

FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME WALTON COUNTY SOCCER

LAW I - THE FIELD:

- A. Dimensions:
Under 6 – 20yds. X 30yds
Under 8 – 27yds. X 37yds
Under 10 – 30yds. X 50yds
Under 12 – 50yds. X 70yds.
Regulation – 70yds. X 110yds.
- B. Markings:
1. Distinctive lines necessary, sidelines and endlines.
2. A halfway line needs to be clearly marked out across the field.
3. Other markings
 a. A center circle (U6 and U8, 6yds; U10, 8yds; U12 and above, 10yds).
 b. Other markings include the goal box, penalty box, and penalty spot.
- C. Goals: U6- 4'x6', U8- 6'x12', U10- 6'x18', U12- 7'x21, Regulation- 8'x24'

LAW II. THE BALL: U6 and U8 - #3, U10 and 12 - #4, Regulation - #5.

LAW III – NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

- A. U6 – 3v3 maximum of 6 on a team (no keeper)
- B. U8 – 4v4 maximum of 8 on a team (no keeper)
- C. U10 – 6v6 maximum of 10 on a team
- D. U12 – 8v8 maximum of 14 on a team
- E. U14 and above – 11v11 maximum on 18 on a team

LAW IV – PLAYERS EQUIPMENT:

- A. Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes
- B. Shinguards – Mandatory. Must be completely covered by socks.
- C. Matching jerseys with non-duplicating numbers must be worn.
- D. No jewelry allowed. This includes watches, earrings, bracelets, necklaces etc.

LAW V – THE REFEREE: Should report to the field in proper attire at least 15 minutes before game time.

LAW VI – LINESMAN: None in U6 or U8. Not necessary in U10, needed in all other age groups

LAW VII – DURATION OF THE GAME:

- A. U6 - Four eight minute quarters (sub at the quarters)
- B. U8 – Four twelve minute quarters (sub at the quarters)
- C. U10 – Two 25 minute halves (the referee will stop midway between each half for subs)
- D. U12 – Two 30 minute halves (free subs)
- E. U14 – Two 35 minute halves (free subs)
- F. Regulation – Two 45 minute halves. (free subs)
- G.

LAW VIII – START OF PLAY:

- A. Coin toss
 - 1. The winner chooses which goal to defend.
 - 2. The loser gets to kick off.
- B. The ball must proceed in a forward motion off of the kick off.
- C. Opponents must be outside the center circle, on their own half, until the ball is touched.

LAW IX – BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:

- A. The ball is considered out on the last player to have touched it.
- B. The entire ball must completely cross the line in order to be considered out of bounds.

LAW X – METHOD OF SCORING: The entire ball must completely cross the endline, under the cross bar and between the goal posts.

LAW XI – OFF-SIDE: There shall be no off sides for U6 or U8. For all other age groups off-sides rule will be in effect.

LAW XII – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT:

A. Fouls:

Direct Free Kick (there are no direct kicks in U6 and U8. All fouls will be awarded an indirect kick.)

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following six offences in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- jumps at an opponent
- charges an opponent
- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- pushes an opponent

A direct free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following four offences:

- tackles an opponent to gain possession of the ball, making contact with the opponent before touching the ball
- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent

- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within his own penalty area)

A direct free kick is taken from where the offence occurred.

Indirect Free Kick

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside his own penalty area, commits any of the following four offences:

- takes more than six seconds while controlling the ball with his hands before releasing it from his possession
- touches the ball again with his hands after it has been released from his possession and has not touched any other player
- touches the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate
- touches the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate

An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player, in the opinion of the referee:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands

C. Misconduct:

A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he commits any of the following seven offences:

1. is guilty of unsporting behavior
2. shows dissent by word or action
3. persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
4. delays the restart of play
5. fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in
6. enters or re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission
7. deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission

LAW XIII – FREE KICKS:

- A. Direct – A goal may be scored from a direct kick.
- B. Indirect – The ball must touch another player in the field before a goal can be scored.
- C. Distance – players must stand the appropriate distance from the ball.
 - U6 – 3yds
 - U8 – 6yds
 - U10 – 8yds
 - U12 and above – 10yds.

LAW XIV - PENALTY KICKS:

- A. Penalty Spot
 1. U6 and U8- no penalty kicks
 2. U10- 8yds
 3. U12- 10yds
 4. U14 up- 12yds
- B. All players except the shooter and the goal keeper, must stand outside the penalty box and the arch.
- C. A player may not enter the penalty area or arch until the ball has been touched by the shooter.

D. The keeper must stay on the goal line until the ball is touched.

LAW XV – THROW-IN:

At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower:

- faces the field of play
- has part of each foot either on the touch line or on the ground outside the touch line
- uses both hands
- delivers the ball from behind and over his head

The thrower may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

All opponents must stand no less than 2 yards from the point at which the throw-in is taken.

The ball is in play immediately after it enters the field of play.

LAW XVI – GOAL KICK:

- A. Goal kick must be taken within the goal box
- B. Opponents must be outside the penalty area.
- C. Players cannot play the ball until it leaves the penalty area. (If the ball fails to leave the penalty area then the kick shall be retaken).

LAW XVII – CORNER KICK:

- A. The ball shall be placed on the corner.
- B. Opponents must be appropriate distance from the ball for the kick to be taken. (please see LAW XIII)

LOCAL RULES FOR WALTON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

A. General Rules –

1. Playing time – All player must play at least half of all games they are present for. This does not apply to select and academy teams.
2. All coaches, parents, players, and spectators are to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. The Parks and Recreation Dept. reserves the right to remove a person from the park for any violations of park rules or unacceptable behavior.
3. Any coach, player, or spectator removed from a game will serve a minimum one game suspension (not including the game from which they were removed). A longer suspension or expulsion may be handed down if the violations warrant it.
4. The recreation department has the final say in all disputes.

B. Coaches –

1. Coaches must stay around their team's bench at all times. (not applicable for U6 coaches) An acceptable bench area is approximately fives yards on ether side of the bench, no crossing

the midfield line or entering the field. This area is ultimately defined by the referee.

2. Coaches may not enter the field of play without the referee's permission. (not applicable for U6 coaches)
3. Coaches may not coach from behind the goal lines.

C. U6 Rules

1. Coaches are allowed on the field.
2. Coaches will act as referees for their matches. This includes keeping time and calling fouls.
3. No keeper allowed.
4. All free and goal kicks are indirect.

D. U8 Rules

1. A different player must play defense each quarter.
2. Each quarter will start with a kick off.
3. No keeper allowed.
4. All free and goal kicks are indirect.

E. U10 and U12

1. Any player playing keeper, must play the same amount of time in the field that they play in goal.
2. U10 subs will be made halfway between each half. U12 will have free subs as long as both coaches agree.

F. U14 and Above

SUMMARY

As a member of the GYSA, the Walton County Parks and Recreation Department adheres to the rules GYSA sets forth. Where applicable our local rules take precedence over the GYSA rules. Any rules not found in this document are subjected to GYSA guidelines.

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