

OREGON RUSH SOCCER CLUB
CENTRAL OREGON SOCCER LEAGUE LAWS FOR U9-U12 GAMES
(BASED ON BUT INDEPENDENT OF U.S. YOUTH SOCCER 8V8 OFFICIAL LAWS)

FOR DEVELOPMENTAL PLAY BETWEEN BOYS AND GIRLS TEAMS – UNDER 9 THROUGH UNDER 12

LAW I - THE FIELD

A. Suggested Dimensions:

The field of play shall be rectangular, its length being not more than 80 yards nor less than 70 yards and its width not more than 50 yards nor less than 40 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width.

B. Markings:

1. Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide.
2. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field.
3. A center circle with a suggested radius of ten (10) yards.
4. Four corner arcs with a suggested radius of two (2) feet.
5. A goal area beginning six (6) yards from each goal post and six (6) yards into the field of play, joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line.
6. A penalty area between fourteen (14) to eighteen (18) yards from the goal post and fourteen (14) to eighteen (18) yards perpendicular to the goal line.
7. A penalty mark ten (10) to twelve (12) yards parallel to the goal line centered between the goal posts.

- C. **Goals on smaller fields should ideally be seven (7) feet high and twenty-one (21) feet wide, but may vary slightly. Goals on larger fields (for U12 brackets only) may be regulation size of (8) feet by twenty-four (24) feet.**

LAW II - THE BALL

Size four (4) balls must be used for all matches.

LAW III - NUMBER OF PLAYERS

A. Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is eight (8), one of whom may be a goalkeeper.

B. Maximum number of players on the roster shall never exceed sixteen (16) for any match.

C. Substitutions

1. Prior to any throw-in.
2. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
3. After a goal by either team.
4. After an injury, when the referee stops play.
5. At half time.

D. Each currently healthy (not injured nor ill) player in good standing with coach and club SHALL receive playing time in each match.

E. Teams may not be coed (no girls on boys teams nor boys on girls teams) unless approved prior to a season by the COSL Director.

LAW IV - PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

The basic equipment of a player consists of the following:

- A. A specific team jersey or shirt and shorts. **Should team uniforms conflict, practice 'pinnies' may be placed over one team's uniforms to avoid a color conflict.**
- B. The goalkeeper of each team shall wear a shirt or 'pinnie' that is a different color than the shirts being worn by field players of both teams.
- C. Shorts (shirts must be tucked into shorts as play begins in each half).
- D. Socks must be worn.
- E. Shinguards are MANDATORY.
- F. Footwear must be soft-cleated or 'flat' soccer shoes or tennis shoes.

LAW V – REFEREE AND LINESMEN

- A. A center referee shall be appointed to officiate each game and, whenever possible, assistant referees to work the sidelines.**
- B. The center referee is in charge of all game activity.
- C. The referee will not be shown any visible or verbal dissent during or after the game.
- D. The referee is empowered to cause the removal of any coach, player, spectator who is disruptive or who has displayed behavior contrary to the spirit of the game and/or the rules of play.
- E. All rule infractions shall be briefly explained to the offending player whenever possible.**
- F. The linespersons will help the referee decide among other things, ball in and out of play, offside, and goal scoring.
- G. The linesperson must remember that his/her opinion may or may not be accepted by the center referee.

LAW VI - DURATION OF THE GAME

- A. The game shall be divided into two (2) equal halves of thirty (30) minutes each.**
- B. Half-time break of five (5) minutes.**

LAW VII - START OF PLAY

- A. At the start of the game, choice of field ends and kick-off shall be determined by the center referee without any bias. No player captains shall be required for any teams during any matches.**
- B. At the start of the second half, teams will switch sides and the team that did NOT kickoff in the 1st does so in the 2nd.
- C. Opponent must be ten (10) yards from the center mark while ball is kicked.
- D. The ball may not be touched again by the same player until it has been touched by another player of either team.

LAW VIII - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

The ball is out of play during the following circumstances:

- A. When it has completely crossed a boundary line (on the ground or in the air).
- B. When the game has been halted by an official for any reason.

LAW IX - METHOD OF SCORING

- A. A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line.
- B. The ball must cross the goal line between the goal posts and under the crossbar.

LAW X – OFFSIDE

- A. A player is considered offside if he/she is nearer to the opponent's goal line than the ball at the time the ball is kicked except in the following cases:
 - 1. The player is in his own half of the field.
 - 2. The player is not nearer to his opponent's goal line than at least two of his opponents.
- B. A player is only penalized for being offside if the ball is played or touched by one of his team and he is involved in active play in one of the following ways:
 - 1. Interfering with play.
 - 2. Interfering with an opponent.
 - 3. Gaining an advantage by being in an offside position.

