

Nelson County Soccer Club Rules

Recreational Rules

Article I: Association Standings

There will be no ranking or designation of “season” champions. Post-Season Tournament may be held for U8 and U10 based on vote by the Board.

Article II: Season

The seasonal year for NCSC youth teams shall be from August 1st through July 31st and there shall be two (2) playing seasons during the seasonal year as stated below.

Fall: August-November (approximate)

Spring: March-June (approximate)

Article III: Registration

All players playing on NCSC fields within the in-house league must be NCSC registered players.

Section I: Timing

Fall registration will be thirty (30) days before the draw (approximate start date June 1).

Spring registration will be thirty (30) days before the draw (approximate start date January 1).

Section II: Eligibility

Registration eligibility will be in accordance with Kentucky Youth Soccer Association . Age Groups shall be composed of players born within the date ranges defined by the Kentucky Youth Soccer Association State Rules.

Section III: Registration Basics

Upon registration, a parent and/or guardian will be required to complete, sign, and date an enrollment form and medical release form for each child participating in the NCSC. All applicable fees are expected at the time of registration. The forms will provide general information about each child to facilitate team placement. Parents must supply the last four digits of the players SSN for insurance purposes and must also ensure that a copy of the child’s birth certificate is on file for age verification.

Article IV: Team Size and Make-up

Section I. Age groups

A. Age Groups

NCSC Recreational teams will be aligned into the following groups:

Under 4, Under 6, Under 8, Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, Under 19

B. Recreational Teams

KYSA rules require that team formation be random in nature. All forms of team recruiting and tryouts are specifically prohibited and coaches may have no input into or involvement in the assignment of players to their team. This policy will be strictly enforced to ensure fairness to all players and maintain the integrity of the association.

Section II: Number of Teams

The number of teams in each age group will be determined by the number of eligible participants (players will be assigned according to age before August 1).

Section III: Team Size

Age Group	Minimum	Maximum
U-6	6	8
U-8	8	12
U-10	8	12
U-12	10	18
U-14 & up	13	18

Article V: Coach Selection

Section I: Specifics

1. The child of a coach may be assigned to the coaches' team if the coach desires.
2. A head coach may choose one assistant and his/her child may be placed on the same team. After the draw the head coach may choose another assistant from his drawn team.
3. If there are more coaches than teams, the NCSC Board will decide who will get the position. The Board will make their decision based on integrity, continuity, grade level and number of terms coaching etc.
4. All coaches and assistants are required to have a background check completed before the first practice (to be paid for by the NCSC).

Section II: Coaching Material

The Board will issue to the respective coaches at the coaches meeting at team packet that will include the following information:

- A. Team roster with players names, parent/guardian names and phone numbers, player uniform sizes
- B. Medical Release Forms (which must be completed by a parent/guardian for each player and kept by the coach at all practices and games)
- C. Accident Report Forms
- D. Referee Report Forms
- E. Age Group Playing Rules
- G. List of Board members and contact information

Article VI: Team Assignment of Players

The assignment of eligible players will be in the following manner:

1. Siblings will be placed on the same team, where age appropriate, if desired by parent/guardian (parent/guardian must fill out a request form at an in-person registration) .
2. Playing down will not be allowed.
3. Fall to Spring season only for non traveling teams: If the number of registered players dictates the same number of teams as the previous season players will be assigned to the same team for the following season (whether the coach stays with the team or not). Non traveling teams are redrawn every Fall regardless of number of players registered.
4. If the number of registered players for traveling teams dictates the same number of teams as the previous season players will be assigned to the same team for the following season if still appropriate age group (whether the coach stays with the team or not).
5. If the number of registered players dictates a different number of teams as the previous season new teams will be formed and a complete redraw will take place.
6. All players for the up-coming season who did not play in the previous season will be placed in an open draw. Each existing team will have new players randomly placed on the team from the open draw in the best way possible to maintain team age requirements.
9. If any team formed is illegal according to KYSA Rules (more than 2/3 of the players born in the same year-8/1-7/31) then all players are to be put in the draw and all teams redrawn, if the redraw is the only way to correct the situation. Players may be moved in order to maintain age appropriate percentages.
10. A player may be removed from a roster only by NCSC Board of Director approval. If a player chooses to be removed from a roster they will return to the waiting list.
11. If a player chooses not to return to the same team they will be placed back into the open draw.
12. Children who live outside the NCSC league area will be allowed to sign up with NCSC if they are not already committed to another league.
13. Requests for player placement will not be honored with the exception of the following:
 - U-6 players requesting to be placed on a team with another player for ride purposes or to play with a friend
 - a parent requesting a player **not** be placed on one particular coach's team (requests for players to be placed on a particular coach's team will not be honored)

However, these requests will not be filled if it causes a rule infraction or would involve redrawing teams. All requests must be made each season by filling out a request form at an in-person registration.

