

## **BELMONT, LAMBETH & THAMES CENTRE RECREATIONAL**

### **2025 MINI SOCCER RULES OF THE GAME**

#### **U10 Boys and Girls (AGES 9 & 10)**

#### **SECTION 1 - THE TEAMS**

- 1.1 Basic compulsory equipment shall consist of shorts, socks, shin guards, cleats, and a numbered shirt. NO Jewelry (earrings, necklaces, bracelets etc).
- 1.2 Each team will consist of 7 players, one being a goalkeeper. Format flexibility is at the discretion of coaches before the game to play 6v6 if there are fewer players available.
- 1.3 The goalie shall wear a different colour shirt or pinnie than either team. Goalie gloves are required and supplied by each association.
- 1.4 Teams are to share players if agreed upon, if opposing team has no subs. Except in Cup Challenge.
- 1.5 A team must field a minimum of 5 players to begin any game and have a max of 15 players rostered.
- 1.6 All players must be registered in either BMSA, LYS or TCMS Clubs.
- 1.7 All players must be given equal playing time/sitting time.
- 1.8 Any call-up players must be approved by the executives and can only be from teams in the U8 recreational division from each local club.
- 1.9 Teams will be required to switch ends at half-time.
- 1.10 Teams are to stay off fields until their designated game start time in Lambeth. Lambeth fields are booked back to back due to demand. Teams can warm up on the sidelines but not interrupt another teams scheduled field time, until their game time starts.

#### **SECTION 2 - THE PLAY**

- 2.1 All F.I.F.A./O.S.A. rules apply unless altered in the following sections.
- 2.2 U10 Soccer will be played on mini size pitches.
- 2.3 Ball size for all games and practices: Size 4
- 2.4 Games will start promptly at scheduled **6:30PM** game time. Game starts with a kick off at the centre of the field.
- 2.5 The referee decides which team has possession to kick off at the start of each half.
- 2.6 Games will consist of 2 x 25 minute halves with a 5 minute break for half- time.

- 2.7 Substitutions can happen on the following: Throw-ins, goal kicks and goals. If there is a water break or at half time, they can substitute as well. No subs allowed on corner kicks or free kicks. All substitutions are a request and is at the discretion of the referee during game play.
- 2.8 An agreement for additional breaks/water breaks is to be agreed upon prior to game and or at half time by both coaches and the referee prior to the commencement of play.
- 2.9 No additional time will be added game time to accommodate extra breaks.
- 2.10 All nets will be set up and supplied by home game teams. Nets need to be anchored in the ground.
- 2.11 Teams will be required to switch ends at half-time.
- 2.12 A certified Level #1 or Level #2 Official can be used throughout the match. If no Official shows up the Coaches from both teams will each officiate one half of the game while on the pitch.
- 2.13 **No offsides** will be called.
- 2.14 A throw-in is awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball crosses the sideline, either on the ground or in the air. A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in.

Throw-in procedure:

- stand facing the field of play
- have part of each foot on the touchline or on the ground outside the touchline
- throw the ball with both hands from behind and over the head from the point where it left the field of play.

Foul throws occur when either foot is raised off the ground when the ball is released, or when the throw is mostly with one hand and from the side of the head. Referee discretion may allow throw-ins to be re-taken once to help players develop this skill.

2.15 **Fouls: OSA's Small Sided Laws – Law 12**

The referee shall attempt to explain ALL infringements to the offending player.

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

- A. Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- B. Trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- C. Jumps at an opponent

- D. Charges an opponent
- E. Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- F. Pushes an opponent
- G. Tackles an opponent from behind to gain possession of the ball
- H. Makes contact with an opponent before touching the ball
- I. Holds an opponent
- J. Spits at an opponent
- K. Handles the ball deliberately

\*\*If any of the offences above occur **inside** the penalty area, a **penalty kick** is awarded.

2.16 **Penalty Kick:** The ball is placed centre of the penalty box.

Player taking the penalty kick must be properly identified.

- **Defending goalkeeper:** must be on his/her goal line, facing the kicker, between the posts until the ball has been kicked. Goalkeeper is allowed to move sideways but can't move forward until the ball has been kicked.
- The players other than the goalkeeper must be located outside the penalty area and behind the penalty mark.
- **Procedure:** After the players have taken their positions, the referee signals for the penalty kick to be taken. The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forward and must not play the ball again until it has touched another player. The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.

2.17 An **indirect free kick** (2 individual player touches before scored on net) is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside his/her own penalty area, commits any of the following offences:

- A. Handles the ball after it has been deliberately kicked to them a team-mate.
- B. Handles the ball after receiving it directly from a throw-in from a team-mate.
- C. Trickery pass back, defending players ball played by the foot of a player flipped up to pass with a body part above the knee to goalie. e.g. foot pass to thigh, stomach, head to goalie.

**Indirect free kicks** and shall be taken from outside the 12 yard box penalty box, closest to where the infringement occurred.

If the goalkeeper handles the ball outside the 12 yard box penalty box, a **direct free kick** will be awarded to the opposing team at the spot of the infraction.

2.18 Goal kicks are taken from anywhere on the 6 yard line.

**RETREAT RULE:** All opponents must be behind the **retreat line (1/3 of the field) and can not cross until the ball has either:**

- Been touched by a player of the team receiving the targeted goal kick from the goalkeeper or player kicking the goal kick.
  - Leaves the field of play
  - Crosses the retreat line. (If the goalkeeper chooses to play the ball across the retreat line prior to the opposition crossing the retreat line)
  - Is released by the Goalkeepers hands to allow distribution with their feet. (drops the ball to pass/dribble with their feet)
- **Coaches are to mark the 1/3 field retreat lines with cones on each side of the sidelines before game starts.**

2.19 When the goalkeeper has retrieved the ball in their hands, opponents must begin retreating to mid. The goalie can proceed with a drop-kick or throw as desired.

2.20 No coaches or parents are allowed on the field during the play. (Unless coaches are filling in for refs)

2.21 **Corner kick:** conforms to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least four yards from the ball until its in play.

2.22 No game sheets required, refs are required to record all game incidents, to their club's ref convenor. This will include and not limited to player number(s), coaches, or spectators if involved/removed from pitch.

2.23 Referees have been instructed to wait 15 mins prior to calling the game due to weather. If the referee calls the game due to weather after the first half then the game is considered to be complete.

Field(s) Cancellations due to weather will be known at least 1 hr prior to game. This can be issued by the local municipality parks and rec. Weather policy – see our combined club weather policy on site. All home game clubs will be responsible for sending out cancellations notifications if fields/games are affected.

### **SECTION 3 – CONDUCT**

- 3.1 Handshakes are to occur at the **beginning** of the game.
- 3.2 All players and spectators **must** sit three yards clear off the sideline. **Players and coaches of both teams are to sit on one side the field and spectators on the opposite side.**
- 3.3 No parent, coach or spectator may stand behind the net.
- 3.4 Coaches, parents and spectators shall not criticize the game officials at any time and shall encourage the same from the players.
- 3.5 **Ontario Soccer** has launched an initiative to address spectator behavior; **Take 5**. This 3 stage approach allows match officials to address behavior through coaches to all spectators. Coaches to be trained in supporting Officials.

**1) Warning    2) Timeout    3) Abandon**

Please see Ontario Soccer (<https://www.ontariosoccer.net/take5>) for more info.