



## Lakewood Soccer Association – U04–U06 Laws of the Game

### **ADDITIONAL RULES:**

- There are no kick-offs after goals are scored in the continuous play format. After a goal is scored, the coach will direct the players towards the center of the field, deliver a new ball, and play resumes without interruption.
- Although 'slide tackling' is legal, for player safety concerns LSA does not allow it in this age group.
- Coaches WILL NOT keep score during games for these age groups. Coaches and parents are to be reminded that the purpose of this program is to develop the individual player's ball control skills, not to gather an impressive team victory record.
- Parents are encouraged to participate and aid the coaches at every game.
- Parents are encouraged to cheer and support ALL of the players on the field.
- Parents are REQUIRED to act in an appropriate and respectful manner in accordance to good sportsmanship at all times.

\*\*\* Relax and Let the Kids Enjoy THEIR Game \*\*\*

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **Why use the New Ball Method?**

- More touches on the ball: This method doubled or tripled the number of touches by each player in a study conducted in 2001/2002 by the Richmond Hill SA in Georgia. More touches means faster skill development and increased enjoyment of the game.
- More playing time: Indiana Youth Soccer studied the effect of the New Ball Method and found that in a 7 minute quarter, the ball was in play for 4 minutes using traditional rules, and about 6 minutes and 30 seconds using the New Ball Method.
- This method will speed up the game; produce more goals and more excitement, while at the same time de-emphasizing the importance of scoring and emphasizing play and fun.
- This method can be used to get non-assertive players involved by rolling the new ball to those players; and can be used to even the playing field in a lop-sided game. At this age, score is not kept, there is no win/loss record, and the emphasis is on playing, having fun and sportsmanship, not winning.
- Unlike at the higher levels, at this age, goal kicks, corner kicks, and kick-ins do not provide the tactical advantage for the kicking team, and can often be a disadvantage. Consequently, re-starts substantially slow the game with no benefit to the player or spectator.
- The “New Ball Method” has proven to be a great success with clubs around the country that have adopted it.

Revised August 11, 2023