Exceptions

In the event of an exceptional, unforeseen circumstance, the Board including the appropriate age group commissioner may make a decision.

Article VII: Late Registration

1. Registrations received after team formation may be placed on a waiting list maintained by the registrar through the second week of play.
2. Anyone not signing up during the scheduled registration times may be placed on the waiting list.
3. Additional players will only be added at the discretion of the board in order to fill teams. The Registrar will assign late registrants to the team with the fewest players: All teams in an age group are numbered. For example, Teams U8-1 thru U8-3 has 10 players. Teams U8-4 and U8-5 have 9 players. If there are 3 late registrations, they will be assigned placing the first one on the list on team U8-4, and the second on team U8-5, and the third on U8-1.
4. Team vacancies will be filled from the waiting list. No team may request a specific player from the list. Under no circumstances should any coach know who or how many are on the waiting list. Under no circumstances will a late registrant be placed on a specific team because the coach asked for them, recruited them to play, coached them before, or for any other reason.

Article VIII: Player Fees

Section I: Registration Fee

A registration fee, established by the NCSC Board will be charged to each player. The fee will be used for uniforms, liability insurance, state and/or national registration fees, balls, goals, nets, field maintenance, and any other accessories or equipment needed to sustain the program. The Club may solicit support from the City of Bardstown, Nelson County Fiscal Court, and the community.

Section II: Refunds

Prior to the first game of each season, refunds will be granted by the NCSC (price of uniform if already ordered will be deducted from refund; insurance fee will be deducted if already paid).

Article IX: Player Participation

Section I: General

It is the intent of the NCSC that every recreational player plays at least two quarters or one half of every game (this includes tournament games).

Section II: Specifics

1. A player may not play at least two quarters of every game if the individual was late to the game. In this case that individual shall play half of the time they are there.
2. Sickness or injury may prevent a player from playing half the game.
3. Any U9 Academy player who does not show to their rec practices/games will not be allowed to participate in the U9 Academy (it is the responsibility of the rec coach to contact the U9 Academy Commissioner to report the player).
4. In order to maintain fairness to other players and safety of all, a coach has discretion to **limit** play (not to exceed more than 75% of game) of those players who do not attend practices/games. In order to do so, the coach must contact the appropriate age group commissioner and the parents of the player prior to the game in order to justify his/her decision to limit playing time. Coaches who limit playing time without commissioner approval and parent notification may be subject to disciplinary action.
5. No player may register or play on more than one team at any level of play.

Article X: Game Rules**Section I: Rules**

The FIFA Laws of the game will be followed as modified by NCSC in the appendices stated below.

(FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at <http://www.ussoccer.com/laws/index.jsp.html>)

1. U14 and above
no modifications
2. U12
see Appendix A
3. U10
see Appendix B
4. U8
see Appendix C
5. U6
see Appendix D

Article XI: Discipline (These rules apply to both the Recreational and Select Programs)**Section I: General**

All coaches, players and spectators will abide by KYSA Rules; NCSC rules and the Nelson County Recreation Department Physical and Verbal Altercation Policy or be held accountable.

Section II: Specifics

1. Any coach that is ejected from a game becomes ineligible to participate in the next game.
2. Any player, coach or spectator that is ejected from a game will leave the NCSC playing field immediately. If they do not, further action will be taken such as calling for police escort and/or their team forfeiting the game.
3. Any person found guilty of violating the NCSC Articles & Bylaws and Rules, the KYSA Constitution, Bylaws, or State Rules may be asked to appear before the Board in order to explain his/her actions.

