



EWZSA MODIFIED LAWS FOR U4 & U5

THE FIELD:

- A. Dimensions:
The field of play should be rectangular. 50ft x 64ft. The field should be close to these dimensions; however facility space may dictate smaller or larger fields. Try to be as close as possible.
- B. Markings:
Sidelines and end-lines with pylons or discs.
- C. Goals:
Please use either a pop up net or pylons, goal mouth for both are to be the same width.(approx. 4ft)

THE BALL:

Size 3 ball should be used for practices and games.



THE TIME:

- A. The first 20 minutes will consist of Skills & Drills.
 - B. Followed by a 30 minute game. 2 x 15 minute halves.
 - C. 5 Minutes change over between the next game. If you want a break during the game you will need to shorten the break after practice to 2 minutes.
- NOTE: Field time is 55 minutes, **no over time is allowed.**



NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

- A. Number of players on the field at any time will be 6. Each team with 3.
- B. Substitutions: Suggest 2-3 minutes rotating shifts or during any stoppage of play.
- C. Playing time: each player SHALL receive equal playing time.
- D. Teams and games may be co-ed.

PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

- A. Footwear: Non-marking, flat soled shoes.
- B. MANDATORY. Shin-guards and socks covering the shin-guards.
- C. Jersey/ T-Shirt: Supplied by community or EWZSA.
- D. NO item of jewelry of any sort will be allowed on the field of play. Medic Alert Bracelets if required must be covered or padded in order to be safe for all players.



REFEREE:

Since there are no referees at U4/U5 and the players need to be in close contact with the instructional coach, each team should have one (1) representative on the field. Each representative (preferably the coach) can take half of the field.

THE START OF PLAY:

- A. The start of play shall consist of the visiting team starting with the ball at center.
- B. The ball may be played forward or backward at the start of play.

BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:

- A. Kick-in's only if ball goes out of bounds. The ball is awarded to the opposite that put it outside the field of play. Place the ball on the ground have the player kick it into the field of play.
- B. No throw in's allowed.

METHOD OF SCORING:

- A. Goals will be awarded when the ball is kicked between the cones into pup-up net.
- B. No scoring may occur inside the goal area.
- C. Goals must be scored no higher than 3 feet. (If there are no nets)

AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR:

- A. Including- pushing, kicking, punching, hitting will result in an In-Direct free kick to the non-offending team, as well as the player sitting for a minimum of 1 full shift (coach's responsibility).

THE COACHES:

- A. There will be one coach from each team on the field. Each coach will take one side. Coaches are to encourage and "referee" their team. (There are no referees at this age). Do not block the goal area.
- B. One coach or parent from each team will be on the bench to direct the players on to the field.
- C. Must have a bench parent (mom/dad) for each gender present on mixed teams.

FAIR PLAY:

- A. Due to some teams not being of equal strength at this age group, when the ball is being kicked in the other team must give them 3 meters (approx.) and cannot chase until the ball has been passed or kicked. This will prevent stronger teams from just crowding the net and keep scoring goals without letting the other opposing players develop a break out or a passing game.



FAQ

WHAT IS MINI SOCCER?

Mini Soccer is a game designed to improve our young players appreciation for the game of soccer. We want them to have fun! The small sided game environment gives these young players “more touches on the ball.” It decreases the barrier of skill and physical developmental differences giving each player the opportunity to improve their soccer skills and physical literacy.

There is 1 game per week, and usually no regular practices. The hour long session consists of 20 minutes Skills & Drills followed by 2 x 15 minute halves. The soccer center books in one hour blocks. This means that all ages (mini to adult) have the field for a maximum of 55 minutes. This allows time for teams to both enter and leave the field. If the Skills & Drills portion goes longer than expected coaches will be required to reduce to the game time. If you require a longer transition time between Skills & Drills and the game please adjust your time accordingly.

There are no referees for the mini program. Each team will have 1 coach present on the field during games. Coaches actively participate with encouragement of positive play and help teach players the rules. There will be lots of reminders of which direction players are supposed to go, and also “No Hands!” It is important to have an assistant coach present with the players on the bench to keep players engaged and ready for substitutions. We also recommend a bench parent be present to keep order on the bench and for any “boo boos.”

U7 soccer is played on half of the regular indoor soccer field. There will be 5 players per team on the field at a time – 4 players, and a goalie. Substitutions will be regulated by the coaches (either on the bench or field). We recommend you bring a timer/ stopwatch. Shifts should be approximately 2-3 minutes. To initiate the change coaches can either yell “TIME” or use a whistle. Coaches are encouraged to rotate the players on their team so every player has an opportunity at each position – including goalie.

HOW CAN THEY PLAY A GAME ON ONLY HALF OF THE FIELD?

Edmonton Soccer Facilities will erect a temporary wall through the middle of the regulation field during all mini soccer games. Teams will be scheduled to Side A or Side B. There will be 2 separate games played at the same time therefore there will be 4 teams on a large field. Teams will be required to share a dressing room and bench for their side. Teams are asked to switch attacking/ defending ends (on their side) at half time so that both teams have an equal opportunity to use the built in goal on one side of the field and the temporary goal on the other side.

DO WE KEEP SCORE/STATS?

No. Mini soccer is a developmental league for fun! No stats are kept at this age group.

