

SYSA Referee Key points

- Be correctly dressed
- Act professionally – you are being paid
- Run the field
- Know the rules for the age group.
- Explain the calls
- Communicate with the coaches.
- Make the calls
 - e.g. call illegal throw ins, verbally explain to give space on an indirect kick.
- Be assertive
 - Be confident on your own calls
 - Use the whistle
- Adjust style and be considerate of the age group
 - e.g. Overly physical play such as use of arms in development age groups (U8-U10) should be limited
- Report any issues with parents, coaches or parents to Referee coordinator and Director of refereeing.
- Thunder & Lightning (as NHSA/ GSYSL etc)
 - For any sound of Thunder- 30 minute delay from the last rumble
 - For any lightning- 30 minute delay from the last strike
 - People should go and get in their cars (no sheltering under trees)
- Goal Safety: Make sure they are secure and anchored

Notes on the rules

The following rules are to provide guidance to which rules are in place for different age groups where SYSA provides a referee. It highlights differences from the standard 17 Laws of the Game. References to information sources are provided by age group.

SYSA rules override other rules where a difference is noted for SYSA Recreation games (All Age Rec games)

GSYSL rules override other rules where a difference is noted for SYSA Recreation games (U8/U9 EDP & U10 Travel)

U8 Recreation

Salem Youth Soccer (SYSA) By-Laws (June 2009) (<http://files.leagueathletics.com/Text/Documents/2555/10468.pdf>)

USYS Official U8 Modified Rules (http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/coaches/US_Youth_Soccer_Official_Under_8_Playing_Recommnedations.pdf)

USYS Official U8 Addendum (http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/coaches/ADDENDUM_U8.pdf)

USYS recommends no slide tackles

General guidance

Allow a little flexibility in the rules. E.g. the referee should give a warning and a retake on the player's first infraction of the game.

U8 Recreation			
Law	SYSA Rules	USYS U8 Modified Rules and Addendum	
1	The field of play	LAW I -- THE FIELD: Markings are optional until field locations which can be marked are found. Approved corner flags shall be used. Cones can only be used to mark the Halfway Line and Penalty Area if the field cannot be lined	Safety: Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.
2	The ball	U-8 size 3	Size 3
3	The number of players	LAW II -- NUMBER OF PLAYERS 5v5 (no goalkeeper) Free substitution is allowed under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substitutions may not take place without the referee's consent. • Players must enter from midfield. • The referee shall allow reasonable time to complete the substitution. Player(s) shall exit first, and then the substitute(s) shall be allowed to enter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substitutions may take place only during stoppage of play. 	4 (no goalie). Substitutions: At any stoppage of play and unlimited.
4	The players equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shin guards completely covered by socks (or shin guards that have their own protective cloth cover) • Footwear is mandatory. Jewelry (e.g. rings, chains, necklaces, anklets, earrings, hard barrettes, watches, bracelets and the like, metallic or non-metallic) shall not be worn. • Medic alert bracelets or necklaces may be worn but must be securely taped in place. • The goalkeeper must wear a uniform of a different color than his and the opponents' teams. • Players cannot be permitted to play with casts, splints or exposed metal on orthopedic braces unless wrapped with a soft wrap and with a note from the doctor to the coach. • Players may not wear headgear with visor extensions or sunglasses. • Players must wear their team shirts over any cold weather clothing. 	Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams
5	The referee		An OFFICIAL may be used. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player

