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## **U-9 and U-10 Age Divisions**

### LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

- A. Dimensions: The U9/U10 field is fifty (65) yards long by forty (45) yards wide. Field size may vary as allowed by USYSA.
- B. Markings:
  - 1. Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide.
  - 2. Halfway lines shall be marked entire width of field.
  - 3. Center circle with a six (6) yard radius.
  - 4. Four corner arcs with a one (1) yard radius.
  - 5. Goal box extending three (1) yards either side of goal out approximately four (4) yards from end line for ball placement on goal kicks.
  - 6. Penalty Area: Extends from 9 yards either side of goal out to 12 yards from the goal line. Penalty mark is eight (8) yards out from horizontal midpoint of goal.
  - 7. A red buildout line will be equidistant between the penalty area line and halfway line.
- C. Goals: Goals for U9/U10 shall be eighteen (18) feet wide by six (6) feet tall.

### LAW 2 – THE BALL

- A. The ball used for U9/U10 games shall be a regulation soccer ball, size four (4).

### LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- A. Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is seven (7) per side, including one goalie. Minimum number of players shall be five (5).
- B. One (1) goalie per side shall be used. Goalie shall wear a distinctive colored jersey different from the colors of either team.
- C. Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of total playing time.
- D. Substitutions:
  - 1. May be made at any time during a stoppage of play.
  - 2. Referee must acknowledge all substitutions prior to player coming on the field.

### LAW 4 – THE PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

- A. Conform to FIFA.

### LAW 5 – THE REFEREE

- A. USSF registered referee.
  - B. Referee's decision on points of fact connected with the game shall be FINAL.
  - C. All rule infractions shall be briefly explained to the offending player.
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LAW 6 – THE ASSISTANT REFEREES

- A. Assistant referees will be used.

LAW 7 – THE DURATION OF THE MATCH

- A. The U9/10 game shall be divided into two halves of 25 minutes each.  
B. There shall be a five (5) minute break between halves.

LAW 8 – THE START AND RESTART OF PLAY

Conform to FIFA.

LAW 9 – THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

Conform to FIFA.

LAW 10 – THE METHOD OF SCORING

Conform to FIFA.

LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

- A. There is offside in the U9/U10 game.  
B. Conform to FIFA, except that an offside offense can only happen between the build out line and goal line. **PLEASE SEE U.S. SOCCER PLAYER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES DOCUMENT.**

LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

Conform to FIFA, except that for a free kick restart defending players must remain eight (8) yards from the ball until it is kicked, and ***NO HEADING IN U9/10 ALLOWED – INDIRECT FREE KICK FOR THE OPPOSING TEAM***

LAW 13 – FREE KICKS

Conform to FIFA, except that defending players must remain eight (8) yards from the ball until it kicked.

LAW 14 – THE PENALTY KICK

Conform to FIFA, except that defending players must remain eight (8) yards from the ball until it is kicked.

LAW 15 – THE THROW-IN

Conform to FIFA.

LAW 16 – THE GOAL KICK

Conform to FIFA.

LAW 17 – THE CORNER KICK

Conform to FIFA, except that defending players must remain eight (8) yards from the ball until it is kicked.

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## **ADDITIONAL SLSC LAWS OF THE GAME**

### LAW 18 – INJURIES

- A. A coach may come on the field for an injury only AFTER the referee summons him/her.
- B. An injured player may be substituted for.
- C. The referee may allow play to continue if he invokes the advantage clause, and he deems the injury to be not serious. Play will continue until a normal stoppage in play or until the referee blows his whistle upon the loss of advantage.

### LAW 19 – COACHES

- A. Coaches, assistant coaches, and substitutes must remain within the coaches' box at all times. The coaches' box (even if not physically marked) is two yards off the touch line, 3 yards deep, and extends six yards either side of the mid-field line.
- B. A maximum of three coaches may be in the coaches' box.
- C. Coaches are not allowed on the field unless summoned by the referee.
- D. Coaches shall refrain from talking to the referee during the course of play. If there is an issue with the referee, please contact the Referee Assignor or SLSC staff member on duty after your game.
- E. Absolutely no abusive, vulgar, flagrant, or threatening speech will be allowed toward the referee. Refer to SLSC Bylaws for definitions of referee abuse.
- F. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their parents and spectators. Unsporting behavior will not be tolerated.

### LAW 20 – PARENTS

- A. All parents and spectators shall remain behind the spectators' line during the game. The spectators' line (even if not physically marked) is half the distance between fields or five (5) yards, whichever is less.
  - B. Parents and spectators should refrain from coaching players from the sidelines, and are not allowed to stand behind goals, goal lines or on the coach/player side of the field.
  - C. Parents are not allowed on the field at any time during the game, unless summoned by the referee.
  - D. Unsporting conduct toward any person, player, coach, or referee will not be tolerated.
  - E. Parents are not allowed to talk to the referee.
  - F. Negative flagrant yelling or screaming by a parent or spectator toward players, other parents and spectators, and the referee is not allowed.
  - G. Any violation of these rules by a parent or spectator may result in the violator being ejected from the vicinity of the field before play resumes.
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