

NORTHEAST UNITED SOCCER CLUB U8 RULES

There are eight players per team on the field at any one time, a goalie and seven other field players. The goalie will need to wear a jersey colored differently from his/her teammates or the opposing team. Coaches are not allowed on the field (first two games are allowed for first graders). The home team's sideline will always be on the NORTH or WEST side of the field, as appropriate. **NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO COACH FROM OR BE ANYWHERE BEHIND THE BASELINE/GOAL LINE; THIS IS NECESSARY FOR REASONS OF SAFETY. THIS IS STRICTLY ENFORCED AND NOT SUBJECT TO INTERPRETATION. INSTRUCTIONS TO THE GOALIE MUST COME FROM THE APPROPRIATE SIDELINE AND ONLY BY THE COACH.**

The intent is to allow all players to play at least half of the game. **COACHES SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ADHERE TO THIS RULE REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME OF THE GAME.** Games are divided into halves of twenty minutes each separated by a halftime of five minutes. The game clock will start five minutes after the scheduled start of the game; this is necessary due to the one hour spacing between each of the games. Line-up cards in your packet should be prepared before the game. **THE LARGE CARD IS FOR THE HOME TEAM, AND SMALL CARD IS FOR THE VISITING TEAM. THE HOME TEAM PROVIDES A PROPERLY INFLATED SIZE 4 GAME BALL.**

Unlimited substitutions will be allowed on any dead ball situation (regardless of possession). Example: prior to an opponent's throw-in, goal kick or corner kick. Be sure to inform the referee of your intent to sub and receive his permission to do so. Substitutes must remain by the coach prior to coming into the game to insure an orderly and timely player change. Please instruct your players that if they are injured to sit or lie down. The referee will stop the game once they are down and a dead ball situation has occurred. You must inform the referee prior to the substitution of the goalie.

The referee should offer instruction for improper throw-ins, etc., as they occur and players given an extra chance to correct the errors (first grade teams only) or as the referee deems necessary, but this should not be allowed to adversely affect the flow of the game. The off-sides rule will not be called, nor will players be allowed to "camp" in the goal area, this includes excessive defensive "camping" within their own penalty box or goal. Defenders must actively play the ball as opposed to being an impassable wall. **DIRECT PENALTY KICKS WILL NOT BE TAKEN ON FOULS WITHIN THE PENALTY BOX;** rather an indirect kick will be taken wherever the infraction was incurred. All penalty kicks will be indirect.

If linesmen have not been assigned, coaches should furnish a reliable person to call out-of-bounds, however, **THE REFEREE WILL BE THE FINAL JUDGE OF ANY CALL MADE BY THE LINESMAN. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MAY THE REFEREE BE THREATENED, INTIMIDATED OR OTHERWISE HARASSED. ANY OUT OF CONTROL COACH, PARENT OR PLAYER IS TO BE EJECTED FROM**

THE GAME AND/OR REMOVED FROM THE FIELD IF THE REFEREE BELIEVES IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GAME.

RAINOUT NUMBER: (913) 905-6020. THIS IS THE NEU HOTLINE FOR U8 ONLY. Light rain will not necessarily cancel a game, when in doubt go to the field for further instruction by the referee. They will determine if the field is still playable. HOWEVER, IN NO EVENT SHALL ANY PLAYERS BE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD DURING AN ACTIVE THUNDERSTORM! If time allows the games will be continued once the referee has determined it is safe.

You may play a game with as little as 6 players, however the opposing team does not have to reduce its size to accommodate your team. YOU MAY NOT RESHEDUE A GAME WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THE ORIGINAL GAME TIME. If you need to forfeit a game, you must call the U8 coordinator as soon as possible so that the referee and the opposing team can be notified. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR FOR A SCHEDULED GAME WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE, YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR REFEREE'S FEES. BOTH TEAM'S COACHES must call the NEU U8 coordinator if you decide to reschedule the game, with the time, date and location. Referees cannot be guaranteed for these games.

Any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Bette Hammes, U8

Coordinator

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