



RULES OF PLAY

1. All matches last 25 minutes each way. 7 v 7 unless otherwise agreed by management committee.
2. All timekeeping issues are at the sole discretion of the appointed referee.
3. 7/U8 will use a size 3 ball. U9/U10 will use a size 4 ball.
4. The quality of the match ball will be as FA rules.
5. Each team in a match will have a ball to the FA specifications.
- 6a Each half will start with a kick-off from the centre spot, as will re-start after a goal.
- 6b A goal can be scored direct from the kick off.
7. Free kicks will be direct or indirect as indicated by the referee.
8. When a referee has stopped play due to an injury to a player or any other cause, it will be the referee's decision as to how the game is restarted.
9. Defending teams players will retreat to 5 yards from any dead ball situation including kick offs until the ball is played.
10. There are no offsides.
11. Goal kicks must be taken from a dead ball within the area.
12. Passes back to the goalkeeper U7/U8/U9/U10 are allowed from open play. When an outfield player receives the ball direct from a goal kick and deliberately passes it back to the goalkeeper, the goalkeeper may not handle (pickup) the ball. (Indirect free kick of the edge of the area).
13. Dissent shown by any player shall result in a direct free kick. Dissent at a dead ball situation shall result in the ball being moved 5 yards in favour of the opposing team & a direct free kick will apply.
14. Pitch encroachment by managers or parents is not acceptable - Refs are instructed to suspend play in the interest of safety.
15. Constant encroachment will result in the suspension of the offending individual at the discretion of the league management.
16. Substitutions are roll on/roll off at any time, once the Referee's consent is given.
17. Suitable footwear & shinguards shall be worn by players at all times.
18. Discretion at throw-ins shall be shown to U7/U8, U9/U10 foul throw applies.
19. Good conduct shall be noted by Refs & rewarded at the end of season.
20. No kit or equipment is allowed close to the sideline.
21. Spectators are not allowed behind the goal. Without the specific permission of the referee.
22. Referees have the authority to abandon any match if the game is not conducted in a sportsmanlike way.
23. The referees decision on any matter during the course of the match is final.
24. The league management shall decide if an abandoned match is to be replayed or if points are to be awarded.
25. All other rules as per FA handbook.
26. No formal cautions (cards) will be gives to players - Refs have the power to insist a player is substituted. Bad language by any player will result in immediate enforced substitution until the match is over. The referee has the discretion to send any player to the Sin-Bin the referee will decide upon the length of time.
27. In under 7/8/9 matches, teams losing by 3 goals or more may bring an extra player onto the field of play, the extra player must leave the field immediately if the deficit is reduced to less than 3 goals.