

CYO 3rd Grade Mini Soccer

Mini Soccer

Mini Soccer games are used to help players work on their individual skills while providing them the opportunity to work with others as a team. The main goal is to HAVE FUN. The basic premise is for all players to have as many opportunities to touch the ball as much as possible.

General Rules

1. Since the basic idea is to have fun, scores will not be kept.
2. The field shall be set up width wise on one half of a regulation soccer field. The field shall be set up as follows:

Sidelines shall be the 6 yard goal area and approximately 5 yards from the centerline on the regulation field. The sidelines on both sides of the regulation field will act as end lines for the mini fields. Cones with flags similar to goals should be on all four corners of the field with cones to be placed so that sidelines are established. Cones are also needed along the sidelines 8 yards from each end line to signify the goal areas.

The goal areas will consist of cones with flags approximately five feet high with the cones 6 yards apart. Goals can be scored from anywhere but the ball must pass below the imaginary line across the top the goals.

3. A volunteer referees the match; the home team will be responsible for providing a competent official for the match.
4. No time-outs. Four 10-minute quarters. 1 minute between quarters. All players must be rotated in positions, including the goalie!
5. When the ball goes out of play, the game is restarted by one of the following ways:
 - a) Over the sidelines, with a throw-in.
 - b) Over the goal line, with a goal kick if attacking team last touched the ball; or corner kick if defending team last played the ball – in the corner from where goal line and sideline meet.
 - c) After a goal is scored, there is a mid-field kick-off.

Note: Goals cannot be scored directly from a goal kick, a throw-in, a kick off or a free kick. There are no penalty kicks in Mini Soccer.

6. If a foul throw is committed, the coach explains the correct method and lets the offender re-take the throw. Discretionary power is then given to the referee if another foul throw is committed but, most times, it won't be called.
7. Because of the small field size and the end-to-end nature of the game, the ball may go out of play frequently. Coaches should encourage parents to participate as *ball parents* to help the flow and enjoyment of the game.
8. All infringements – tripping, handing, etc. – are punished by an indirect free kick (i.e. ball must be passed first before a shot can be taken). There are no penalties kicks (players of this age are completely honest and do not commit deliberate fouls; and the indirect free kick encourages passing and co-operation).
9. All opposing players must be at least five yards from the ball on free kicks, corner kicks and goal kicks.

10. Coaches are not allowed on the field of play. Coaches, players, and fans must remain on their respective sides of the fields.
11. T-shirts will suffice as uniforms. Coaches should contact on another the week prior to a game in an attempt to facilitate different colored shirts.
12. The home team will be responsible for providing goals unless the opposing coaches have made some other arrangements.

Specific Rules:

3rd Grade:

1. Field dimensions: 60 yards long X 30 yards wide.
2. 6 players per side, including the goalie.
3. Four 10-minute quarters. 1 minute between quarters.
4. Playing time – Rotate players frequently! Players should be rotated so that they do not always play with the same teammates the entire game.
5. Rosters to be a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 18 players.
6. A #4 sized soccer ball is to be used.