U-8 Referee Guidelines

Game Timing
- (4) 10-minute Quarters
- 2-¼ Minute Break at Quarter End
- 5-½ Minute Break at Halftime
- ***Clock Only Stops During Play for SERIOUS Events (e.g. Medical Emergency)***

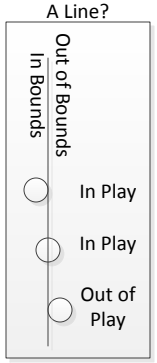
Coin Toss
Winning Team Selects Which Goal to DEFEND
Losing Team Kicks Off

Same on Both Sides of Field

Technical Area - *Coach Should Stay Inside*

Goal Line

When Has The Ball Crossed A Line?



If the Ball Leaves the Field behind the **Goal Line**
Last Touch by Defense → Corner Kick
Last Touched By Offense → Goal Kick

Corner Kick Ball Location

Goal Kick Ball Location

6-Yds

Kick Off
Place Ball in Center
Only Team Kicking Off Allowed
Inside Center Ring

Goal Box Rules
Goalie May Use Hands
Inside Box
(Outside Box, Goalie May NOT Use Hands)

There Are NO Penalty Kicks in U8 Soccer!

On Field Penalties
- Place Ball at Point of Violation
- Non-Violating Team Kicks
- Must Be Indirect Kick
- Opposing Players Back 6 to 8 Yards

IMPORTANT! IF IT'S HOT!
Allow Mid Quarter 30-Second Water Breaks!

If the Ball Leaves the Field behind the **Goal Line**
Last Touch by Defense → Corner Kick
Last Touched By Offense → Goal Kick

If the Ball Leaves the Field over the **Touch Line**
Team with Last Touch on ball Loses Possession

Touch Line

Players on Field
(8) Players Per Team
If one team has less than (10) Players Total Then
(7) Players Per Team

Throw In Rules
- Allow Two Attempts
- First Attempt Unassisted
- Second Attempt → You may coach them a bit
- *If second attempt fails, other team gets ball*

Prior To Game
- Coordinate with Second Referee
- Collect Game Card from Home Team Coach
  - Card MUST Be Complete
  - Both Coaches Must Sign
  - Both Refs Must Sign
- Inspect Goals & Field
- Check Teams In – Check for:
  - Cleats (No Metal)
  - Shin Guards (Must Wear)
  - Fingernails (Short)
  - Jewelery (None Allowed)

End of Game
- Home Team Ref Keeps Game Card
- Encourage Teams to Leave Field Area Promptly
- Participate in the Handshake Line
- If Last Game of Day – Remind Hometeam Coach to Take Down Nets and Return to League

All Kicks (Kick Off, Corner Kick, etc.)
- All Opposing Players Must be Six to Eight Yards Away
- Indirect Kick Rule Applies à Kicking Player Cannot Kick A Second Time Until Another Player Touches The Ball
- Other Than On a Kickoff, a Goal CANNOT Be Made From A Kick Unless the Ball Touches Another Player First
- No Second Kick Attempts