



RULES OF PLAY

FIFA laws of the Game will apply as modified by USYS and NSYSL as described here in.

Duration of games, and ball size, number of players are as follows:

AGE	PRELIMINARIES	SEMI FINALS	FINALS	BALL	#OF PLAYERS
U5	(4) 8 MINUTE	PARTICIPATION		#3	4
U6	(4) 8 MINUTE	PARTICIPATION		#3	4
U7	(4) 8 MINUTE	(4) 8 MINUTE	(4) 8 MINUTE	#3	4
U8	(3) 15 MINUTE	(3) 15 MINUTE	(3) 15 MINUTE	#3	4
U9	(2) 25 MINUTE	(2) 25 MINUTE	(2) 25 MINUTE	#4	7
U10	(2) 25 MINUTE	(2) 25 MINUTE	(2) 25 MINUTE	#4	7
U11	(2) 30 MINUTE	(2) 30 MINUTE	(2) 30 MINUTE	#4	9
U12	(2) 30 MINUTE	(2) 30 MINUTE	(2) 30 MINUTE	#4	9
U13	(2) 35 MINUTE	(2) 35 MINUTE	(2) 35 MINUTE	#5	11
U14	(2) 35 MINUTE	(2) 35 MINUTE	(2) 35 MINUTE	#5	11
U15- U17	(2) 35 MINUTE	(2) 35 MINUTE	(2) 35 MINUTE	#5	11

There will be a 5 minute break for all U5 through U8, regardless if you play quarters, thirds, or halves.

There will be a 10 minute half time for U9 and above teams.

There are no goalies in U6 through U8.

PRELIMINARY GAMES

All preliminary games will be called not less than (5) minutes prior to the schedule start of the next game, regardless of the amount of time played in each half up to that point.

A game is "complete" upon completion of one half of play regardless, of the circumstances of termination during the second half. Results will be based on the score at the time the game is called.

Preliminary games can end in a tie.

SEMI-FINAL GAMES

Semi-final Games: There will be NO overtime in the semi-final games. If the score is tied after regulation time, teams will go straight to penalty kicks.

* For the purposes of this tournament if a U7 or U8 team must go to penalty kicks, they will be taken from 20 feet away, with NO goalkeeper.

FINAL GAMES

Final games tied after regulation play will be decided in two equal 5 minute, overtime halves. If a tie still exist after overtime halves in final games, FIFA penalty kicks will determine the championship. Penalty kicks will immediately follow the game.

*For the purposes of this tournament if a U7 or U8 team must go to penalty kicks they will be taken from 20 feet away, with NO goalkeeper.

SUBSTITUTIONS: Free substitutions will be allowed in all age groups. However, teams may substitute ONLY with the referee's permission, and, only at the following times, (including overtimes).

1. Prior to a throw-in by the team in possession
2. Prior to a goal kick, by either team.
3. After a goal, by either team.
4. After an injury on either team, when the referee stops play.
5. On a caution: only the cautioned player may be substituted at that time.

PLAYERS EQUIPMENT: It will be referee's discretion to determine the safety and suitability of the player's equipment, including the wearing of a hard brace. Shin guards are mandatory for all players. A player may not wear jewelry or barrettes.

COACHES: All coaches have total responsibility for the conduct of their team's players, substitutes, and spectators at all times. Coaching from the sidelines (giving directions to one's **own** team on points of strategy and position) is permitted, provided:

1. No mechanical devices are used.
2. The tone of the voice is instructive and not derogatory.
3. NO coach, substitute, or spectator, uses profanity or incites, in any manner disruptive behavior.

CAUTIONS AND EJECTIONS: A player or coach receiving two cautions (yellow cards) in a single game is considered to have been given an ejection (red card). A player who has been ejected (sent off) will not be replaced and must leave the **sight and sound of the field**. A coach who has been ejected (sent off) will be replaced by the Assistant Coach or Manager, and must leave the **sight and sound of the field**. A player, who has been ejected for violent conduct or serious foul play, will not be allowed to play the next two (2) scheduled games. Any player or coach who assaults a referee will be expelled from the tournament and reported to their respective league and state association.

