



PAYSA
U5-U19 OUTDOOR
SOCCER RULES



1. **PAYSA expects that all members/participants conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful and demonstrates their commitment to the principles and the intent of the Rules and Regulations of the game and the PAYSA By-Laws. Each member group (players, coaches, referees/officials, parents and spectators) is expected to conduct themselves with dignity, both on and off the field of play**
2. **FAIR PLAY AND CODES OF CONDUCT for Coaches, Players, Parents (or Spectators),** should be discussed (See Coaches package). The focus is on abiding by the rules and regulations of the game, demonstrating a positive and healthy attitude about participation in the game and upholding the ideals of fair play and sportsmanship. Players should be presented with a clear picture of what constitutes fair play practices. Players should also be advised what actions would constitute a foul and be encouraged to exhibit fair and appropriate behavior before, during and after the game.

The principles of "Fair Play" are exemplified through integrity, fairness and respect for all. As such, a commitment is required from members/participants (players/teams, coaches, referees/officials, parents and spectators) to ensure the principles of "Fair Play" are followed. These principles include:

- i. Respect the rules
- ii. Respect your opponent
- iii. Respect the officials and their decisions
- iv. Give everyone an equal chance to participate
- v. Maintain your self-control at all times.

Abusive or offensive language or behavior is prohibited in all venues and in all activities under the jurisdiction of PAYSA. In the case of breach of this rule, the appropriate official may order the offending person from the activity or competition. Coaches or parents should report any additional violations by email or letter to PAYSA.

3. **GOVERNONG RULES.** When not otherwise specified, playing rules shall be the current IFAB LAWS OF THE GAME
4. **OFFICIALS.** Small sided and Youth referees are provided with possible mentorship members for development. In U5 and U7 age groups coaches need to be on the field to coach. Coaches and Assistant Coaches must be CPIC approved. **ABUSE OF THE REFEREES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** Cautions and dismissals can now be given to bench players and staff for misconduct.
5. **GAME BALL. HOME TEAM MUST PROVIDE THE MATCH BALL**
 - U5 & U7 Size 3
 - U9 & U11 Size 4
 - U13, U15 & U17/19 Size 5

6. **GAME FORMAT** will be as follows

AGE	FORMAT	MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS
U5	3 v 3 no Goalkeeper	
U7	4 v 4 no Goalkeeper	
U9	6 v 6 includes Goalkeeper	Min 4 players by 15 min. of schedule kick off
U11	7 v 7 includes Goalkeeper	Min 4 players by 15 min. of schedule kick off
U13-17/19	11 v 11 included Goalkeeper	Min 7 players by 15 min. of schedule kick off

If one of the teams does not have at least **4 players** in total to begin the game after 15 minutes of scheduled kick off time (U9 and U11), or **7 players** (U13, U15 & U17/19), **the game is defaulted and the referee will abort (FIFA LAW #3).** In the event of a defaulted game, a pick up or fun practice type game involving registered players only can commence under the management of both team coaches. If an incident arises in this type of game, coaches are expected to submit a report to PAYSA.

7. **DEFAULTED GAMES.** Any team that defaults **three games in a row** shall be suspended from further PAYSA league play, **no refunds will be issued**
8. **GAME SHEETS** will be provided by the referee (U9 to U17/19)
9. **EQUIPMENT.** Goalkeeper jersey must be different color to team jersey. Proper soccer clothing (Soccer Jersey, shorts, socks) is provided and must be worn at all games. Shin guards **MUST** be worn and **socks must cover shin guards**. No watches, jewelry, rings, hard hair bands, etc. allowed with the exception of medic alert bracelets/tags. **Only water in plastic or metal containers (no glass) is permitted on the field.**
10. **START OF GAME.** Choice of halves and the kick-off shall be decided by the toss of a coin. The team that wins the toss shall decide which goal they wish to attack in the first half, or take the kick off. Depending on this decision the other team will take the kick off or decide which goal to attack in the first half. The team that wins the toss and decided which end to attack takes the kick-off to start the second half.
11. **DURATION OF THE MATCH.**
- U9- 2 x 20-minute half;
 - U11- 2 x 25-minute half;
 - U13-U17/19 -2 x 30-minute half
 - During the playoffs only, in case of a tie there will not be any extra time added. Teams will go directly to penalty shoot outs (5 players per team)
- Substitutions.** Substitutions are permitted “on the fly”, at a place within 5 yards of the halfway line and players should be fully off the field before the substitution is allowed to enter. The goal keeper can only be substituted at stoppage of play with the permission of the referee.
- NOTE: U13 and older must have three (3) female players on the field at all times. If the team does not have at least three female players on the field, they MUST play one man down for each missing female (to minimum 7) for the duration of the game.**
12. **BALL “IN AND OUT OF PLAY”.** The ball is “out of play” when:
- a) when the whole of the ball has crossed the goal-line, or side-line, whether on the ground or in the air;
 - b) when the game has been stopped by the referee. NOTE: The ball is “in play” at all other times.
13. **RESTARTS.** When the ball goes out of play, the game is re-started by one of the following methods:
- a) **After a goal is scored**, re-start the game with a kick-off at centre mark. Goals cannot be scored directly from a kick-off at center mark for U9 and U11. This practice should be discouraged in all games.
 - b) **Over the sidelines**, with a **throw-in**. The ball must be thrown using both hands from behind the head. Both feet must be on the ground and behind the line. The throw in is taken from the side line.
 - c) **Over the goal line or end line**, with a **goal kick** if the attacking team last touched the ball; or a **corner kick** if the defending team last touched the ball. Goal kicks can be taken from anywhere inside the goal area. Corner kicks are taken from the corner arc.
 - d) An indirect free kick awarded to the attacking team in its opponents’ goal area is taken from the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred.
14. **OFFSIDE.** No off-sides will be called for any U9 and U11 games. This rule is difficult for the players to understand, but coaches should try to make their players aware of the offside rule and discourage “goal hanging”. In the Older age groups (U13-U17/19) offside rules stand. Remember there is only one referee at the game so ONLY obvious offside will be called.
15. **SLIDE TAKLING is allowed in older (U11 to U17/19) matches.** In U9, the restart will be a direct free kick for the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred except in the offending team’s penalty area (Penalty Kick Marking).
16. **SAFETY is of primary importance.** Coaches are expected to stop reckless or dangerous play. Coaches should discuss fair play practices and what player actions would constitute a foul and encourage appropriate behavior.