U8 Recreation			
	Law	SYSA Rules	USYS U8 Modified Rules and Addendum
6	The assistant referee		None
7	The duration of the match	U-8 two 25 minute halves	The match shall be divided into four (4) equal, twelve (12) minute quarters. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarters one and two and another two (2) minute break between quarters three and four. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes
8	The start and restart of play		Conform to FIFA, with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play
9	The ball in and out of play		Conform to FIFA.
10	The method of scoring		Conform to FIFA.
11	Offside	LAW III – OFF-SIDE – No offside	None
12	Fouls and Misconduct	LAW IV -- FOULS AND MISCONDUCT: There shall be no cautions or send-offs	Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct
13	Free kicks	LAW V -- FREE KICKS: No direct free kicks. Indirect free kicks shall be taken from the point of infraction or 12 yards from the goal, whichever is further.	Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all kicks are direct and all opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.
14	The penalty kick	LAW VI -- PENALTY KICKS: There shall be no penalty kicks	None
15	The throw-in		Suggests a kick in! A kick-in is considered as a direct free kick with the opponents four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play. <u>Addendum states</u> some U8 players do not yet have the eye-hand coordination to execute a throw-in to the letter of the law. However, some U8 players have sufficient eye-hand coordination to attempt the throw-in. One 'do-over' per thrower should be the normal response if the throw-in is incorrect. The adult officiating the match should explain to the child how to execute the throw-in correctly.
16	The goal kick		The goal kick should be taken anywhere within the goal area. Opposing players must be outside the goal area AND at least four (4) yards away from the ball until it is in play. It is suggested that if necessary that opponents are in their own half of the field until the ball is in play.
17	The corner kick		Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play

U10 Recreation

Salem Youth Soccer (SYSA) By-Laws (June 2009) (<http://files.leagueathletics.com/Text/Documents/2555/10468.pdf>)

USYS Official U10 Modified Rules. (http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/coaches/USYouthSoccer_Official_U-10_SSG_4-13-09_2.pdf)

USYS Official U10 Addendum (http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/ADDENDUM_U10.pdf)

USYS recommends no slide tackles

General guidance

Allow a little flexibility in the rules. E.g, the referee should give a warning and a retake on the player's first infraction of the game.

U10 Recreation			
Law	SYSA	USYS	
1	The field of play	LAW I -- THE FIELD: Markings are optional until field locations which can be marked are found. Approved corner flags shall be used. Cones can only be used to mark the Halfway Line and Penalty Area if the field cannot be lined	Safety: Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.
2	The ball	U-10 size 4	4
3	The number of players	6 (5 plus goalie). Free substitution is allowed under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substitutions may not take place without the referee's consent. • Players must enter from midfield. • The referee shall allow reasonable time to complete the substitution. Player(s) shall exit first, and then the substitute(s) shall be allowed to enter. • Substitutions may take place only during stoppage of play. 	6 (5 plus goalie). Substitutions on any stoppage, unlimited. 50% playtime
4	The players equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shin guards completely covered by socks (or shin guards that have their own protective cloth cover) • Footwear is mandatory. Jewelry (e.g. rings, chains, necklaces, anklets, earrings, hard barrettes, watches, bracelets and the like, metallic or non-metallic) shall not be worn. • Medic alert bracelets or necklaces may be worn but must be securely taped in place. • The goalkeeper must wear a uniform of a different color than his and the opponents' teams. • Players cannot be permitted to play with casts, splints or exposed metal on orthopedic braces unless wrapped with a soft wrap and with a note from the doctor to the coach. • Players may not wear headgear with visor extensions or 	Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams

U10 Recreation		
Law	SYSA	USYS
	sunglasses. • Players must wear their team shirts over any cold weather clothing.	
5	The referee	Registered referee, especially Grade 9 or parent/coach or assistant coach. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.
6	The assistant referee	Not required. May use club linesmen/women if desired.
7	The duration of the match	U-10 two 25 minute halves
8	The start and restart of play	Conform to FIFA with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.
9	The ball in and out of play	Conform to FIFA.
10	The method of scoring	Conform to FIFA.
11	Offside	LAW III – OFF-SIDE – No offside
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. Recommends no slide tackles
13	Free kicks	Conform to FIFA with the exception that all opponents are at least eight (8) yards from the ball.
14	The penalty kick	Conform to FIFA with the exception that the penalty mark is made eight (8) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them.
15	The throw-in	Conform to FIFA.
16	The goal kick	Conform to FIFA.
17	The corner kick	Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play

