



U7 U8 FESTIVAL RULES

Under 8 players will play in a 5v5 (including a keeper) environment. Again, no scores or standings are maintained. Players can participate in their Club/Academy environment or participate in District Festivals on a weekend. District Festivals involve Club teams from within the district. No inter-district play is allowed unless neighboring districts are unable to offer their own Festivals.

Travel times should be kept in mind. **Small Sided Referees will be assigned to the games.** No more than 2 games can be played on a festival day, Saturday, or Sunday. Boys and girls can play on the same teams. Players will play a fair amount of time in each position. U7 players are permitted to play with an older age group on a U8 Game Day Roster providing the player has been evaluated using the appropriate OS Fast Tracking & Player Development document by both the Club Technical Director and District Association.

Age U8 Event Format 5 vs 5 incl' GK's

Ball Size 3

Maximum Duration 40 min total 2x20 halves

Week-end Festival game length – 20 minutes / No Half time / 60 minutes total playtime

Field size 30 x 35

Goal Size 5'x 8'

Rules Fundamentals

Small Sided district Referees will be assigned.

Coach Minimum Qualification Fundamentals MED & RIS

Retreat Line Halfway line

*Adjusted mini soccer 5v5 Festival rules

All free kicks are indirect.

After the scoring of a goal the game is restarted at the center.

- When the Goalkeeper has the ball, in his/her hands, or at a goal kick, the opposition players are to retreat to approximately the ½ way line until the ball is touched by another player other than the goalkeeper. See retreat line document.
- To encourage play from the back, the goalkeeper can either throw the ball or pass the ball from the ground. No drop kicks/punts.
- Players, including goalkeepers, can be substituted at any stoppage in the game.
- When the ball leaves the field of play, along the sideline, the game is restarted by passing the ball into play. A goal cannot be scored directly from the ball being passed in.
- When the ball leaves the field of play, along the end line, the game is restarted by a goal kick (no corner kicks).
- For more information, please refer to the Retreat line and Game Leader Presentations
- One team is short of players move players from opposing team. Game not to be canceled.
- Coaches, please fill out your game sheet before the start of the game and hand the team sheets to the game Referee.
- Teams on one side of the field. Spectators on the other side of the field.
- **No Slide Tacking is allowed**