacking team, passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, and a goal is not scored.

Procedure:

- The ball is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team
- Opponents must remain outside the goal area and at least 4 yards from the ball until it is in play
- The kicker does not play the ball a second time until it has touched a second player
- The ball is in play when it is kicked directly beyond the goal area

**Law 17.) The Corner Kick** - A corner kick is a method of restarting play. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team. A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the defending team, passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air.

Procedure:

- The ball is placed inside the corner arc nearest to the corner
- Opponents remain at least 4 yards from the ball until it is in play
- The ball is kicked by a player of the attacking team
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- The kicker does not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player

## **ADDITIONAL CSA RULES**

- Roster Size: Minimum roster size is eleven players and the maximum roster size is fifteen players.
- No slide tackles to be allowed in this age group.
- Back-pass to the goal-keeper is NOT allowed.
- No score or standings should be kept.
- Opposing coaches, players and parents should shake hands after each match.
- Parent/coaches, non-participating players and spectators should be there to enjoy and encourage the activity of the youngsters.
- Spectator and team benches should be on opposite sides of the field.
- No alcoholic beverages or tobacco products will be consumed or allowed near the playing area.