

U5 Division Guidelines

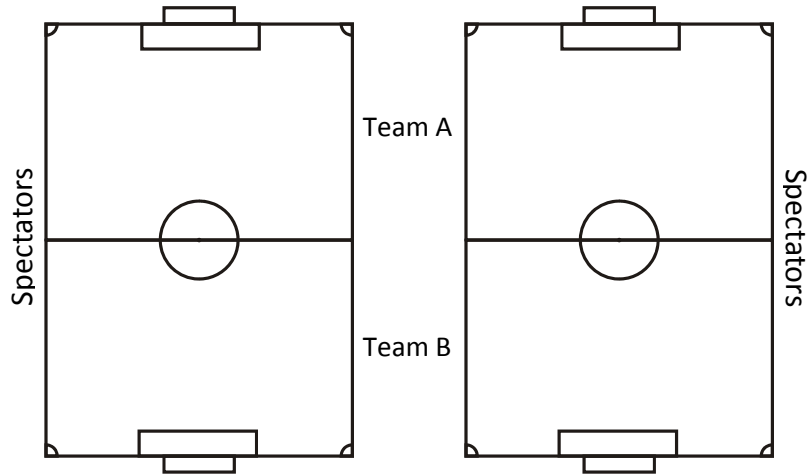
The Field of Play:

Two Mini-Fields
Length of each - 25 yards
Width of each – 20 yards

Goal Area: 3 Yards
Penalty Area: None
Goal Posts: Flags or Cones
Corner Arcs: Yes

Field Markings:

The field is divided into two halves by a halfway line.
A center mark and surrounding 4 yard radius circle is located at the midpoint of the halfway line.
Goals are 10 feet wide and located at the center of each goal line.
Goal areas extend three yards onto the field and three yards from each of the goal posts.



Ball: Size 3. Each child should bring a size 3 ball to practices and games.

Number of Players: Teams consist of 8 to 10 players.

Match Play: Each team divides into two groups of 4 or 5 players and plays two matches at the same time on adjacent fields. On each field, matches are played with 3 players from each team (3v3). There are NO goalkeepers.

Example: Red Team vs Blue Team

Red team divides into two teams Red A and Red B

Blue team divides into two teams Blue A and Blue B

Red A plays Blue A on Field 1a

Red B plays Blue B on Field 1b

Coaches should divide their players so each field has balanced player strength between the two teams.

Duration of Match: The match is divided into four 7 minute quarters. There are 2 minute breaks after the 1st and 3rd quarters. Half time is 5 minutes. A coach or a sideline volunteer may keep time.

Playing time: Each player must play a minimum of 60% of the total playing time. This is 17 minutes in a 28 minute match. Subs may enter if play is stopped for a goal kick, corner kick, kick-in or after a goal. If a sub is made for an injury, other subs for either team may enter at that time.

Player Equipment: All players must wear shin guards. A player without shin guards is not permitted to play. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but must still distinguish teams. Soccer shoes are nice but not required. Tennis shoes are fine.

Players are not permitted to wear jewelry of any kind. It is NOT acceptable to use tape or band-aids to cover recently pierced ears. If a player chooses not to remove earrings or other jewelry, the player cannot participate in play. There are NO exceptions.

Hair restraints may not contain hard plastic or metal.

Referee: Coaches or parents may act as referees. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Fouls and Misconduct: All fouls result in an indirect free kick. No cards are shown for misconduct.

Free Kicks: All free kicks are indirect. Opponents must be at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Penalty Kick: There are no penalty kicks. An indirect free kick is awarded at the spot of the foul.

Throw in: The ball must be put into play with a kick-in, not a throw-in. This gets the ball in play quicker and allows for more touches on the ball during the match. Opponents must be at least four (4) yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Goal Kick: Goal kicks are taken from anywhere within the goal area. Opposing players must be in their own end of the field until the ball is in play. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.

Corner Kick: Opponents must remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Goal Scoring: To score a goal, the kick must be taken from within the opponents' end of the field. If the kick is taken from the kicking team's own end, the goal does not count. The restart is a goal kick for the opponent.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick off, goal kick, corner kick, kick-in or a free kick from a foul.

Score: U-5 Soccer does not keep score. **The main objective is to let the kids have fun!**

Other information:

- Cancellations due to weather or field conditions are only made by WASA staff.
- Kids may get dirty and muddy. Dress accordingly!
- Each coach is required to have flags or cones to mark the goals during the game.
- The key ideas the kids need to learn are to not use their hands and to pass the ball down the field so it may be kicked through the correct goal.
- Coaches need to develop a snack schedule. Snacks (e.g. juice box and treat) should be brought to each game for kids to enjoy after the game.
- Don't be surprised if the children want to stay by their parents at first instead of playing. Encourage them to play!
- Coaches typically hold 2-4 practices before the season begins. Although no practices are generally scheduled during the season encourage your team to show up 15 – 20 minutes before the game to practice.