

# Scottsdale Soccer

## Arcadia Scottsdale United Soccer Club

### Recreational Modified Rules – Spring Program

#### **6-9 Year Olds – General Guidelines**

These guidelines are to be adhered to by all coaches and teams.

#### **Player Participation**

- Regardless of playing ability, all players will play at least half the game.
- Coaches should play all players at different positions (offense and defense) throughout the year.
- Instructions during the game to players should be positive in nature and directed at providing player tactical information.

#### **Game Field Set-up**

- The team wearing white shirts supplies the game ball.
- Each team will have one Head Coach and, optionally, one Assistant Coach. If the Referee is confused about who the two coaches are, the Referee will ask. Both coaches are to be positioned within the coach and player's half of the field during the game, which is outside the field of play. People other than the coaches and players must remain on the opposite side of the field and quietly observe according to the league Code Of Conduct.
- The Head Coach is responsible for the behavior of parents, substitute players, and their spectators. If the Referees detect unacceptable behavior on a particular team the Referee will warn the head coach to deal with the individual(s) involved. If this warning does not correct the unacceptable behavior, the Referee can resort to other actions: 1) Send the offending person(s) from the field, 2) Caution the coach (yellow card); or 3) Second caution for the coach (second yellow card equals a red card and the coach will leave the playing area as defined by the Referee).
- For all fields except those located at Mountain View Park:
  - Teams and coaches sit on one side of the field.
  - Spectators (all non-players, non-coaches) sit on opposite side. No one is allowed to view the game from behind the goal.
  - Coaches and teams remain on their half of the field mid-line, and one yard outside of the field of play.
- For fields at Mountain View Park:
  - Players and coaches occupy the east side of the field.
  - Spectators occupy the west side of the field. No one is allowed to view the game from behind the goal.
- Substitution procedure (6-9 year olds)
  - Substitutions are allowed on your team throw-in (kick-ins for 6-7 year olds), either team's goal kick, after a goal is scored by either team, or other stoppage of play at the discretion of the referee. No substitutions allowed on corner kicks.
  - Referee will acknowledge that a substitution is requested. After that acknowledgement, coach is to call off players who are leaving the field.
  - Once the players have left the field, the referee will allow the substitutes to enter the field of play.
    - Players must enter the field from the mid-line.
- Water breaks on hot days
  - Players DO NOT LEAVE THE FIELD OF PLAY – Coach or players not in the game are to hand water to players who remain on the field of play.
  - No player substitutions allowed during water breaks.
  - Game days with water breaks will be determined at the discretion of the program officials.

#### **Check-In Procedures**

- Referee (age 6 and older), coach, assistant coach, and captains review any rule clarifications or special ground rules for that field / that day.
- Equipment Check
  - Shin guards are required
  - Socks MUST cover shin guards completely.
  - No toe cleats and no sharp cleats
  - NO JEWELRY – even if covered with tape. This includes newly pierced ears. A player cannot play with jewelry of any kind.

- Metal hair pieces or wrist bans, even the rubber kind, are not allowed.
- Player in a cast may be able to play if allowed by the Referee. Safe play for all is the determining factor.
- Roster check.
  - Printed rosters will be used and are supplied to the referee.
  - Referee will identify each player by name as the players appear on the roster.
  - Players not on the roster will not be allowed to play. This roster is also the participation award order list so make sure you report roster problems to recsoccer@scottsdalesoccer.com

### Rules That Apply To All Age Divisions

1. Substitutions are made at center line. Players leaving the field should be off before entering players step on.
2. Cautioned players must leave the playing field immediately after being cautioned (may be substituted for) and thus becomes a substitute eligible to reenter the game appropriately.

### Age Specific Rules / Six and Seven Year Olds (U8)

1. Teams will use a size three ball.
2. Teams play four per side without a goalkeeper. Teams can play with a minimum of three players.
3. There is a small goal box at each end of the field. No ball contact is allowed within the goal box, although players may pass through the goal box without contacting the ball. If the ball comes to rest in the goal box (including on the goal box line) a goal kick is awarded regardless of who last touched the ball. If the ball is touched in the goal box:
  - By a **defensive player**, a free kick is awarded four yards outside of the box;
  - By an **offensive player**, a goal kick is awarded.

There are no goalkeepers, and as such players may not stand and block the mouth of the goal during play; rather they should be encouraged to guard players on the other team. Defending players are not allowed to stand waiting within the goal area. The ball may not be contacted by ANY player while the ball is within the goal box. The referee will move defending players away from the box to help enforce this rule.
4. Games will be divided into four twelve minute quarters with a two minute break between quarters and a five minute break at the half. Teams switch ends of field at the half.
5. On a goal kick all players for the opposing team need to be at midfield before the kick is taken. Once the kick is taken the players from the opposing team can play.
6. Slide tackling is not permitted.
7. Heading the ball is not permitted. If a header is performed, play will be stopped and will resume with an indirect kick by the opposing team.
8. Offsides will not be enforced.
9. Kick-ins will be used instead of throw-ins. The ball will be placed on the touch line with appropriate space allowed for the kick in. The kick will be an indirect free kick.
10. All fouls will result in INDIRECT free kicks, which shall be taken outside the defending team's penalty area. There will be no direct free kicks or penalty kicks.

