



## EWZSA MODIFIED LAWS FOR U4 & U5 - Outdoor

### LAW I – THE FIELD:

A. Dimensions:

The field of play should be rectangular, approximately 50 feet by 64 feet. The field should be close to these dimensions.

B. Markings:

Sidelines and end-lines with pylons or discs.

C. Goals:

Please use either a pop-up net or pylons for goal mouth. Both goals are to be the same width (about 4 feet).

### LAW II – THE BALL:

A. Size 3 ball should be used for practices and games.



### LAW III – DURATION OF GAME:

A. The first 30 minutes will consist of Skills & Drills.

B. Follow this with a 5-minute break (water, optional snack time).

C. The next 20-30 minutes will be a modified game.



### LAW IV – NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

A. Number of players on the field at any time will be 6, each team with 3 players (no goalie).

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.



## **LAW V – PLAYERS EQUIPMENT**

- A. Footwear: Flat soled running shoes or soccer cleats (no baseball cleats).
- B. MANDATORY: Shin-guards and socks covering the shin-guards.
- C. Jersey/T-Shirt: Supplied by community or EWZSA.
- D. NO item of jewellery of any sort will be allowed on the field of play. If required, Medical Alert Bracelets may be worn but must be covered or padded for the safety of all players.

## **LAW VI – REFEREE:**

Since there are no referees at the U4/U5 level 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.

## **LAW VII – THE START OF PLAY:**

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

## **LAW VIII – BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:**

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

## **LAW IX – METHOD OF SCORING:**

- A. Goals will be awarded when the ball is kicked between the cones and into the pop-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)

## **LAW X – AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR:**

- A. Pushing, kicking, punching, and hitting will result in an indirect free kick to the non-offending team.

## **LAW XI – 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.

## **LAW XII – 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 (approximately) 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 one game per week, and usually no regular practices. The session consists of 30 minutes Skills & Drills followed by a 20-30 minute game.

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

