

# Bremen Parks & Recreation Department

## Youth Soccer 8U West GA Soccer League Rules



*Promoting Healthy & Enriching Lifestyles*

### 8U Soccer is for children age 7&8

**Law 1) The Field of Play** – flat, grassy field; Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 50 yards                      maximum 60 yards  
Width: minimum 30 yards                      maximum 40 yards

**Law 2) The Ball** – Size 3

**Law 3) Number of players** – A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than five players and the goalie. (6v6). Teams and games may be coed. Must have 1 female on field at all times.

*Substitutions:* at any stoppage and unlimited

**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
- Stocking
- Footwear
- Shin guards that are covered entirely by the stockings; are made of a suitable material and provide a reasonable degree of protection
- Any cast that is worn on the arm, wrist or hand that is safely wrapped (soft) and not ruled a danger will be allowed.

**Law 5) The referee** – an OFFICIAL may be used. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

**Law 6) Assistant referees** – none

**Law 7) The duration of the match** – the match shall be two 25-minute halves. 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 sides at halftime. Each team alternates taking the kick-off at the beginning of each half. A goal may be scored directly from the kick-off. After a team scores a goal, the other team takes the 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 half

*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 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) 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 referee

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

- It rebounds from a goalpost, crossbar or corner flag post and remains in the field of play
- It rebounds from either the referee or an assistant referee when they are on the field of play

**Law 10) Method of scoring** – a goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and 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** – none

**Law 12) Fouls and misconduct** – the following fouls and misconduct are penalized:

- 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.

**Law 13) Free kicks** – all free kicks are direct and opponents are at least 4 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) Penalty Kick** – If a rule violation occurs inside the 8-yard hash mark on either side of the field, a penalty kick will occur and the defensive team will not be allowed to set up a wall.

**Law 15) The throw in** – a throw in is a method of restarting play. 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 the 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 when it enters the field of play. For this age group an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken once.**

- 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 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

- Law 18) The Coaches** – Only 2 coaches allowed on sideline