



MINNESOTA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION INC.

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MINNESOTA TOPSOCCER MODIFICATIONS TO THE LAWS OF THE GAME

The FIFA Laws of the Game may be found on the Internet at www.fifa.com.
The complete MYSA Modifications to the Laws of the Game may be found at
www.mnyouthsoccer.org/publications/rules.cfm (Section 7.0).

General

Any player who starts to bleed while on the playing field must leave the field of play until the bleeding stops. The player may not re-enter the field of play with any part of his or her uniform covered with blood. That piece of the uniform must be cleaned or should be changed. The player may re-enter the field only with the consent of the referee at any stoppage of play. A player who is bleeding shall be treated as any other injury (i.e. stop play and allow substitutions—conforming to Law III). If an alternate jersey is not available, a shirt the same color as the jersey may be used and numbers taped on the back of the shirt.

LAW 1—The Field of Play

MYSA Modifications for All Ages

Spectator seating: When possible, the technical area for both teams will be on the same side of the field with the spectators seated on the opposite side.

Adverse field conditions: If the field conditions are not satisfactory for a team, no forfeit will automatically be declared. That team must refuse to play under the existing conditions and must relate the conditions to a TOPSoccer Board Member who will have final decision on the field condition.

The field of play must be safe for the players.

If a field is playable and in the opinion of the referee safe for the players, the referee shall have no authority to cancel, a game but will report field irregularities to the TOPSoccer Board.

A Group Modifications:

- a. Dimensions: The field of play shall be rectangular, its length being not more than 60 yards or less than 45 yards and its width not more than 45 yards or less than 35 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width.
- b. Markings: A center circle with 8-yard radius; four corner arcs with a 3-foot radius.
- c. Penalty area: 10 yards from each goal post and 10 yards into the field of play, joined by a line parallel with the goal line.
- d. Goals: Minimum: 6 feet high and 12 feet wide, maximum: 6.5 feet high and 12 feet wide.
- e. Field and Goals may have to be modified due to the space provided at each facility. The coaches along with the TOPSoccer committee will determine the field size prior to the games.

B Group Modifications:

- a. Dimensions: The field of play shall be rectangular, its length being not more than 60 yards or less than 45 yards and its width not more than 45 yards or less than 35 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width.
- b. Markings: A center circle with 8-yard radius; four corner arcs with a 3-foot radius.
- c. Penalty area: 10 yards from each goal post and 10 yards into the field of play, joined by a line parallel with the goal line.
- d. Goals: Minimum: 6 feet high and 12 feet wide, maximum: 6.5 feet high and 12 feet wide.

C Group, Skills,

- Field space or open area will be needed to allow skills to be performed in a safe manner.

D Group Wheelchair/ Walker Division

- Will be developed later.

LAW 2—The Ball

- For Group A and B size 5.
- For Skills, size 4 or 5. Depending on the skill level.
- For sight impaired, a special sound ball may be used.
- For wheel chair or walker division, a larger diameter ball may be used.

LAW 3—The Number of Players

All players **MUST** be registered with MYSA prior to playing in any game. A registration form and Medical Release form must be on file with MYSA. Coaches are to have a copy of the Medical Release form at both practice and games. Rosters are not limited.

A Group Players

- Are restricted to playing in that group.
- Maximum: 8 players on the field, one of whom must be the goalkeeper.
- Minimum: 5 players on the field, one of whom must be a goalkeeper.

B Group Players

- May play up to the A Group.
- Maximum: 6 players on the field, one of whom must be a goalkeeper.
- Minimum: 4 players on the field, one of whom must be a goalkeeper.

LAW 4—Players Equipment

Shoes, Shirt, Shorts, Socks and Shin guards are required.

- a. The referee shall not permit a player to wear or use any equipment or clothing which, in the opinion of the referee, would likely risk injury to the player or others.

- b. The referee has the final decision on the safety of players' equipment or clothing. A player will be allowed to wear a cast only if, in the opinion of the referee, it is well padded and will not constitute a risk of injury to the player or others.
- d. Generally, the MYSA expects that soccer players will dress and conduct themselves in a fashion that is in keeping with usual soccer custom and does not reflect unfavorably upon their state or community.
- e. Visible under garments such as cycling shorts are authorized. They must, however, be the predominant color of the shorts of the player's team and not extend farther than the top of the knee.
- f. In the case of extremely cold weather, the use of sweat pants or shirts underneath the uniform shall be acceptable.
- g. Jerseys must be tucked in at all times.
- i. Players must be uniform in appearance with respect to jersey.

LAW 5 The Referee

For additional information on USSF referees see <http://www.ussoccer.com> and click on the referee button.

- a. Referees will be subject to disciplinary action if they allow violations of MYSA policies.
- b. A three-person system (diagonal system of control) may be used, which must have at least 1 certified referee.. If scheduled assistant referees are absent, the referee may use club assistant referees (club lines).
- c. A one man system may be used as directed by the Site Director.
- d. The TOPSoccer Director or Site Director may appoint referees to games as needed.
- e. Referees shall have full charge of the game, whether the ball is in play or out of play. They shall administer the policies so as to ensure safe, sportsmanlike, fluid play and with a view towards fostering the spirit of the game.