### Age Specific Rules / Eight Year Olds (U9)

1. Teams will use a size three ball.
2. Teams play six per side, one player designated as goalkeeper. Teams can play with a minimum of four players.
3. Games will be divided into two 25 minute halves with a five minute break at the half. Teams switch ends of field at the half.
4. Slide tackling is not permitted.
5. Heading the ball is not permitted. If a header is performed, play will be stopped and will resume with an indirect kick by the opposing team.
6. Blatant offsides will be enforced. "Cherry picking" is not part of youth soccer and will be called by the referee.

### Age Specific Rules / Nine Year Olds (U10)

1. Teams will use a size four ball.
2. Teams play seven per side, one player designated as goalkeeper. Teams can play with a minimum of five players.
3. Games will be divided into two 25 minute halves with a five minute break at the half. Teams switch ends of field at the half.
4. Slide tackling is not permitted.
5. Heading the ball is not permitted. If a header is performed, play will be stopped and will resume with an indirect kick by the opposing team.
6. Offsides will be enforced.

**4-5 Year Olds General Guidelines**

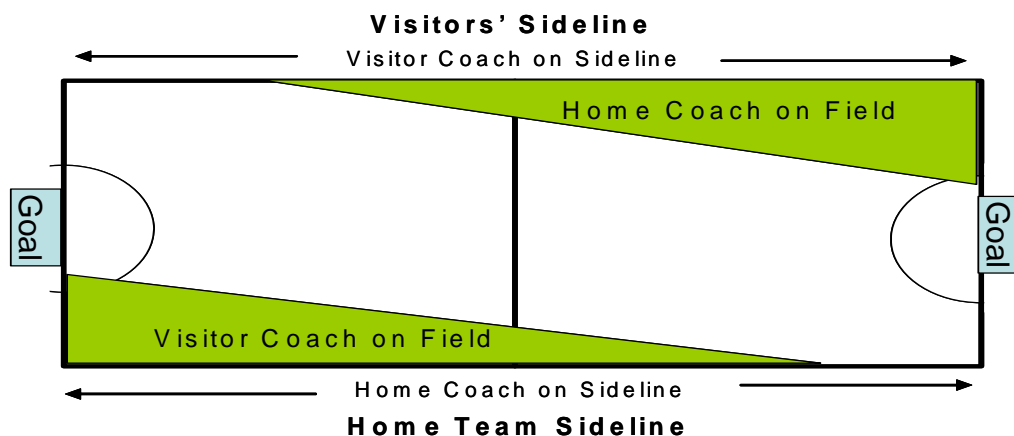
This is an overview of game day guidelines. These guidelines must be adhered to by all coaches and teams.

**Player Participation:**

- Regardless of playing ability, all players will play at least half the game.
- Coaches should not be too concerned about set 'positions' at this age. The concept of positions can be introduced when the players are older.
- Instructions during the game to players should be positive in nature and targeted at providing tactical information to the player.

**Game Field / Game Operation**

- The team wearing white shirts supplies the game ball.
- The team wearing white shirts sits on the East side of field; the other team sits on the opposite side.
- Substitutions are made only at the quarter breaks and halftime.
  - Water breaks can be taken during hot weather as mutually agreed by both coaches.
- No one is allowed to view the game from behind the goal.
- Only one coach from each team should be on the field during the course of play.
  - Coaches should avoid being in the center of the field while the ball is in play.
  - See the below figure for preferred positions of coaches.

**Check-In Procedures:**

- Review any rule clarifications with the other coach.
- Equipment check
  - Socks MUST cover shin guards (shin guards required)
  - No toe cleats; no sharp cleats
  - NO JEWELRY
  - A player can play while wearing a cast only if both coaches agree it is safe to do so.
  - Rosters may be spot-checked by a field marshal. The roster is also the participation award order list so make sure your roster problems are resolved with [recsoccer@scottsdalesoccer.com](mailto:recsoccer@scottsdalesoccer.com)

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**Rules That Apply To Four and Five Year olds (U6)**

1. Teams will use a size three ball.
2. Slide tackling is not permitted.
3. Heading the ball is not permitted. If a header is performed, play will be stopped and will resume with an indirect kick by the opposing team.
4. Offsides will NOT be enforced.
5. Kick-ins will be used instead of throw-ins. The ball will be placed on the touch line with appropriate space allowed for the kick in. The kick will be an indirect free kick.
6. All fouls will result in INDIRECT free kicks, which shall be taken at least fifteen feet away from the defending team's goal. There will be no direct free kicks or penalty kicks.
7. Each team shall supply a qualified individual to act as a referee for half of the game. The referee shall be completely impartial while on the field and shall not coach while acting as referee.
8. For goal kicks, all players for the opposing team need to be at midfield before the kick is taken. Once the kick is taken the players from the opposing team can again move about the whole field.
9. Fields will be marked with a semicircular goal area with an eight foot radius. No player from either team will be allowed in this goal area unless the ball has entered first. No player from either team may stand directly in front of the goal area.

**Age Specific Rules / Five Year Olds (U6)**

1. Teams play four per side (no goalkeepers). Teams can play with a minimum of three players.
2. Games will be divided into four eight minute quarters with a two minute break between quarters and a five minute break at the half. Teams switch ends of field at the half.
3. Opponents must stand at least twelve feet away from the ball for kickoffs and indirect free kicks; and ten feet away for corner kicks and goal kicks.

**Age Specific Rules / Four Year Olds (U5)**

1. Teams play three per side (no goalkeepers). Teams can play with a minimum of two players.
2. Games will be divided into four six minute quarters with a two minute break between quarters and a five minute break at the half. Teams switch sides at the half.
3. Opponents must stand at least ten feet away from the ball for kickoffs and indirect free kicks; and eight feet away for corner kicks and goal kicks.