SUSPENDED AND TERMINATED GAMES: If in the opinion of game officials a game must be suspended (for whatever reason), the game may resume, but is subject to being ended not less than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the next game. If in the opinion of the game officials, a game must be terminated for misconduct of players, coaches, or spectators, the offending team could be suspended from further play, and forfeits the game and all remaining games. All previous points earned remain as played. Additionally, the home league and State Association will be contacted, as appropriate.

INJURY: Delays of the game due to injury, will result in appropriate time being added to the full game time, based on the judgment of the referee. However, all preliminary games will be terminated not less than five (5) minutes prior to the next scheduled start of the next game.

DETERMINING WINNERS: Teams will be awarded points on the following basis:

1. Six (6) points for each win.
2. Three (3) points for each tie
3. Zero (0) points for each loss.
4. One (1) point for each goal scored up to a maximum of three (3) per game.
5. One (1) point for each shut out.

A 0-0 tie will be scored as 4 points for each team (3 for the tie, 1 for the shutout). In the event of a tie in points at the end of bracketed play, the teams to advance will be determined as follows:

1. The winner in head to head competition
2. Goal differential (Maximum differential 4 goals per game).
3. Fewest goals allowed with maximum of 4.
4. Most goals scored with a maximum of 4.
5. Most shut outs.
6. If a tie still exists after steps 1 through 5, FIFA penalty kicks will be taken fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the appropriate Quarter-final or Semi-final game.
7. If a three way tie exist within a bracket after steps 1 through 5, the three teams will compete in FIFA penalty kicks.

HOME TEAM: The home team, will be the team that appears first on the game schedule. The home team will supply the game ball. The game ball will be subject to referee approval. The home team will be required to switch to alternate jerseys, to accommodate a color conflict as declared by the referee. No two teams will play from the same side of the field.

WHERE TEAMS SIT:

1. Home team sidelines: North or East side of the field.
2. Visitor team sidelines: South or west side of the field.

IMPORTANT:

IN ORDER FOR US TO HAVE GAMES FOR U-6 THROUGH U8 AND U9 AND U10 ON GRASS FIELDS WE

AGREED TO KEEP WALKING TRAFFIC TO A MINIMUM

COACHES AND PARENTS PLEASE DO NOT WALK ON THE MAIN FIELD UNTIL YOU GET TO THE SIDELINE,

YOU WILL BE SITTING ON. PLEASE DO NOT WALK ACROSS THE FIELDS. IF WE DO NOT RESPECT THIS,

WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE THE GRASS FIELDS FOR RUGRAT NEXT YEAR.

FORFEITS AND BYES:

All teams who forfeit will have the game(s) score of a 0-1 loss. The winner will be awarded eight tournament points (six for the win, one for a goal, and one for a shutout). The team failing to report, ready to play, within five minutes of the schedule kick off time will forfeit. Teams failing to check in at the mandatory registration tent, or for taking actions that cause a game to be terminated will forfeit. Byes will be scored and tournament points awarded the same as a forfeit.

PROTESTS: There will be no protests.

DISPUTES: Game conduct is under the jurisdiction of the referee and the tournament staff, will not over rule a referee's decision. All disputes will be settled by the Tournament Director or his/her designee and the decision will be final.

PLAYERS: A PLAYER MAY ONLY REGISTER AND PLAY ON ONE TEAM. THIS INCLUDES CLUB TEAMS.

INCLEMENT WEATHER OR UNEXPECTED TERMINATION OF PLAY:

Matches will be played in all weather conditions, unless the Tournament Director determines the conditions are dangerous and/or life threatening, as per FIFA/USYS/NYSA regulations. The tournament committee will do everything in their control to make sure all matches are played, but if it is out of their control, the standings at the time will be final. No refunds will be given. If a team forfeits, that is out of the tournament committee's control, and the other team has no rights to a refund.