1. Pre-game: The referees should arrive at the field at least 20 minutes before starting time. They should check the field to make sure that it is properly lined and set; check the nets, and players' equipment and uniforms. The referee had full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connected with the match to which they have been appointed. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final. The referee may only change a decision on realizing that it is incorrect or at his/her discretion, on the advice of an assistant referee, provided that play has not been restarted. Coaches and others should be informed to submit written reports regarding referees to The TOPSoccer Board.
2. Referees shall be the official timekeepers and scorekeepers.
3. Referees are public figures and, if asked in a civil manner, they should identify themselves.
4. Referees shall also follow the modified Laws set for the TOPSoccer league while keeping in the spirit of the game.

LAW 6 The Assistant Referee

Use of club assistant referees (club lines) is allowed in the event that certified officials are not available.

LAW 7 The Duration of the Match

The length of games shall be:

A Group Two 25-minute periods.

B Group Two 25 minute periods.

A modified time will be set prior to the game if a round robin format is used.

Exhibition games shall be complete after any amount of time has been played. All other games shall be complete when at least one half (of the game) and 50 percent of the second half have been played. Anything less must be reported to the competent authority who will determine if it needs to be replayed or will determine the outcome of the game.

The referee is the official timekeeper and sole judge on the amount of time played.

All ties during the regular season will remain ties with no overtime periods

LAW 8 The Start and Restart of Play

- a. The referee shall ensure that games not begin later than 15 minutes after the designated starting time. However, the referee may extend such time for an additional time to allow for delays caused by traffic and travel problems.
- b. Once the game has started, no team may protest because of the field or referee qualifications. If a team wants to protest, it must tell the referee that it is playing under protest before the initial kickoff. The referee will note the protest and the reason for the protest and report it to the Site Director.
- c. If a team takes the field and plays under objectionable conditions, (without announcing it is playing "under protest") that game will be considered in the standings.
- d. A referee will never have the right to declare a winner or loser. The referee will simply report his/her observations to the Site Director.
- e. When consecutive games are scheduled on the same field, the first game must end no later than 10 minutes after the starting time for the second game

Law 9 The Ball In and Out of Play- No MYSA or TOPSoccer modifications.

Law 10 The Method of Scoring- No MYSA or TOPSoccer modifications.

LAW 11 Offside

Offside is not in effect in the B Group.

LAW 12 Fouls and Misconducts

General

1. Referees must promptly report problems of improper behavior by coaches, players and fans to the State TOPSoccer Director and Site Director. This behavior may result in forfeiture of the game or other appropriate action as deemed necessary by the TOPSoccer Committee. If a coach is out of control, a referee may request the coach to leave before a game continues.. The coach will serve an automatic mandatory 1 game suspension, following a review by the appropriate TOPSoccer Committee.

b.) TOPSoccer Committee will take appropriate action.

2. Conduct that amounts to physical assault upon an official as defined by USSF will result in a minimum suspension of 1 year.

b. Red and Yellow Card Violations: These guidelines will apply to all MYSA age groups in league play or MYSA tournament play.

1. Minimum 1 game suspension

a.) Sent off by the referee for persisting in misconduct after having received a caution. That is, after having received a yellow card, receiving a second yellow card for one of the following:

- 1.) Unsporting behavior;
- 2.) Dissent;
- 3.) Persistently infringing the Laws of the Game;
- 4.) Delaying the restart of play;
- 5.) Failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick or free kick;
- 6.) Entering or reentering the field without the permission of the referee; or,
- 7.) Deliberately leaving the field without the permission of the referee.

b.) A player sent off by the referee for denying a goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball shall serve a minimum 1 game suspension.

2. Minimum 2 game suspension

a.) Sent off by the referee for one of the following:

- 1.) Serious foul play;
- 2.) Violent conduct;
- 3.) Spits at an opponent or any other person;
- 4.) Denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offense punishable by a free kick or penalty kick; or, offensive, insulting or abusive language

5.) A two-game suspension will be in order even if the player had received a yellow card prior to the red card.

3. Handling of Red Cards

a.) Red cards issued in league games carry over into sponsored and invitational tournaments and vice versa.

b.) All red cards will be carried over to the next playing season.

c.) Suspension will be served for the team to which the player is officially registered.

d.) It shall be the responsibility of the player's coach to assist in enforcing the suspension.

h.) Game suspensions that are a result of red cards issued in games that are not "complete" still must be served.

LAW 13 Free Kicks

A-Group opponents must be 8 yards away from the point of kick.

B-Group opponents must be 6 yards away from the point of kick.

Free kick by the attacker within the Goal Area must be placed on top of the Goal Area Line parallel to the goal line and closest to the point of infraction.

LAW 14 The Penalty Kick

A Group Taken from 8 yards away.

B-Group There will be no penalty kicks awarded at this level.

LAW 15 The Throw-in No MYSA or TOPSoccer modifications.

LAW 16 The Goal Kick

Opponents must be outside of the penalty area for both A and B Group.

LAW 17 The Corner Kick

A- Group Opponents must be 8 yards away from the ball.

B- Group Opponents must be 6 yards away from the ball.