

## MATCHPLAY RULES FOR U12

**Match Duration: 24-minute half with a running clock and a one-minute break at 12 minutes for water and substitutions during each half. Half time will be for 8 minutes**

### Major rules:

- No offsides
- No slide tackling
- Free kicks, Penalty kicks and Corner kicks use 10 yard rule
- No Heading.
- Throw In conforms to FIFA
- Goal Kicks conform to FIFA

### NCYSA Guidelines for Short Sided Games

#### Law 3 – *The Number of Players*

A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eight players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven players.

**Substitutions:** *Goal kicks and Throw-ins*

#### Law 4 – *THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT*

A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry).

**Shinguards** • are covered entirely by the stockings • are made of rubber, plastic or a similar suitable material • provide a reasonable degree of protection

#### Law 5 – *The Referee*

Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match to which he has been appointed. The Referee: • enforces the Laws of the Game • ensures that the players' equipment meets the requirements of Law 4 • acts as timekeeper and keeps a record of the match • ensures that any player bleeding from a wound leaves the field of play. The player may only return on receiving a signal from the referee, who must be satisfied that the bleeding has stopped \* The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final.

#### Law 7 – *The Duration of the Match*

Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) halves of twenty-eight (28) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of eight (8) minutes.

#### Law 8 – *The Start and Restart of Play*

Conform to FIFA. Opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least ten yards from the ball until it is in play.

**Law 9 – *The Ball In and Out of Play***  
Conform to FIFA.

**Law 10 – *The Method of Scoring***  
Conform to FIFA.

**Law 11 – *No Offside***  
*Will be enforced*  
*Cherry picking not allowed*

#### Law 12 – *Fouls and Misconduct*

Conform to FIFA with the exception that an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the center spot on the halfway line if a goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball in the air from his/her penalty area into the opponents penalty area.

**Law 13 – *Free Kicks***

Conform to FIFA. All opponents must remain at least ten yards from the ball.

**Law 14 – *The Penalty Kick***

Conform to FIFA. The penalty mark is made ten yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them.

**Law 15 – *The Throw-In***

Conform to FIFA.

**Law 16 – *The Goal Kick***

Conform to FIFA.

**Law 17 – *The Corner Kick***: Conform to FIFA. All opponents must remain at least ten yards away from the ball until it is in play.