



South Sound YMCA

Outdoor Soccer

Ages 3-5

5v5 rules

Objective: Keep play moving and players safe.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Each team play with five players each - one goalie and four field players.
- Games shall consist of two eight-minute quarters and two four-minute quarters, with a 2-5 minute halftime break. The final two quarters can last up to eight minutes, depending on player stamina/interest. Coaches, please try to get games started on time by having your teams there early and ready to go. Games should last no longer than 40 minutes, allowing the next team five minutes of warm up before their games starts.
- Coaches or assistant coaches will referee the game. A parent from the visiting team will keep track of time unless a coach does. Again, please try to get games going on time to avoid games running too late.
- Coaches and parents may assist children on the field, provided their presence does not interfere with the flow of the game or obstruct other players.

FIELD DIMENSIONS AND EQUIPMENT

- The field is 30 yards long by 20 yards wide. The field supervisor will set-up the field and has final judgement on dimensions.
- Each goal is three yards wide and centered on each endline. Goal area is three yards deep. A goal is made when the ball crosses the goal line completely. (See diagram.)

OUT OF BOUNDS AND RESTARTING PLAY

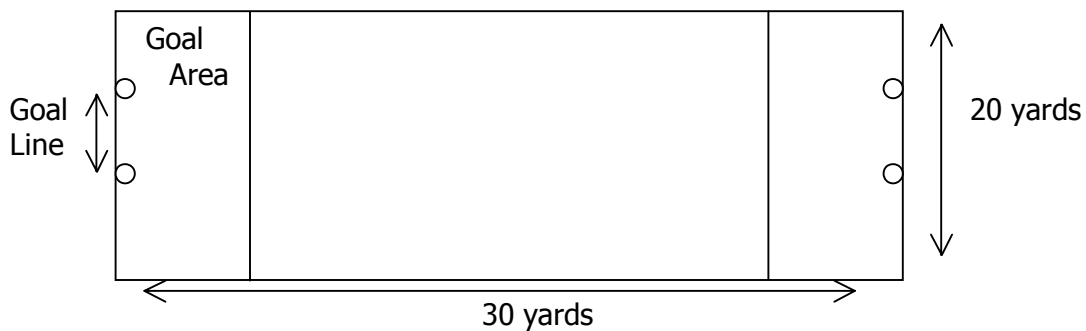
- Out of bounds on the sidelines will be called very loosely. Play may re-start with a coach rolling the ball back onto the field, near the spot it went out.
- After a goal, the goalie restarts the game with a goal kick.
- For handball violations where a player picks up the ball, the age-appropriate correction is to have the player set the ball down and kick it, while reminding them to use their feet.
- Pushing violations will be handled by verbal corrections by referee. For pushing or persistent use of hands referee may require repeat violators to be subbed out for the coach to make further corrections. When a push, trip, or dangerous play necessitates a whistle, then play will be restarted with a free kick.

SUBSTITUTIONS

- All players should play approximately the same amount of time (allowing for interest and fitness level/stamina). Substitutions may be made without stopping play.
- Substitutions should be made in a way that does not seek to gain advantage, i.e. neither team is immediately threatening to score.

GOALIE PLAY

- The goalie can use her/his hands in the goal area (See diagram). Dribbling and passing out of area is allowed and should be encouraged. Note: small goal area is to keep goalie from dominating play.



Note: The primary aim of youth sports at this age is to encourage children to have fun in a safe, challenging environment. Teamwork, sportsmanship and safety are all keys. Coaches, officials, parents, and all other adults are present to encourage all players.

Sportsmanship

1. Coaches may not dispute calls, or argue a decision in front of players or spectators. If there is a dispute, address it at half time or after the game in the form of a question. If there is further dispute, contact the coordinator of your division.
2. If parents or spectators have concerns during the game, they will report to the coach or address the YMCA staff person (not the referee) on duty, or contact the coordinator.
3. Refer to Player/Parent Code of Ethics.