



Washington Local Soccer Club

U8 Division - League Rules

- Law 1: The Field of Play:** The field of play shall be marked with white lines and will measure approximately 60 feet long x 30 feet wide. Both teams will sit on the same of the field, on opposite halves, while the spectators will remain on the other side of the field. Everyone that is not a part of active play should remain at least five yards away from the playing field at all times.
- Law 2: The Ball:** This division will use a size four (4) ball.
- Law 3: The Number of Players:** The game is played in a 5 vs. 5 format, which is four field players and a goalie per side. There are unlimited substitutions. Subs must be on the halfway line and be beckoned on by the referee before entering the field.
- Law 4: The Players' Equipment:** Each player must wear an official WLSC reversible jersey, navy or black shorts, shin guards, and socks that completely cover the shin guard. No jewelry of any kind may be worn.
- Law 5: The Referee:** A referee will be assigned to each match. It is the referee's duty to ensure that the players are safe and at this age, to instruct the player of the committed fouls to help teach our players the rules. In the event that a referee is not assigned, each coach (or team representative) shall referee one half of the game.
- Law 7: The Duration of the Match:** The game is divided into four ten (10) minute quarters, for a total game length of 40 minutes. There is a two minute break between quarters one and two, and between quarters three and four. There will be a five minute halftime.
- Law 8: The Start and Restart of Play:** Each game and quarter is started by a kick-off. The team in blue will kick off in the first and third quarters, the team in yellow will kick off in the second and fourth quarters. A kick-off is used to restart after each goal is scored, taken by the team that was scored upon.
- Law 9: The Ball In and Out of Play:** The ball is out of play when the entire ball has crossed over the field boundary. The ball is in play at all other times, except when the referee has blown his whistle to stop play.
- Law 10: Goal Scored:** A goal is scored when the entire ball has crossed the goal line, passing between the goalposts and under the crossbar.
- Law 11: Offside:** There are no offside fouls in the U8 game.
- Law 12: Fouls and Misconduct:** No caution or send off (yellow or red card) shall be issued to any player. If a child is being too rambunctious then the referee will ask the coach to make a substitution of that player to give the child a chance to calm down before returning to play.
- Law 13: Free Kicks:** All free kicks will be indirect, which means that at least two players must touch the ball after the restart before a goal can be scored.
- Law 14: The Penalty Kick:** There are no penalty kicks taken in this age group.
- Law 15: The Throw-In:** All balls that go out of bounds over the touchline will be restarted by the opposing team with a throw-in. The player taking the throw must keep her feet on the ground and bring the ball completely behind her head with both hands and completely follow through with the motion.
- Law 16: The Goal Kick:** This restart is taken by the defending team when the attacking team last played the ball out of bounds over the goal line. The ball is placed two or three yards off of the goal line, in or near the goal box. Opposing players need to be at least five yards away from the ball when the goal kick is taken.
- Law 17: The Corner Kick:** A corner kick is taken by the attacking team when the defending team last played the ball out of bounds over their own goal line. The ball is placed in the one yard corner arc and the kick is taken from there. Opposing players need to be at least five yards from the corner arc during the taking of the kick.



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The following are fouls in the U8 Game:

- kicking or attempting to kick an opponent
- tripping or attempting to trip an opponent
- jumping at an opponent
- charging an opponent
- striking or attempting to strike an opponent
- pushing an opponent
- tackling (slide tackling) an opponent
- holding an opponent
- spitting at an opponent
- handling the ball deliberately (handball)
- playing in a dangerous manner (dangerous play)
- impeding the progress of an opponent (obstruction)

Additional Considerations:

- Games will be canceled at the field in the event of lightning. We will play in the rain. After the game has begun, the referee has the authority to suspend the game if it is deemed necessary.
- Once a game has begun the second half of play, it will be considered a complete game if it is suspended early.
- No foul language will be tolerated by any coach, player, or spectator.
 - First Offense / Verbal Warning
 - Second Offense / The offender will be asked to leave the field
 - Third Offense / A player will not be allowed back into the game, and may face a suspension
- Hanging on the goals or nets will not be tolerated. This is a safety issue and could put our program at great risk. Anyone witnessing this should stop the action immediately and report it if they feel that is necessary.
- We do not keep score or standings in this division. This division will not participate in the All-Star Game.

Mission Statement

The Washington Local Soccer Club exists to allow children the opportunity to play the game of soccer in a fun, structured atmosphere while teaching teamwork, good sportsmanship, and the basic principles of the game.