

# DEARBORN SOCCER CLUB IN-HOUSE PROGRAM

## RULES FOR U4 thru U6

### Small-Sided Games

US Youth Soccer policies recommend's that teams under 6 years of age, play Small-Sided Games (without goalies).

- Ages U4 & U5 play 4v4 games, maximum roster of 8 players per team (no Goalkeepers) and are Co-Ed Teams.
- Ages U6 (Girls & Boys teams) play 5v5 games, maximum roster of 9 players per team (no Goalkeepers).

### Game Cancelations

In House games will not be rescheduled after the season begins. Any conflicts with a scheduled game must be addressed with the DSC Field Scheduler prior to the beginning of the season. Tonya Hunt (313) 610-1972

### Laws of the Game

These rules supplement "official" FIFA soccer rules, abide by GLSL rules and DSC policies.

#### Law I – The Field

- Dimensions:
  - U4 & U5 Fields are 40yds x 30yds
  - U6 Fields are 50yds x 35yds
- Markings: Distinctive lines not more than 5 inches wide as follows: A halfway line shall be marked out across the field; a center circle with a 5-yard radius; four (4) corner arcs each with a 2 foot radius; a goal area – 6 yard line
- Goals: The size of the soccer goals are as follows:
  - U-4 - U-6 will use the large pop-up nets

#### Law II – The Ball

- Size 3 Ball used for U-4 thru U-6

#### Law III – Players

- Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is:
  - Four (4) per team for U4 & U5.
  - Five (5) per team for U6
  - U4 & U5 team roster will not exceed Eight (8) players
  - U6 team roster will not exceed Nine (9) players
- Substitutions: U4 thru U6 allowed any time ball is out of play with the permission of the "Acting Referee". (Referee as defined in Law V)
- Playing time: Each player shall play a minimum of 50% (percentage based on having an even number of players) of the total playing time of the game.
- Teams and games may be coed, all girls, and all boys. One (1) boy on a mostly girl team is considered an all boys team.
- In eligible or Improperly Registered Players
  - Any team playing a player, who is ineligible, whether accidentally, intentionally, or otherwise, shall forfeit the game(s) in which that player takes part and may face further disciplinary action by the member organization and/or the board of directors, depending upon the nature of the violation.

#### Law IV – Player Equipment

- Footwear: Tennis Shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes allowed. No toe-spikes will be allowed. All footwear must conform to FIFA (except tennis shoes).
- SHINGUARDS ARE MANDATORY.
- No jewelry is to be worn by any player on the field. **Earrings are not allowed.** Starter earrings have to come out, no taping ear rings or the individual cannot play.
- No wristbands or friendship bracelets allowed.
- No metal or plastic Hair pins, Clips or ties

### **Law V – Referees (Acting Referee’s)**

- U4-U6 No Referees will be used for U4-U6 games.
  - Coaches are expected to act as “Acting Referees” for the game.
  - Coaches should alternate referee duties each half.
  - “Acting Referees” be used for all U4-U6 games to keep the playing environment fun, safe, and focused on the children.
  - The “Acting Referee” will abide by FIFA rules, including keeping time, enforcing the laws of the game, and stopping and restarting play.
  - Coaches (Acting Referees) decisions are final. Parents and spectators on the sidelines may not yell at “Acting Referees” or enter the field of play during the game. Coaches are responsible for parents and spectators of his or her players. Coaches are to be familiar with soccer rules and to be able to explain them to parents before and/or after the game. Parents or spectators entering the field or arguing with “referees” will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
  - No parent shall be allowed to be on the field during the time the game is being played.
    - U4 Teams will be allowed to have up to 1 parent accompany the player onto the field if necessary at a time. Parent may not impede the play or enter either goal box.
  - “Acting Referee” shall not enter the goal box or impede the ability for a goal scoring opportunity.
- “Acting Referees” shall use the following signals along with the verbal words:
  - Indirect kick – Arm extended straight up and say “Indirect Kick”
  - Corner kick – point to the corner and say “Corner Kick”
  - Goal kick – point to the goal area and say “Goal Kick”
- “Referees” shall have a whistle and a stopwatch.

### **Law VI – Assistant Referee**

- Not used for U4 thru U6; Coaches are “Acting Referee” only.

### **Law VII – Duration of the Game**

- Games will begin on the hour. If in the event the game is delayed, time will be subtracted from the allotted playing time so the game finishes on time.
- **Players will show up to the game 15 minutes early for Safety Check in (DSC Policy #2)**
- U4 thru U6: The game shall be divided into four (4) equal quarters. Total Game Time Is 40 Minutes. (10 minute quarters)
- There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarters U4 thru U6
- There shall be a five (5) minute break at halftime U4 thru U6.
- Players must be on the field and be ready to play at the 2 or 5 minute mark.

