



U9 and U11 Boarded Indoor Info & EMSA Rule Modifications

COVID-19 Safe Play: All Spectators, players, coaches and parents must adhere to the Alberta Soccer Association and Facility rules regarding returning to play protocols. Coaches, please ensure your families are aware of the protocols and what the expectations are at the facilities. For more info please visit the EMSA website under Indoor Season Team Official Information.

U9 and U11 teams will follow the same rules of Indoor Soccer as the older age groups with a few modifications which are included in the list below.

- **Field Size**

Full size field.

- **Referees**

Yes. Both an on-field referee and a box referee.

- **Ball Size**

Size 4.

- **Number of Players on Roster**

16 players

- **Number of Players on Field**

7 v 7

- **Electronic Game Sheets**

Yes.

- **Game Scores/Standings Kept/On Line Scoring:**

Community U9's: No
Community U11's: Yes

Club U9's: Yes
Club U11's: Yes

- **Mercy rule (U11 Comm, U9/U11 Club)**

Game scores and standings will be kept. Mercy Rule will be in effect. No more than a 5 goal spread. For example, if a team wins 12-3 the score will be inputted 8-3 online and on the scoreboard. The referees will indicate the mercy rule score on the game sheets and that is the score that needs to be inputted in the EMSA Portal when the home team scores the game.

For teams that have schedules with seeding rounds, the seeding will be based on the mercy rule game score, not the actual game scores.

- **Game Length**

Community U9's: Two 20 minute halves. – 10 minutes of practice/warm up before start of game
Community U11's: Two 25 minute halves (no extra time at start of game)

Club U9's: Two 25 minute halves (no extra time at start of game)
Club U11's: Two 25 minute halves (no extra time at start of game)

- **Player Cards**

U9 Community: No
U9 Club: Yes
U11 Community: No
U11 Club: Yes

- **Team Official Cards (Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager)**

U9 Community: Yes
U9 Club: Yes
U11 Community: Yes
U11 Club: Yes

- **U9 Player Yellow and Red Cards**

No cards issued or recorded. Referees can ask for player to be substituted for a small amount of time. Player can return to play after. Team does not play short and player does not sit in referee box. No further suspensions are issued. If a serious boarding offence occurs, the player is not to play for the remainder of the game.

- **U11 Player Yellow and Red Cards**

Cards are issued. Player sits in box for allotted time but then returns to their bench. If a player is yellow carded they can return to play. If a player is red carded that player cannot play for the rest of the game

and must serve the 5 minutes in the penalty box. Once the penalty time is up they return to their bench for the remainder of the game. The team does not play shorthanded. No further suspensions are issued. Cards will be recorded on the player's file and if an accumulating card pattern is noticed, the EMSA Discipline Committee may choose to call a meeting.

If a goalie incurs a time penalty (blue card or yellow) no one serves the penalty. However, if the goalie receives 2 yellows (Red) the goalie, like all players, must be substituted and cannot play the remainder of the game.

After a time penalty the player in the box must wait until a stoppage of play to return to their teams bench.

• **Team Official Yellow and Red Cards**

Team officials can be issued yellow and red cards and also suspended as per EMSA rules.

• **U9 Substitutions**

Keepers can be substituted at any stoppage of play as long as the alternate goalie(s) is ready and time is not wasted. Referee must be informed of keeper changes.

• **U9 and U11 Indoor Retreat Line**

The Retreat Line will come into effect in three situations during the game:

- A Goal Kick
- A Free Kick to the defending team within its own goal area
- Goalie has the ball in the hands

At these three restarts, the opposing team is required to move beyond the Retreat Line. The player taking the kick can then pass the ball to one of his/her team-mates without the pressure of an opposing player nearby. When the ball has left the goal area, the play will resume as normal and the "opposing" team can move inside the Retreat Line.

The Retreat Line in **U9 and U11** Categories will be the 1/3 mark of the field

If a member of the opposing team comes inside the Retreat Line before the ball has left the goal area and interferes with play, **the Referee** will stop play and the restart will be retaken.

Players can choose to play the ball long if they wish, but not in the air over the three lines.

Goalie will have 5 seconds after the players have retreated passed the 1/3 line to release the ball. If the goalie does not release the ball after the referee has counted to 5 the ball will be taken by the other team with an indirect kick at the top of the penalty Arc.

Restarts for U9s

- All restarts are now **indirect** (a goal cannot be scored directly from that restart).

Boarding (U9s)

- Any player committing a boarding offence can take no further part in the match.

Penalty Kicks (U9s)

- There are no penalty kicks
- Restart would be a free kick at the top of the penalty arc

Time Penalty

U9 and U11- Once the attacking players have retreated beyond the Retreat Line, the goalie has up to 5 seconds to release the ball. If not, there is a time violation which will result in an INDIRECT free kick at the top of the arc.

Pass Back

U9 and U11- If a defender intentionally passes the ball back to the goalie and the goalie uses their hands, the pass back will be called. The result will be an INDIRECT free kick at the top of the Arc.

Rational- because of the proximity to the net as well as players continually shooting and hitting players in the face and injuries have occurred an indirect free kick will be awarded in these two instances.

Retreat Line

At the Edmonton Centers the retreat line is marked on 1/3 of the field.

