

## ROCKDALE YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION Rules of the Game – Recreational U12

**Play** - Teams play 9v9 – 8 field players and a goalkeeper. For U12s, it is recommended that goalkeepers play no more than ½ of the game in goal. In house rules may allow for 8v8 with 7 field players and 1 goalkeeper.

**Ball** - U12 games will be played with a size 4 ball.

**Duration of Game** – Games are two (2) twenty five (25) minute halves (can sometimes be 30minute halves) and a 5 - 10-minute break for half time, decided by the referee.

**Referees** – RYSA employs the three referee system at U12 recreational: one center referee and two assistant referees. All decisions by the referee are final. During the game, the center referee may allow play to continue after a foul if the fouled team keeps possession and continues the play. See Advantage in the website listed below.

**NOTE:** the referee's responsibilities begin when the referee arrives at the field and until the referee leaves the field.

**Substitutes** - Unlimited subs at dead ball situations to ensure equal playing time for all players.

Teams may substitute at:

- Any goal kick
- Possession throw in
- When a goal is scored
- For an injured player

**Substitutes** must be ready at the midline, and cannot enter the field of play without the referee's permission.

**Recreational** players are required to play at least ½ of each half.

**Dress** - Shin guards are mandatory. Shin Guards are to be worn under the socks. Tennis shoes or soft cleated soccer shoes must be worn. No earrings or other jewelry should be worn. Shirts must be tucked into shorts. Home team wears blue, away team wears gray (if playing an in house schedule). If travelling- wear blue uniform at home and gray uniform for away games

**Start of Game** - Kick-off from the center of the midline. Ball may be passed forward or backward to teammate. Kicker may not touch the ball again until it is touched by another player.

### **Restart of Play**

-After a goal has been scored, the game shall be restarted with a kickoff by a player of the team that gave up the goal.

-To start the second half, the game will be restarted with the kickoff by a player of the opposite team to that of the player who started the game.

-Restarting play after temporary delay: In the case of a temporary suspension due to an injury or any unusual situation, if one team is clearly in possession of the ball, the game shall be restarted by the referee doing a drop ball and giving the ball to the team that was in possession when play was suspended.

Method of scoring: A goal is scored when the whole of the ball has crossed the whole of the goal line on the ground or in the air between the goal posts and under the crossbar.

**Ball In/Out of Play** :The whole ball must be over the line. When the ball crosses the sideline, the other team has a throw in. When the ball crosses the end line, last touched by the defender, it is a corner kick; last touched by an attacker, it is a goal kick.

**Off-side** – Players in an offside position when the ball is played to them will be offside. An indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposite team.

**Fouls and Misconduct** – see USSF Laws of the Game.

<http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Laws-of-the-Game.aspx>

**Penalty Kicks** - Fouls by the defensive team in the penalty area may result in a penalty kick for the attacking team from the penalty spot. See Law 14 of USSF Laws of the Game.

**Results of the Game** – If recreational U12 teams play in house competition there will not be a record of the game for standings. If the teams play through Georgia soccer, standings will be listed and kept on the GA soccer website.