### **Law VIII – The Start of Play**

- Conform to FIFA with the following exception:
- Opponents must be five (5) yards from the center mark at kickoff
- No coin tosses; the visiting team will kick off first and alternate with the home team between quarters or halves.

### **Law IX – Ball In and Out of Play**

- A. Ball must completely cross the line to be out of play.

### **Law X – Method of Scoring**

- A. Conform to FIFA except no official score shall be kept
- B. U4 thru U6: After ball crosses the goal line into goal, the game shall be restarted from center mark. Opposing team shall move back to 6-yard line (goal kick line)

### **Law XI – Offside**

- A. No Offside Calls Shall be made U4 – U6

### **Law XII – Fouls and Misconduct**

- A. Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:
  - No cautions (yellow cards) or ejections (red cards) shall be issued to the players U4 thru U6
  - Slide tackling will not be permitted and shall be mentioned in the pre-game talk. When the referee stops the game because of a slide tackle, the game will be restarted by an indirect free kick against the team of the player that did the slide tackling.

### **Law XIII – Free Kicks**

- A. Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:
- All free kicks will be indirect.
  - Opponents must be five (5) yards away.
  - Players can not score on a indirect kick

### **Law XIV – Penalty Kicks**

- There are no penalty kicks in small-sided games.

### **Law XV – Throw-Ins**

- U4 thru U6 Kick-Ins only.
  - Kick-Ins will be considered an indirect free kick cannot score from them (see Law XIII).

### **Law XVI – Goal Kick**

- If the team attempting to score a goal, kicks the ball over the goal line, the defending team puts the ball back into play with a goal kick.
- The goal kick should be taken within the designated 6 yard goal box. U4-U6, the opposing players must move back to the half way line.

### **Law XVII – Corner Kicks**

- If team defending goal last touches ball before it crosses the goal line, the attacking team puts ball into play with an indirect kick at the corner arc.
- Ball must be placed inside or on the corner arc.

### **DSC Policy #1 – Coaches**

- U4 thru U6 (In this section, when coaches are referred to, it is understood that the “Acting Referee” is excluded from rules regarding him/her on the field):
  - No coaches are to be allowed on the field
  - Coaching from the sidelines, giving directions to one's own team on points of strategy and position, is permitted provided:
    - No voice assisting/enhancing device is used
    - Tone of voice is informative and not a harangue
  - Coach, Assistant, player and/or spectators must remain on the respective side of the field as their team and can only go from 14 yd. line to 14 yd. line.
  - No coach, assistant, substitute player, parent or spectator can be on field during playing time.
  - No coach, “Acting Referee”, assistant, substitute player, parent or spectator can be behind either goal area.

### **DSC Policy #2 – Safety /Roster Check**

- ALL coaches are required to bring their team roster to each game (and exchange rosters)
- Coaches and players are to arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game time
- Coaches are to perform a safety check and roll call of the opposing team
- The safety check and roll call is required to be signed and documented on the team roster
- Each coach will retain the opposing teams’ signed Safety/Roster form for all teams they played against
- Each coach will submit all signed Safety/Roster forms when the participation trophies are picked up
- All signed team rosters need to be adequately documented, signed, dated, and organized to provide validation that each DSC team has adequately performed a Safety/Roster check for each game played (as evidence that the DSC has an effective process safety process in place)
- Coaches that do not retain/provide evidence of the Safety/Roster check for each of their scheduled games may result in penalties (up to and including termination)
- Coaches that have identified discrepancies with the opposing team’s safety and/or roster are required to submit a complaint with the documented team roster to the DSC Oversight Committee Chairman – Dave Paluszewski ([davepaldsc@yahoo.com](mailto:davepaldsc@yahoo.com))
- All complaints are taken seriously and follow the formal process as documented on the DSC website
- Any identified infraction as noted above may result in a penalty up to and including termination from the DSC. The DSC Oversight Committee will oversee all infractions to this game-day procedure and a final report will be provided to the DSC Board at the end of the season.
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**DSC Policy #3 – Risk Management Policy**

- **All DSC Coaches** have to be Risk Management approved and display their card at all time when in contact with players.

**Miscellaneous DSC Policies:**

- Opposing teams (players/coaches) should shake hands after each game.
- Participation awards will be given to all players. No trophies or awards will be given for best team.
- All players, coaches, parents, and spectators should be there to enjoy and encourage the activity of the youngsters.
- Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products will not be allowed near the playing areas.
- Changes to these rules are not permitted without the DSC Board approval.