

U-8 Competition Rules

The following competition rules are adapted from Ontario Soccer Association, *Development Matrix*, December 8, 2014. For any aspect of the Laws of the Game not covered by this document, please refer to the current edition of the FIFA Laws of the Game.

Law 1: The Field of Play

Field Markings:

The field and goal dimensions as outlined below shall be considered as desirable guidelines. Failure to conform to the recommended field and goal dimensions shall not be the subject of protest.

Dimensions:

Recommended field dimensions:

Length	30 m - 36 m (32.8 yd - 39.4 yd)
Width	25 m - 30 m (27.3 yd - 32.8 yd)
Goal Area	6 m arc
Goals	8 ft (2.44 m) x 5 ft (1.52 m)

Law 3: Number of Players

Minimum number of players	4
Maximum number of players	5
Maximum Roster Size	10

Substitutions:

Unlimited substitutions are allowed at any stoppage in play at the sole discretion of the referee.

Law 4: Players' Equipment

- Shin guards must be completely covered by socks and must provide a reasonable degree of protection.
- Jewelry is not permitted and cannot be taped except that Medic alert bracelets and necklaces are permitted provided they are fastened securely, and the referee should be made aware.
- No plastic or metal hair items.
- Final decisions on equipment are for the match official.

Law 7: Duration of the Match

Each half is 20 minutes.

The half-time interval is 5 minutes.

Law 11 Offside

There is no offside for 5v5 games.

Law 12 Fouls

See U9 & U10 Competition Rules for a listing of fouls.

Law 13: Free Kicks

All free kicks are indirect. No penalty kicks.

See U9 & U10 Competition Rules for free kick procedures.

Law 15 Pass-In

A pass-in is a method of restarting play when the whole of the ball crosses the touch line.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a pass-in.

Procedure

- At the moment of delivering the ball, the kicker faces the field of play and has part of the ball on or behind the touch line
- All opponents must stand no less than two (2) metres from the point at which the pass-in is taken.

Law 16 Goal Kick

A goal kick is a method of restarting play when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, and a goal has not been scored.

Procedure

- The ball is kicked from any point within the Goal Area.
- Retreat Line: Opponents must be in their own half of the field of play when the goal kick is taken and cannot touch the ball until it is in play.**
 - The ball is in play once it leaves the Goal Area and is touched by a player of the team taking the goal kick.
- A goal cannot be scored directly from a goal kick.