



Mineola Recreational Youth Soccer 11v11 U14-U19 Program Official Rules and Policies

All rules herein are for MSA Closed League matches and supersede FIFA, USYS and NTSSA rules for recreational soccer. Items not specifically addressed herein shall conform first to NTSSA rules then USYS and then FIFA. For play outside of MSA Closed League NTSSA rules shall apply.

Law I - Field of Play

A. Field dimensions: The field of play shall be rectangular. Its length being no more than one hundred and thirty (130) yards nor less than one hundred (100) yards and its width not more than one hundred (100) yards nor less than fifty (50) yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width. MSA U14-U19 fields are a 100-115 x 70-80.

Field has been set and marked in accordance with UIL regulations and as such is set and marked in Mineola Meredith Memorial Stadium.

B. Field Markings

1. Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide.
2. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field.
3. A center circle with a ten (10) yard radius.
4. Four corner arcs with a radius of one (1) yard.
5. Goal area: Six (6) yards from each goal post and six (6) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line.
6. Penalty Area: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, eighteen (18) yards from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of eighteen (18) yards and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the penalty area. Within each penalty area a penalty mark is made twelve (12) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of ten (10) yards from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

C. Goals: The size of goals to be a maximum of 24' x 8'.

Law II – Ball: Size five (5)

Law III – Number of Players

A. Maximum number of players on the field per team at any one time is eleven (11), one of which is a goalkeeper. The minimum number of players to start the match is seven (7).

B. Maximum number of players on the roster should not exceed eighteen (18) for U14 or twenty-two (22) for U16 and older. A maximum of eighteen (18) players may be in uniform and/or participate in a single match.

C. Substitutions:

1. Unlimited.

2. Taken at the following times:

- a. Prior to a throw-in by either team.
- b. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
- c. Following a goal by either team.
- d. After an injury by either team, if the injured player is substituted.
- e. After a caution is issued for the cautioned player only. (The opposing team may substitute an equal number of players)
- f. At half time.

3. Players shall enter the field at the half way line with the permission of the Referee.

D. Playing time: Each Player shall play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.

E. Teams and games may be coed.

Law IV – Player’s Equipment

A. Footwear: Soft-cleated soccer shoes. **NO METAL SPIKES.**

Soccer cleats are defined by having no spike on the leading toe edge. No football or baseball cleats are to be used.

B. Shin guards: **MANDATORY**

C. No jewelry or any metal on/in player's body/hair

Law V – Referees

A. Registered USSF 08 Referee or higher (Grassroots as of 01/2021)

Law VI – Assistant Referees Registered USSF Referee

Law VII – Duration of Game

A. The game shall be divided into two (2) equal halves of thirty-five (35) minutes each for U14, forty (40) minutes each for U16 or forty-five (45) minutes each for U17+.

B. There shall be a half time interval of five (5) minutes.

Law VIII – Start of Play Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law IX – Ball In and Out of Play Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law X – Method of Scoring Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law XI - Offside Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law XII – Fouls and Misconduct Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law XIII – Free Kicks Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law XIV – Penalty Kicks Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law XV – Throw In Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law XVI – Goal Kick Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Law XVII – Corner Kick Conforms to FIFA Laws of the Game

Additional MSA U14 to U19 Rules

Roster Size:

U14 teams are to be formed with a maximum of 18 players; the recommended roster size is 16 players. U16 and older teams are to be formed with a maximum of 22 players; the recommended roster size is 18 players. No more than 18 players may be in uniform and/or participate in a single game.

Uniforms:

Team uniforms shall consist of like colored jerseys, shorts and socks. Each player shall have a number on the player's jersey. The number shall be affixed to the back of the jersey and shall be clearly visible. Each player on a team must wear a number different from the number of every other player on their team.

The official team roster shall include the number of each player's jersey.

No player names on jerseys.

Pennies or targets may be worn over jerseys in the event of a color conflict; subject to the approval of the Referee.

Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams. Undershirts exposed from beneath jerseys should be the same or similar color of the jersey.

Any sponsor's names, logos or other wording/graphics must be approved in advance by the MSA Board.

Socks must cover shin guards and color must be consistent for the team.

Any tape applied must be consistent with the sock color.

