

SOCCER BLAST'S "CONDENSED" RULES

SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions may be made at any time on an unlimited basis during the game, provided the player substituted for is within the substitution arc and does not interfere with play at the time the replacing player enters the field of play. During the following five "guaranteed substitutions" players will be allowed to substitute as soon as the ball is dead and play will be held up to allow completion of substitution(s).

- a. A goal is scored
- b. A time penalty is awarded
- c. An injury time-out
- d. The ball is out of bounds

GOALKEEPER SUBSTITUTION - Any teammate may change places with the goalkeeper at anytime as per regular substitution procedures, provided that the goalkeeper wears a jersey that does not conflict with either the referee or other players, provided the referee is notified.

PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

FOOTWEAR - A player's footwear must conform to the following standards: rubber flat-soled shoes or other footwear designed for artificial surfaces may be worn, including molded cleats. No footwear deemed dangerous by the referee will be permitted.

SHINGUARDS - All players **MUST** wear regulation shinguards during play. Under no circumstances may a player participate without shinguards. Socks must completely cover the shinguards.

DURATION OF GAME

All games U10 will consist of four 12 minute quarters, with a 1-minute break at between each quarter. All games U12 and older will consist of two 26 minute halves, with a 2-minute break at between halves. **THERE WILL BE NO OVERTIME.** (except for playoff games). The clock will run at all times.

BALL OUT OF PLAY

The ball is out of play:

- a. when it has wholly crossed the perimeter wall.
- b. when it hits outside the perimeter walls or netting.
- c. when it makes unintentional contact with any part of the building superstructure above the field of play. A free kick will be awarded to the opposing team at the center of their attacking red line. when the game has been stopped by the referee

RESTARTS - BALL OVER PERIMETER WALL

KICK IN - When the whole of the ball passes over the perimeter wall or makes contact with a designated out-of-bounds area (e.g. netting), it shall be kicked in from the point at which it passed over or made contact, by a player from the opposite team from that of the player last making contact. The ball shall be in play immediately after it has been touched, except in the case where the kick is taken from a point inside the penalty area, in which case it may not be played a second time nor shall it be deemed in play until it has exited the penalty area. A goal may be scored directly from such a kick.

DELAY OF GAME

THREE LINE PASS VIOLATION - A player is guilty of a three-line violation when he passes the ball across three lines (two red and center line) in the air, toward the opponents goal-line, without touching or having been played by another player. The whole of the ball must have crossed both red lines. If the ball is placed on one red line and kicked from there and then crosses over the other red line, there is no violation.

If a three-line pass is declared, the referee shall award a direct free kick, which shall be taken by a player of the opposing team, from the center point of the first red line the ball crossed. **Any team playing with two players less than the opposing team shall not be penalized for this offense.**

If a defender passes the ball back by foot to his own goalkeeper, the goalie **MAY NOT** handle the ball. If the goalkeeper handles the ball, the referee shall stop play and award a direct free kick from the center of the restraining arc. However, the goalkeeper may play the ball in any other manner so long as he does not handle the ball.

When referring to handling the ball, it means with the hands. He may however play the ball with any other legal body part.

FOULS AND TIME PENALTIES

A player who commits an offense while the ball is in play shall be penalized by the referee awarding a direct free kick to the opposing team, to be taken at the point of the infraction, unless the offense is committed by a player in his opponents goal area, in such case the free kick shall be taken from a point anywhere within that half of the goal area in which the offense occurred. **ALL FREE KICKS ARE DIRECT.**

PLEASE NOTE- Due to the widespread restrictions on slide tackling and the potentially dangerous nature of the tactic in proximity to dasher boards, **slide tackling is not permitted!** Referees will use discretion for normal goalkeeper play within the penalty area.

If any offenses are deemed by the referee to be of a serious nature, he shall caution the offender, assess a two minute penalty to be served by the offender, and award a direct free kick from the place where the offense has occurred to be taken by an opponent.

All time penalties are to be served in full by the player receiving the time penalty. If a team serving a time penalty is scored on that team may send in a player to replace the player that received the time penalty. If both teams have players serving time penalties and a team scores each team may replace one player. Penalty time begins when the ball is put back into play.

PENALTIES ASSESSED TO GOALKEEPER - Any technical two-minute time penalty assessed against the goalkeeper may be served by another member of his/her team. The goalkeeper will serve all time penalties assessed because of goalkeeper misconduct. All the penalties so served shall be charged against the goalkeeper. This includes instances whereby the goalkeeper has been substituted by a field player

FREE KICKS

When play has been stopped for an infraction, play shall be restarted with a free kick taken by a player from the opposing team. During the taking of a free kick, all of the opposing players shall be at least fifteen (15) feet from the ball until it is in play. The ball must be stationary when a free kick is taken and the kicker shall have five seconds within which to play the ball after being signaled to do so by the referee. Failure to put the ball into play within five seconds of the referee's signal will result in the restart being "turned over" to the opponent. The ball shall be deemed in play when it has been touched. A goal may be scored directly against either team from such a kick. **All free kicks are direct.**

FREE KICK ORIGINATING IN PENALTY AREA - When a player is taking a free kick in his team's penalty area, all opposing players shall remain outside the penalty area until the ball has cleared the penalty area, and shall be at least fifteen (15) feet from the ball while the kick is being taken. The ball shall be deemed in play after it has been touched and is beyond the penalty area. If the ball is not kicked directly into play, or if the kicker touches the ball again before it has left the penalty area, the kick shall be retaken. If the kicker touches the ball again after it has left the penalty area and before it has touched another player, a free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team at the top of the restraining arc.

FREE KICKS IN ATTACKING PENALTY AREA - Any free kick awarded to the attacking team for a foul or an infraction which occurred in its opponent's penalty area shall be taken at the top of the restraining arc unless a penalty kick is awarded. Any foul on the defensive team inside the penalty area that would be an indirect free-kick outdoors will result in a free-kick taken from the top of the restraining arc. This kick may be defended.

Only fouls which are deemed by the referee as having denied the attacking team a goal scoring opportunity or warrant a time penalty, will result in a penalty kick.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT TO PREVENT FREE KICK - If, when a free kick is being taken, any player gesticulates in a way to distract his opponents or encroaches into the penalty area or within fifteen (15) feet of the ball, the referee shall delay the taking of the kick until the law is complied with. If on the request of the referee, the player does not comply, he shall be deemed guilty of "unsportsmanlike conduct" and will be assessed a two minute time penalty.

*A full version of the rules is available from Soccer Blast.

08/26/04