

BRSA General Playing Rules

BRSA modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game.

FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at www.ussoccer.com/referees.

Law 3 – The Number of Players:

Minimum number needed to play:

U6	=	3
U8	=	5
U10	=	6
U12	=	8
U15	=	8

Play Down Rule: If one team has the minimum to play, the other team must play down one player. The team does not have to play with the same number as the team with the fewer players.

Two examples:

- If U15 team “A” has 8 players and team “B” has 11 players, team “B” must play down 1 player by playing with 10 on the field.
- If U15 team “A” has 8 players but team “B” has 10 players. Team “B” plays with 10 players because it is already playing down 1 player.

Players that have been injured and requiring medical attention on or off the field must have a doctor’s release to continue playing in subsequent games.

Law 4 – The Players Equipment: The basic equipment consists of a jersey (a shirt), shorts (preferably black or dark-colored), stockings, shin guards, and footwear. A player must have the basic equipment to play in the game. A player will not wear anything that is dangerous to himself or any other player.

- 1) Shirts should be tucked into shorts.
- 2) Shin guards must be covered entirely by the stockings and will be made of suitable material to offer reasonable protection.
- 3) The goalkeeper will wear colors that distinguish him from the other players and the referee.
- 4) No baseball or football cleats can be worn. No toe cleats are allowed. Tennis shoes are allowed.
- 5) No sweatbands or bandannas may be worn. No baseball caps are acceptable while on the field. Toboggans and knit headbands are acceptable upon permission from the referee.
- 6) No jewelry is worn during the game. Jewelry includes earrings, finger rings, metal barrettes, and any such device piercing the body, watches, necklaces, and bracelets.
- 7) No face painting.

- 8) No altering of uniforms.
- 9) Mouthpieces: It is recommended that any player wearing braces wear a protective mouthpiece.
- 10) Eyewear: If a player requires goggles, it is recommended he wear a strap to secure the frames to the player's head. Prescription goggles are acceptable. No sunglasses are accepted.
- 11) Only the goalie is allowed to wear goalie gloves. Other players may wear regular hand gloves upon permission from the referee.

Punishment: The player will be sent off the field of play by the referee to adjust his equipment. Play will not be stopped unless the player is in immediate danger. Once the equipment has been adjusted to the referee's satisfaction, the player may return to the field of play when referee signals for return.

Law 5 – The Referee: Referees may send off coaches or fans for unsporting conduct. Said person will leave the field of play. If the coach or fan does not leave the field of play, the referee will terminate the game. Upon termination of the game, a report will be filed with the Board for action.

Should a player, coach or spectator be sent off the field, that person will sit out a one game suspension. This includes all regular season and tourney games.

If a player receives a second red card (send off) throughout the season, including the tourney, he will be expelled for the rest of the season. Each red card will be reviewed by league President, Director of Referees, league Secretary, and said referee. In case of second red card, player will also be contacted.

Attitude toward referees: Any player who protests at a referee's decision will be cautioned. Any player who assaults or insults a referee will be sent off.

The coach may only inquire a call in a polite and courteous manner. This allows the coach the ability to instruct the player on what was the call. No discussions should be made about the game to the referee at any time after the game is completed.

The Board members will not overrule any ruling a referee makes. However, how a referee or assistant referee conducts himself before, during, or after a match, may be brought before the Board in a grievance manner.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: Time is extended to permit a penalty-kick being taken at or after the expiration of the normal period.

Play should begin at game time or before game time if both teams agree. Play can be delayed if a team does not have the minimum. Game should be called a forfeit if one team cannot fill the minimum after 10 minutes.

During regular season, games ending with equal scores will be determined a "draw" with both teams receiving a tie to their record.

We do not keep track of league standings, nor do we have a tourney at the end of the season for the U6 and U8 divisions. This is an attempt to keep the leagues fun and instructional.

During tournament play, games ending with equal score will continue as follows:

- 1) There shall be two 5-minute periods played. A coin toss shall be held.
 - a) Teams will change ends between each five minute period. Play will continue immediately.
- 2) If the score still remains tied, all coaches and officials shall assemble at the halfway line to review "Shoot Out" procedure as outlined below:
 - a) The head referee shall choose the goal at which all of the kicks from the penalty line shall be taken.
 - b) Each coach will select any five players on or off the field (except those who may have been disqualified) to take the kicks.
 - c) A coin toss shall be held. The team winning the toss shall have the choice of kicking first or second.
 - d) Teams will alternate kickers. There is no follow-up on the kick.
 - e) The defending team may change the goal keeper prior to each penalty kick.
 - f) Following five kicks for each team, the team scoring on the greatest number of these kicks shall be declared the winner.
- 3) If the score remains tied after each team has had five kicks:
 - a) Each coach will select five different players than the first five who already have kicked to take the kicks in a sudden victory situation, wherein if one team scores and the other team does not score, the game is ended without more kicks being taken.
 - b) If the score remains tied, continue the sudden victory kicks with the coach selecting any five players to take the next set of alternating kicks. If a tie still remains, repeat the sudden victory procedure. The coach and the remainder of the team shall remain on the team sideline during the penalty kick portion of the overtime period.
- 4) During the Fall season, we will go directly to the Shoot Out procedure as outlined in #2 above and exclude the two 5-minute periods due to light limitations.

Law 10 – The Method of Scoring: The team scoring the greater number of goals during a game is declared the winner. If no goals or equal amount of goals are scored, the game is determined a "draw" or "tie".

The following scores team standings:

Win 2 points
Draw 1 point
Loss 0 points

Team standings are not maintained for the U6 and U8 divisions. If two teams are tied in league standings at the end of the season, the teams will be declared co-champions.