



## O'FALLON YOUTH SOCCER RULES OF THE GAME 7 and under (7 vs 7)



This is an instructional league for 7 year olds and under. Coaches and parents will be asked to assist in various means. Score **will** be recorded (see notes end).

The “Laws of the Game” authorized by the Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) are the rules adopted by the City of O’Fallon. Changes to these rules as adopted by the City of O’Fallon are as follows:

### Field of Play

- Goals shall be modified to the size of field
- Field shall be minimum 75 yards long 55 yards wide.

### The Ball

- Ball size to be used is a number 4
- The home team (team listed first on game schedule) shall provide the match ball, subject to approval of the referee

### Number of Players

- There must be no more than 7 players on the field of play for either team. One of the players shall be a designated goalkeeper
- No team shall be allowed to have less than 7 registered players and no more than 14 registered players at any given time
- Free substitution during Throw-ins, Corner Kicks, and/or Goal Kicks for both teams

### Players' Equipment

- All players must wear shin guards. Soft cleats are recommended
- No jewelry is to be worn by a player during a game
- Each coach is responsible to check players' equipment prior to the game

### The Referee

- Following FIFA guidelines.
- Beginning Spring 2012 referees will be assigned to 7&U games. During the first 4 games of the season one coach per team may be on the field with his/her players for instructional purposes only. Coaches will not be permitted on the field the last 4 games.

### The Assistant Referee

- No linesman for 7 vs. 7 games

### Duration of the Game

- Game length is two 20-minute halves, with a 5-minute break at half time
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game

### Offside

- FIFA Guidelines

### Free Kicks

- FIFA Guidelines

### Penalty Kick

- FIFA Guidelines

### Throw-in

- FIFA Guidelines

### Goal Kick

- On all goal kicks the only players inside the Build Out Line will be the Goalkeeper and one defender. All other players must start beyond this Build out Line. Once the goal kick is passed and touched by the defender (outside of the box and to the side of the goal), the game will be live once again.
  - Referees responsible:
    - AGES 7U & UP (30 yds. away)

### Slide Tackling

- Absolutely, NO slide tackling in an attempt to displace the soccer ball from another player who has control of that ball. Slide tackling will be permitted to save, clear or block a ball as long as, another player is not within a five-yard radius of that sliding player.

### Disciplinary Action

- Any player or coach ejected from a league match will receive a minimum of one match suspension starting with the next league match
- Any player or coach who accumulates THREE cautions during a season (fall or spring season), will automatically be suspended from the next match
- Any further cautions will each result in an additional one-match suspension
- The following are prohibited:
  - Foul language, acts of aggression towards or by the players, coaches, referees, or spectators
  - Spitting at another player at post-game line-up is an automatic ejection for the following game
  - Consumption of alcohol at any league match
- The City of O'Fallon retains the authority to invoke more severe punishment for any form of misconduct
- All participants and spectators are required to remain at least two yards from the sidelines, and may not be present behind the goal lines
- When a player is issued a red card they must leave the field for the duration of the match, and they are ejected from the next league match. There will be no substitutions for the ejected player

### Cancellations and Suspension of Games

- Games may be canceled at the discretion of the league for weather conditions. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Wind chill of 20 degrees or below
  - Excessive lightning or thunder
  - Wet and/or saturated fields
- If the game is suspended due to weather conditions, the referee has the right to terminate the game after a 10-minute wait
- In the event a game is suspended at the end of the first half, the game is considered complete, and a make up will not be rescheduled
- Any game cancelled by the City of O'Fallon, will be rescheduled by the City of O'Fallon
- If games are cancelled by the City of O'Fallon, we will attempt to make-up games on Sunday following the cancellation
- Please refer to your Rainout Make-up Schedule for game times
- If an entire weekend is rained out, the games will be made up at the end of the season with the same game times.

### Players code of ethics

- Sportsmanship is #1 for players and parents
- Fighting, hitting, spitting, and other unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated
- Players should play fair and safe
- Players should always respect other players and coaches
- Players should always try to do their best
- Learning is the #1 objective, not winning
- There is no "I" in team
- Most importantly- you should always have fun

### Parents and Coaches Information

- Parking is not allowed along side the road. USE ONLY DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS
- Please drive slowly when you are entering and leaving the park
- If desired, you may enter and exit the park via a stoplight at Waterford Crossings Drive