U9 EDP

Granite State (GSYSL) EDP Format and Operating Rules (July 2009) (<http://www.granitestatesoccer.com/EDPFormatOperRules.ashx>)
 USYS Official U10 Modified Rules. (http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/coaches/USYouthSoccer_Official_U-10_SSG_4-13-09_2.pdf)
 USYS Official U10 Addendum (http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/ADDENDUM_U10.pdf)

EDP Changes from Fall 2011 <http://granitestatesoccer.com/EDP-CHANGE-FOR-FALL-2011.ashx>

USYS recommends no slide tackles

General guidance

Allow a little flexibility in the rules. E.g, the referee should give a warning and a retake on the player's first infraction of the game. Check if coaches want penalty kicks OR direct free kicks outside the area

U9 EDP		
Law	GSYSL EDP Format and Operating Rules	USYS
1	The field of play	Suggested Field Size: Should be a minimum of 60 X 40 for 6V6
2	The ball	Size 4 for U-9.
3	The number of players	6v6 matches will be played with 5 field players and a goalie. Substitutions: For all games, substitutions will be allowed on any throw-in, goal kick or after a goal or on the fly (if the coaches agree prior to the game and confirm with Referee).
4	The players equipment	Conform to FIFA
5	The referee	Referees are optional and should be USSF registered. Please remind your coaches, players and parents that they are learning and that no harassment of the ref for making a bad call or not will not be allowed. It is the club's responsibility to make sure these refs-in-training are prepared and know the basics of the game. For EDP they should allow minor infractions (lifting of a foot on a throw in) or stop the play, explain the correct procedure then resume. This should not be a reason to stop play constantly, just a few reminders. The goal is to teach but ultimately we want the players playing.
6	The assistant referee	Not required

U9 EDP

U9 EDP		
Law	GSYSL EDP Format and Operating Rules	USYS
7	The duration of the match <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • If excessive heat then feel free to switch to quarters (4 x 12 mins) to allow for more water breaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Duration of the Match: Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) equal halves of twenty-five (25) minutes each. There shall be a • half-time interval of five (5) minutes
8	The start and restart of play	Conform to FIFA
9	The ball in and out of play	Conform to FIFA
10	The method of scoring	Conform to FIFA
11	Offside	None
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. Recommends no slide tackles
13	Free kicks	Conform to FIFA with the exception that all opponents are at least eight (8) yards from the ball.
14	The penalty kick	Conform to FIFA with the exception that the penalty mark is made eight (8) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them.
15	The throw-in	Conform to FIFA.
16	The goal kick	Conform to FIFA.
17	The corner kick	Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play

U10 Granite State

Granite State (GSYSL) Bylaws (<http://www.granitestatesoccer.com/GSYSL-Bylaws.ashx>)

USYS Official U10 Modified Rules. (http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/coaches/USYouthSoccer_Official_U-10_SSG_4-13-09_2.pdf)

USYS Official U10 Addendum (http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/ADDENDUM_U10.pdf)

USYS recommends no slide tackles

U10 Granite State		
Law	GSYSL	USYS
1	The field of play	Safety: Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.
2	The ball • U-10 – U12 – Size 4 ball.	4
3	The number of players 6 (5 plus goalie). Substitutions are unlimited. Substitutions can be made on a goal kick, after a goal is scored or on the substitute's team throw in. The Following rule change has been adopted: Amended Substitution Rule: On a throw in if both teams have substitutes at the center line, both teams' substitutes may enter the field of play on either teams throw in. Players must be at the center line prior to the stoppage in play. Under no circumstance should players enter the field of play directly from the bench as a substitution	6 (5 plus goalie). Subs on any stoppage, unlimited. 50% playtime
4	The players equipment	Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams
5	The referee	Registered referee, especially Grade 9 or parent/coach or assistant coach. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.
6	The assistant referee	Not required. May use club linesmen/women if desired.
7	The duration of the match U – 10 (6v6) four 12 min. periods Check with the coaches most games use halves	Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) equal halves of twenty-five (25) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.
8	The start and restart of play	Conform to FIFA with the exception of the opponents of the team

