

2025-2026 SYSA SOCCER Modified Laws of the Game

		2021 (U5), 2020 (U6), 2019 (U7) 4v4	2018 (U8) 5v5	2017 (U9), 2016 (U10) 7v7	2015 (U11) 9v9	2014 (U12) 9v9	2013- 2012 (U14) 9v9
Law 1 Field of Play	Maximum field dimensions	20 x 35 yards	25 x 40 yards	35 x 55 yards	50 x 75 yards	50 x 75 yards	50 x 75 yards
	Corner arcs	none	none	1 yard	1 yard	1 yard	1 yard
	Center Circle Radius	none	none	8 yards	8 yards	8 yards	8 yards
	Goal area	6-yard line	6-yard line	4 yd x 8 yd	5 yd x 16 yd	5 yd x 16 yd	5 yd x 16 yd
	Penalty area	none	none	12 x 24 yd	14 yd x 36 yd	14 yd x 36 yd	14 yd x 36 yd
	Penalty arc	none	none	8 yards	8 yards	8 yards	8 yards
	Penalty mark	none	none	10 yards	10 yards	10 yards	10 yards
	Build Out Line	none	none	Equidistant between the top penalty area and the halfway line	none	none	none
	Goals	4 x 6 ft goals	4x6 or 6x12 ft goals	6 x 18/7 x 21 ft goals	7x21/8x24 ft goals	7x21/8x24 ft goals	7x21/8x24 ft goals
	Goal height with cones	n/a	When cones are used for goals, the top of the goalkeeper's hands will be considered the height of the goal.				
	Quarter breaks	1 minute	1 minute	none	none	none	none
	Halftime	5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes
	Players/Coaches	Teams on opposite sideline	Teams on opposite sideline	Teams are on the same sideline.	Teams are on the same sideline.	Teams are on the same sideline.	Teams are on the same sideline.
	Parents/Spectators	Same side as players	Same side as players	Opposite sideline across from the team bench	Opposite sideline across from the team bench	Opposite sideline across from the team bench	Opposite sideline across from the team bench
		Players, coaches, parents & spectators must remain 2 yards behind the touchline, may not be behind the goals or along the goal & penalty areas					
Pets/Dogs	No pets or dogs are allowed near the playing field.						
Law 2 The Ball	Ball size	Size 3	Size 3	Size 4	Size 4	Size 4	Size 5
Law 3 The Players	Players on the field	4 players	5 players	7 players	9 players	9 players	9 players
	Goalkeeper	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Goalie Safety	n/a	No contact with a goalkeeper who has possession of the ball (1 finger on the ball = possession)				
	Maximum roster	8 players	10 players	14 players	15 players	15 players	15 players
	Playing time	Minimum 50%	Minimum 50%	Minimum 50 %	Minimum 50%	Minimum 50%	Minimum 50%
	Substitutions	Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, during any stoppage of play or for an injury.					
	Printed Rosters	Not required	Not required	Printed rosters are not required to be submitted, but may be requested by the Certified Referee			
Law 4 Player Equipm ent	Equipment	SYSA shirt, shorts, socks, shoes, and shin guards (completely covered by the socks). No jewelry. No taped earrings. In inclement weather, the SYSA uniform jersey should be worn as the outermost layer.					
Law 5 The Referee	Referee	Coach/volunteer both on the field together	Coach/volunteer Each ref a half of the match	1 certified referee (will be requested)	1 certified referee (will be requested)	1 certified referee (will be requested)	1 certified referee (will be requested)
Law 6 Other Refs	Assistant Referee	none	none	none	Parent volunteers	Parent volunteers	Parent volunteers
Law 7 Duration of the Match	Game duration	4 x 8 minutes	4 x 10 minutes	2 x 25 minutes	2 x 30 minutes	2 x 30 minutes	2 x 30 minutes
	Practices per week	1 x 45 minutes	1 x 60 minutes	2 x 60 minutes	2 x 60 minutes	2 x 60 minutes	2 x 60 minutes

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Law 8 Start & ReStart of Play	Distance from free kicks	4 yards	4 yards	8 yards	8 yards	8 yards	8 yards
	Goalkeeper privileges	n/a	Drop kicks & punts NOT allowed	Drop kicks & punts NOT allowed	Dropkicks & punts allowed	Dropkicks & punts allowed	Dropkicks & punts allowed
	Kick Off	The opposing team must be behind their goal line.	The opposing team must be behind their goal line.	The opposing team must be outside the center circle on their half of the field.	The opposing team must be outside the center circle on their half of the field.	The opposing team must be outside the center circle on their half of the field.	The opposing team must be outside the center circle on their half of the field.
Law 9 Ball In & Out of Play	Conform to FIFA Laws of the Game. The whole of the ball over the whole of the line.						
Law 10 Method of Scoring	Conform to FIFA Laws of the Game. The whole of the ball over the whole of the line, under the cross bar and between the uprights.						
	There will not be published team standings, and game scores will not be recorded.						
Law 11 Offside	Offside	No offside. Players should not be positioned in front of the goal.	No offside. Players should not be positioned in front of the goal.	Players can be penalized for an offside offense between the build-out line and the goal line.	Yes	Yes	No
Law 12 Fouls & Misconducts	Play should be stopped when a player acts in a careless, reckless or dangerous manner.						
	Heading (restart idk)	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Slide tackling (restart idk)	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Goalkeeper Drop kick or	n/a	Not allowed	Not allowed	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Punts						
Law 13 Free Kicks		Indirect only	Indirect only	Direct and Indirect	Direct and Indirect	Direct and Indirect	Direct and Indirect
Law 14 Penalty Kicks		No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Law 15 Throw-In		Unlimited do-overs	One do-over	Conform to the FIFA Laws of the game.			
Law 16 Goal Kick		Taken anywhere within the goal area. The opposing team must be behind the halfway line.	Taken anywhere within the goal area. The opposing team must be behind the halfway line.	The opposing team must be behind the build-out line.	Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game	Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game	Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game
Law 17 Corner Kick		Place in the vicinity of the corner	Place in the vicinity of the corner	Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game	Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game	Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game	Conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game
Additional							Aug-Dec 2011 can register if in the 8th grade