

CYS Grade School Soccer Rule Addendums*

The grade school soccer program will follow National Federation of High School (NFHS) rules except for the items noted below that benefit our young athletes and increase competition for their age level.

- Eligibility levels – Players can only play a maximum of two grade levels up. No player may play down a without league approval.
- All players who register and pay on time prior to close of registration must be accepted on the school team.
- Once selected for a team player can only play for another team with league approval. Opponents can share players if other team is short players.
- All games are small-sided games to promote player development.
- Grade K – 2 play 4v4 format (no goalie). Grade 3 – 5 play 7v7 (includes goalies) format. (May modify format based on registration numbers)
- Roster size is minimum of 6 players for 4v4 and minimum of 9 players for 7v7.
- Max of three coaches permitted in bench area. COACHES MUST WEAR ID WITH LANYARD to be on team bench.
- Grade K-2 coaches permitted to have one coach from each team on field during active play, coach must avoid being in center area of the field.
- Grade 3-5 coaches must be in their bench area during active play.
- All coaches are to wear the CYS coach shirt and must wear Coach/Manager ID badge while in the bench area.
- All teams must bring and present team roster to game officials or opposing coach if not provided by league.
- Grade K games shall be officiated by coaches from both teams, if official not available.
- Grade 1 – 5 will be officiated by league provided officials. A coach or appropriate person from each team shall officiate game whenever there is not an official present, must be approved by the site director.
- Grade K – 2 uses #3 soccer ball. Grade 3-5 uses #4 soccer ball.
- **Game Duration:** Two 20-minute halves. A 30-second water break may be taken at around 10-minute mark of each half (game clock does not stop). Halftime is 2-minutes.
- Officials may shorten each half equally by amount of time lost if teams not ready to play at scheduled time.
- Offside only applies at grade 4 & 5 level. “Cherry picking” not permitted at any level.
- **Build Out Line** may be used at grade 3 to 5. Punting not permitted. Goalie must pass the ball to teammate. **Watch video for details on Build Out Line - <https://youtu.be/8WkdU1u IUU>**
- **NO SLIDE TACKLING OR HEADING THE BALL** at any level.
- Officials need to verbalize the call against a player after each whistle to assist with player developmental.
- **League Prayer** shall be conducted prior to start of game (on back of Coach ID).
- Every player at a game should play an equivalent of half the game. *
- Substitutions may occur during a dead-ball with the permission from the official. Players must check in at the center line area between the bench area. Players may not substitute directly from the team bench.
- There are no overtime games.
- **Red Cards:** Any player or coach that receives a red card shall be suspended from at least the next game without exception. Coaches, Game Officials/Assignor and Athletic Directors must notify the League Commissioner as soon as possible of Red Card incidents for any possible further action by the league.
- Any foul committed within 8 yards of the goal (which would normally result in an indirect kick) will result in the referee moving the ball 8 yards from the goal line for an indirect free kick; a wall can then be set by the defending team. The officials most clearly inform the players it is an IDK.
- Those fouls that would normally require a penalty kick will still result in a penalty kick.
- **Players may not wear watches, earrings (no bandages), jewelry or other non-soccer uniform items** except for Medic Alert Labels that must be worn inside the jersey and taped to the body or under a cloth wrist band.
- After every game all players and coaches must shake hands in a sporting like fashion. *

*CYS coaches represent our Catholic values, and as sport-ministers they are responsible for following the PLCT GROW approach. They must teach players about teamwork, desire to win the right way, commitment, compassion and dedication. CYS coaches must adjust their game to avoid running up the score against their opponents. Coaches are permitted to restrict play time of a player based on discipline or team commitment issues or the nature of the game. A coach can be found in violation of the League’s Code of Conduct for failure to adjust their game or game format, and can be subject to disciplinary action by the school and/or league. Coaches are expected to use the Golden Rule in every practice and game.