U10 Granite State

Law		GSYSL	USYS
			taking the kick-off are at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.
9	The ball in and out of play		Conform to FIFA.
10	The method of scoring		Conform to FIFA.
11	Offside		None
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. Recommends no slide tackles
13	Free kicks		Conform to FIFA with the exception that all opponents are at least eight (8) yards from the ball.
14	The penalty kick		Conform to FIFA with the exception that the penalty mark is made eight (8) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them.
15	The throw-in		Conform to FIFA.
16	The goal kick		Conform to FIFA.
17	The corner kick		Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play

U12-18 Recreation

Salem Youth (SYSA) Soccer By-Laws (June 2009) (<http://files.leagueathletics.com/Text/Documents/2555/10468.pdf>)

US Youth Soccer (Nov 2008) (<http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/coaches/policyonplayersandplayingrules.asp>)

U12 – U18 Recreation		
Law	SYSA	USYS
1	The field of play	<p>LAW I -- THE FIELD: Markings are optional until field locations which can be marked are found. Approved corner flags shall be used. Cones can only be used to mark the Halfway Line and Penalty Area if the field cannot be lined</p>
2	The ball	<p>U-12 size 4 U-13 and above size 5</p>
3	The number of players	<p>U – 12 8v8 U – 13 and above 11v11 Free substitution is allowed under the following conditions: • Substitutions may not take place without the referee's consent. • Players must enter from midfield. • The referee shall allow reasonable time to complete the substitution. Player(s) shall exit first, and then the substitute(s) shall be allowed to enter. • Substitutions may take place only during stoppage of play.</p>
4	The players equipment	<p>U – 12 8v8 or 11v11 U – 13 and above 11v11 Rule 302. Section 1. Except as provided by USYSA or its State Associations, substitutions shall be unlimited except where specified otherwise in the rules and regulations for a special competition. Section 2. Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, at any stoppage in play.</p>
5	The referee	<p>Shin guards completely covered by socks (or shin guards that have their own protective cloth cover) - • Footwear is mandatory. Jewelry (e.g. rings, chains, necklaces, anklets, earrings, hard barrettes, watches, bracelets and the like, metallic or non-metallic) shall not be worn. • Medic alert bracelets or necklaces may be worn but must be securely taped in place. • The goalkeeper must wear a uniform of a different color than his and the opponents' teams. • Players cannot be permitted to play with casts, splints or exposed metal on orthopedic braces unless wrapped with a soft wrap and with a note from the doctor to the coach. • Players may not wear headgear with visor extensions or sunglasses. • Players must wear their team shirts over any cold weather clothing.</p>
6	The assistant referee	<p>Conform to FIFA</p>
		<p>Conform to FIFA</p>
		<p>Conform to FIFA</p>

U12 – U18 Recreation

Law		SYSA	USYS
7	The duration of the match	U-15 two 35 minute halves. U-12 two 30 minute halves.	U17-U19 two 45 minute halves U15 two 40 minute halves U13-U14 two 35 minute halves U12 two 30 minute halves
8	The start and restart of play		Conform to FIFA
9	The ball in and out of play		Conform to FIFA
10	The method of scoring		Conform to FIFA
11	Offside		Conform to FIFA
12	Fouls and Misconduct		Conform to FIFA
13	Free kicks		Conform to FIFA
14	The penalty kick		Conform to FIFA
15	The throw-in		Conform to FIFA
16	The goal kick		Conform to FIFA
17	The corner kick		Conform to FIFA