LAW XI - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

- A. Opponents must make an immediate effort to be ten (10) yards away from a free kick or corner.
- B. The referee should briefly explain infraction to the offending player before restarting play.**
- C. Any player who commits one of the following fouls shall be penalized by the opposing team being awarded a direct free-kick.
 - 1. Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent.

2. Trips or attempts to trip an opponent.
3. Jumps at an opponent.
4. Charges an opponent (except when the charge is shoulder to shoulder and when the player is playing the ball or attempting to play the ball).
5. Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent.
6. Pushes an opponent.
7. Tackles an opponent, but touches opponent before the ball.
8. Holds an opponent.
9. Spits at an opponent.

10. Handles the ball DELIBERATELY or gains a CLEAR AND OBVIOUS advantage by handling the ball.

D. Indirect free kicks are awarded if the following should occur:

1. Dangerous play
2. Charging shoulder to shoulder while away from the ball.
3. Charging the goalkeeper when not in possession of the ball.
4. The goalkeeper takes more than six (6) seconds or delays the game.

E. The goalkeeper may handle the ball while inside the penalty area unless the ball is passed back to the goalkeeper by a teammate (pass must be intentional and played with the feet). The goalkeeper may not handle the ball a second time after gaining control until the ball has been touched by another player. The goalkeeper may take a maximum of six (6) seconds, inside the penalty area, before releasing the ball into play.

F. Slide tackling is allowed, but if a sliding challenge is deemed reckless or mis-timed, the officials may be awarded a direct free kick (see C-1 and C-2 above).

G. Instead of issuing yellow and red cards during matches, when warranted the center referee may issue a verbal warning to a player or coach following an infraction that warrants special concern. Should a player or coach persist with the same infractions following a warning, a center referee may dismiss a player or coach from a match (by verbal means only).

H. Shall a player, coach or parent be dismissed from a match, he/she must leave the direct proximity of the field for the remainder of the match and may NOT return to the field during or even after the match for any reason.

I. A center ref who dismisses any player, coach or parent must report the dismissal to the COSL Director, including an explanation of the incident. **The COSL Director then has the right to suspend the person in question for additional games. If a suspension is levied, the suspended party will be informed by the COSL Director personally.**

LAW XII - FREE KICKS

Free kicks are one of two types:

- A. Direct kick –A goal can be scored directly against the offending team.
- B. Indirect free kick – A kick awarded after a foul where the ball must be touched by another player from either team before going into the goal.
- C. For both types of kicks, opponents must make an immediate effort to be ten (10) yards away from the kick.

LAW XIII - PENALTY KICKS

- A. A penalty kick is taken from the penalty mark.
- B. It is awarded when any of the fouls that result in a direct kick occur inside the penalty area.
- C. Only the goalkeeper and the kicker are allowed inside the penalty area.
- D. Opponents must be ten (10) yards away before kick is allowed.
- E. The goalkeeper must stay on the goal line until the ball is kicked, but may move left to right along the goal line.
- F. The kicker cannot touch the ball twice until it has been touched by another player.

LAW XIV - THROW-IN

- A. A throw-in is awarded to the defending team when the attacking team causes the ball to leave the field of play by crossing completely over the sideline.
- B. The player making the throw-in must have both hands on the ball and has both feet on the ground at the time of the throw. The ball must be thrown from a starting point directly behind the head.
- C. Should a player make an improper throw-in, the center referee may opt to inform the player of his or her incorrect attempt and then allow for a second throw-in by the same player.
- C. When a ball passes over a touchline, it will be thrown in from the point where it crossed the line.

LAW XV - GOAL KICK

- A. A goal kick is taken by a member of the defending team when the ball crosses the goal line outside of the goal when the ball is last touched by a member of the attacking team.
- B. The kick is taken from any point within the goal area (6 yard box).
- C. The ball must leave the penalty area before it can be played/touched by a player of either team.

LAW XVI - CORNER KICK

- A. The attacking team is awarded a corner kick when the ball passes completely over the goal line outside of the goal area after last being played by a member of the defending team.
- B. The kick is taken from within the corner arc on the side of the field that the ball left the field of play.
- C. No defending player may be within ten (10) yards of the ball.

Additional Oregon Rush Central Oregon Soccer League and/or US Youth Soccer Recommendations

- **Players and coaches for each team should shake hands after each game and also shake the hands of the officials if the referees are available to do so.**
- **No alcoholic beverages should be consumed or allowed near the playing field.**