CONTINGENCY PLAN:

1. All Matches will be played as scheduled.
2. Shorten all first round matches to (15) minutes halves.
3. Plan B plus shorten all second round matches the same.
4. Plan C plus shorten all third round matches the same.
5. If the fields become totally unplayable, it may be necessary to decide some matches with FIFA penalty kicks.
6. In the event the weather becomes a safety risk, and the matches are unsafe to play, placement will be determined by the standings at the time of the tournament stoppage.

FIELDS:

The city of Las Vegas does not permit us to go on to the grass fields until a half hour before 10:30 am.

We must wait until the fields are approved before we can enter.

The City of Las Vegas also has the right to stop play, if they determine the fields are being damaged.

Thank-you for being part of the 26th Annual Rugrat Tournament.

We hope you have an enjoyable experience.

Toni Prine

Tournament Director.

Rugrat follows FIFA Laws, recently the following laws were added:

Dropped ball - Laws 8 & 9

Changes

If play is stopped inside the penalty area, the ball will be dropped for the goalkeeper

- If play is stopped outside the penalty area, the ball will be dropped for one player of the team that last touched the ball at the point of the last touch
- In all cases, all the other players (of both teams) must be at least 4m (4.5yds) away
- If the ball touches the referee (or another match official) and goes into the goal, team possession changes or a promising attack starts, a dropped ball is awarded

Free Kicks - Law 13

Changes

- When there is a 'wall' of three or more defenders, the attackers are not allowed within 1m (1 yd) of the wall; an attacker less than 1m (1yd) from the 'wall' when the kick is taken will be penalised with an indirect free kick
- When the defending team takes a free kick in their own penalty area, the ball is in play once the kick is taken; it does not have to leave the penalty area before it can be played

Goal Kick - Law 16

Changes

- The ball is in play once the kick is taken; it can be played before leaving the penalty area. Opponents must remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play

Handball - Law 12

Changes

- Deliberate handball remains an offence
- The following 'handball' situations, even if accidental, will be a free kick:
 - The ball goes into the goal after touching an attacking player's hand/arm
 - A player gains control/possession of the ball after it has touches their hand/arm and then scores, or creates a goal-scoring opportunity
 - The ball touches a player's hand/arm which has made their body unnaturally bigger
 - The ball touches a player's hand/arm when it is above their shoulder (unless the player has deliberately played the ball which then touches their hand/arm)
- The following will not usually be a free kick, unless they are one of the above situations:
 - The ball touches a player's hand/arm directly from their own head/body/foot or the head/body/foot of another player who is close/near
 - The ball touches a player's hand/arm which is close to their body and has not made their body unnaturally bigger
 - If a player is falling and the ball touches their hand/arm when it is between their body and the ground to support the body (but not extended to make the body bigger)
 - If the goalkeeper attempts to 'clear' (release into play) a throw-in or deliberate kick from a team-mate but the 'clearance' fails, the goalkeeper can then handle the ball

Kick-Off - Law 8

Changes

- The team that wins the toss can now choose to take the kick-off or which goal to attack (previously they only had the choice of which goal to attack)

Penalty Kick - Law 14

Changes

- The team's penalty taker can have (quick) treatment/assessment and then take the kick
- The goalkeeper must not be touching the goalposts/crossbar/nets; they must not be moving

Quick free kick and YC/RC - Law 12

Changes

- If the referee is about to issue a YC/RC but the non-offending team takes the free kick quickly and creates a goal-scoring opportunity, the referee can delay the YC/RC until the next stoppage if the offending team was not distracted by the referee
- kick is taken; cannot stand behind the line

Substitutes - Law 3

Changes

- A player who is being substituted must leave the field by the nearest point on the touchline/goal line (unless the referee indicates the player can leave quickly/immediately at the halfway line or a different point because of safety, injury etc.)

Team Officials - Laws 5 & 12

Changes

- A team official guilty of misconduct will be shown a YC (caution) or RC (sending-off)*; if the offender cannot be identified, the senior coach who is in the technical area at the time will receive the YC/RC * Law 12 will have a list of YC/RC offences