



## 2021-2022 U11/U12 Rules

*(The BCSA recommended modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game.)*

**Referees** – provided by the Club, each team supplies a linesman. Referee controls the game. RFC encourages coaches and parents to lead by example and respect the referees and their calls. The referees at U11/U12 are typically 14 year old players from the boys and girls clubs. They have taken the Entry Level Referee course and passed the written exam and assessment. They are learning too. One day that might be your child out there refereeing and you wouldn't want them to be verbally abused by a coach or parent on the sideline.

### Please Remember:

This is a game  
Everyone's here to have fun  
Officials are human  
**Be Respectful!**



### Please Remember:

These are kids  
Everyone's here to have fun  
Officials are human  
**Be Respectful!**



## #1 RULE - HAVE FUN!!!!!!

No scores are reported and standings are not kept.

### Law 2: The Ball

The ball must conform to FIFA standards and must conform to the FIFA inflation specifications.  
Size four (4)

### Law 3: The Number of Players

A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eight (8) players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven players one of whom is the goalkeeper. All players shall play equal playing time.

**Substitutions:** At any stoppage, substitutions are unlimited and must be done with the officials' permission. (Yell "Ref subs please")

**Playing time:** All players SHALL play equal playing time.

#### Law 4: The Players Equipment

Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams. The goalkeeper should wear a colour that distinguishes him/her from both teams. Shin guards are mandatory and must be worn under the socks. Jewellery is not permitted.

#### Law 5: The Referee

A Small-Sided Referee must be used. The referee's role is to keep players safe and ensure that the game is played under the 'fair play' code. A Small-Sided Referee can send a team official from the field if they fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner.

#### Law 6: The Assistant Referee

A nominated person will act as linesman.

#### Law 7: The Duration of the Match

The match will be divided into two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

#### Law 8: The Start and Restart of Play

Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least nine (9) meters from the ball until it is in play.

#### Law 9: The Ball In and Out of Play

Conform to FIFA.

#### Law 10: The Method of Scoring

Conform to FIFA.

#### Law 11: Offside (Starting at U11 offsides in the attacking third are called. Boyd White and Boyd Yellow have 4 hashmarks on the field to mark attacking third at either end, please put 4 cones down.)

Conform to FIFA, with the exception of only occurring in the attacking third. A line may be marked as a dotted line, and solid line or single cones on the touch line. When an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick to be taken from the position of the offending player when the ball was last played to him by one of his team-mates.

#### Law 12: Fouls and Misconduct

Conform to FIFA with the exception that an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the centre spot on the halfway line if a goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball in the air from his/her penalty area into the opponents penalty area. Cautionary and expulsion cards are used.

#### Law 13: Free Kicks

Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents are at least nine (9) meters from the ball. An indirect kick awarded to the attacking team that occurs inside the penalty area, shall be taken from the outside edge of the penalty area in line where the offense took place.

#### Law 14: The Penalty Kick

Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that the penalty mark is marked at nine (9) meters from the goal line. All players except the player taking the kick must be nine (9) meters from the ball.

#### Law 15: The Throw-In

**There are no throw-ins per Covid-19 Safety protocol. In case of a throw-in, players do a "kick-in".**

#### Law 16: The Goal Kick **RETREAT LINE RULE**

Conform to FIFA except that it shall be taken from anywhere within the penalty area. RFC conforms to the **RETREAT LINE RULE** – On a goal kick, opponents must retreat halfway (that is halfway from the centre

line and the end line), the ball must travel out of the penalty box before the opposition can touch it and goals cannot be scored directly off a goal kick. **Please remember the retreat line rule. Players from the opposition must “retreat” halfway to allow the goalkeeper to play the ball out of the box on the ground with a pass to his teammate rather than just punting the ball in the air down field. We are encouraging our players to development their soccer skill and pass. The referee will stop the game to ensure that the Retreat Line Rule is being followed.**

#### Law 17: The Corner Kick:

Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least nine (9) meters away from the ball until it is in play.

**PARITY RULE** (will be implemented by referee): There is no fun or learning from lopsided games. At anytime, except the last 5 minutes of game, when there is a 4 goal differential, the referee will stop the game and approach the “leading” coach. The coach will be asked to switch his line-up, implement a 5 passes before shot (as an example), move forwards to defence, etc... If the lopsided scoring continues, the other team will be able to put on an extra player. If it further continues, play will stop and both teams will be asked to divide their team in two and send one half to the other team. One new team wears pinnies.