Practices:

Three team activities per week including games, practices, scrimmages, classroom training, etc. No single activity shall exceed 120 minutes in duration with the exception for a fifteen (15) minute allowance for warm up prior to the start of physical activity. Weeks are considered Saturday through the following Friday.

Non-soccer related activities such as team parties, team fundraisers, volunteering, etc. are not considered team activities/practices in respect to this rule.

Team/Spectator Seating:

Teams shall be seated on the side of the field having technical area markings and player benches (where installed). Coaches are required to remain within their respective technical areas unless invited onto the field of play by the Referee. Only official team coaches/managers as listed on the game form may be in the technical areas and provide instruction to players. Providing coaching instructions from outside of the technical area is not permitted.

ONLY persons that have been Risk Managed (RM) with North Texas State Soccer Association

(NTSSA) may be permitted on the player's sideline.

Spectators shall be seated in the stands on either side of the field from the teams (in the bleachers that are installed on the large field) and must remain off of stadium ground level during game time.

There shall be NO ACTIVITY in the PENALTY AREA (large box in front of the goal) of the U10-U19 fields pre-game, during halftime or post-game. Teams may be fined \$75 for any such activity by their coaches, players or spectators (this includes children).

There shall be no climbing of trees, fences, goals, nets or other structures not specifically designed for such by any person. There shall be no coaches or spectators behind the goal lines.

Sideline Behavior:

Coaches and spectators should keep all comments positive and supportive of the players. Spectators should refrain from providing playing instructions to the players which should only be done by the coaching staff.

No referee abuse will be tolerated. Coaches may be cautioned or sent off by the referee for behavior in violation of the MSA Code of Conduct by the team's staff, players or their respective spectator sidelines.

ONLY persons that have been Risk Managed (RM) with North Texas State Soccer Association (NTSSA) may be permitted on the player's sideline.

Grounds Clean-Up:

Each team shall clean up their respective areas before leaving.

Match Officials:

All matches are to be officiated by a center referee and two assistant referees.

Coaching:

All persons coaching MSA players must be registered with the club and have an approved background check as well as completed SafeSport certification. Only registered/approved coaches, assistant coaches, trainers and managers may coach games or participate with players during team activities practice. Coaches are only permitted on the field with the referee's permission at a stoppage of play.

ONLY persons that have been Risk Managed (RM) with North Texas State Soccer Association (NTSSA) may be permitted on the player's sideline.

Medical Devices:

All medical devices (casts, supports, braces, etc) are subject to the approval of the referee with respect to player safety. Players with medical devices should have them padded in advance of the game and check in with the referee prior to the match for approval.

Slide Tackles:

Slide tackles are permitted within the Laws of the Game.

Mercy Rule:

There will be a 10 goal mercy rule if the losing coach requests it. The Mercy Rule cannot be applied until the first half has ended. The losing coach must notify the referee at half time if invoking mercy

rule.

Post-Game Sportsmanship:

All players and coaches should congratulate each other for a game well played with handshakes/high fives along the halfway line.

Scores/Standings:

All scores are to be recorded on the game form by the referee and verified by each coach at the conclusion of the match (if a result or score is to be protested the coach should note such on the game forms and must file a protest in writing to MSA within 72 hours). The referee will give the completed forms to the winning team or home team, in case of a tie, at the conclusion of the match.

After each game, the coach in possession of the Game Forms is to phone in the score to MSA Board.

Coaches must maintain the game forms, in their possession, until 30 days after the season is over.

Coaches must provide, to MSA, any game form requested.

Playing Time/Substitutions/Rotations:

All recreational players are required to play at least 50% of each game for which they are present and physically able to play. Organized rotations are very important and coaches should maintain documentation of rotations for each game. Games/coaches will be periodically reviewed for compliance by the club. Coaches found to not be in compliance with this rule are subject to disciplinary review.

Substitutions may be made at any stoppage of play as listed in Law III with the permission of the referee and are unlimited.

Players shall enter the field at the halfway line as the exiting player steps off the field or as otherwise permitted by the referee.

In the event a substitution is requested just as play is to restart or when the substitute is not ready; the referee has the discretion to order play to be restarted despite the request so long as the coach is afforded a substitution at the next opportunity.

The referee may also add time to the match for substitutions made in an effort to waste time.