Section III: Red card policy

1. Any player receiving a red card during any game (regular season or tournament) is subject to additional penalties set forth by the NCSC. board. The penalties may include but are not limited to additional game suspensions, 8hrs service to the league (picking up garbage, concession stand duty, landscape work, etc.)
2. If a player receives a red card preceded by one or two yellow cards being issued the player will sit out the next two regular season games, and the coach will sit out the next regular season game.
3. If a player participates in a game that they have been suspended from the player and coach will be suspended from the league indefinitely.
4. If a coach participates in a game they have been suspended from that coach will be suspended from the league indefinitely.
5. Any spectator that is asked to leave the game for any reason will be bound by the Nelson County Recreation department's "Physical and Verbal Altercation Policy"
6. Any player, coach or spectator may request an appeal of the red card /ejection issue to the NCSC Arbitration Committee.
7. This request must be made in person or by direct phone contact to the President of the league no later than 72 hours after the card is issued
8. A meeting will then be set after the board receives the red card report from the state.

Section IV: Zero Tolerance Against Referee Abuse Policy**NELSON COUNTY SOCCER CLUB ZERO TOLERANCE ON REFEREE ABUSE POLICY****Purpose of this Policy**

1. The purpose of this policy is to make clear that verbal abuse or negative criticism of referees is as unacceptable as verbal abuse or negative criticism of players. This policy adopts basic standard sanctions for improper conduct.
2. This policy is not intended to imply that referees are always "right" and the spectator or coach is always "wrong". Just as players make mistakes during play, referees will make mistakes in officiating, particularly in the younger divisions where they are learning how to referee. Due to a shortage of referees, a referee may be

officiating at a higher level game than they are comfortable with. They must receive positive support from coaches and spectators to continue to grow as an official.

Policy on Referee Abuse

1. It is never acceptable to abuse or criticize referees, verbally or otherwise, in any situation. The Nelson County Soccer Club (NCSC) will not tolerate any verbal or other abuse, or criticism of referee by any coach or spectator. There are appropriate avenues for coaches and spectators to share concerns about the quality of officiating. The NCSC Board of Directors welcomes constructive comments about the referees. The NCSC Board of Directors contact information can be found on the Board of Directors Page at www.nelsoncoyouthsoccer.com.
2. Youth Referees: Although abuse towards any referee will not be tolerated, any abuse towards a youth referee will result in more severe disciplinary actions by the NCSC Review Committee. A Coach or spectator may only communicate in a positive way with a youth referee. The coach is responsible for ensuring all spectators associated with his/her team follow these guidelines relating to communication with a youth referee. A coach/spectator may not express any disagreement or dissatisfaction with the officiating to the youth referee. A coach/spectator may not, before, during, or after a game, discuss with a youth referee their critique of the referee's performance, other than to thank and compliment the referee.
 - a. Any NCSC Board Member or USSF-certified Adult Referee present at the game shall, if necessary, intervene if any coach, spectator, or other adult is criticizing or abusing a youth referee, verbally or otherwise and may take immediate appropriate action. This may include directing the offender to leave the site, and/or suspending or terminating the game.
 - b. Any concerns about the quality of officiating of a youth referee must be addressed to the Referee Assignor or board member.
3. Anyone observing behavior not following these guidelines should immediately report the incident to the NCYSA Board Member on duty so that situation can be handled appropriately. Please report to the concession stand and the Board Member on Duty will be contacted.

Disciplinary Sanctions For Referee Abuse

1. At the discretion of the center referee or NCSC Board Member, a warning may be given, **but is not required**, for a first time violation of this policy. The Center Referee or NCSC Board Member who witnesses any abuse of a referee may remove the offending party from the premises. The Police should be called for anyone who refuses to leave the premises.
2. Any Board Member, upon receipt of any reported abuse of a referee shall report the incident to the NCSC Arbitration Committee, who shall implement appropriate discipline before the next game if possible.
3. The following sanctions will be applied unless modified upon review of the incident by the NCSC Arbitration Committee.

Type of Abuse Recommended Sanction

Criticism, heckling, or verbal abuse of a referee (not including offensive, insulting, or foul-language) First Offense
1 game suspension

Serious verbal abuse of a referee (e.g. using offensive, insulting, or foul language), or repeated offense of less serious abuse.

Minimum 2 game suspension

NCSC Arbitration Committee hearing to consider additional sanctions and/or remedial actions.

Coming onto the field to confront an adult referee.

Minimum 2 game suspension

NCSC Arbitration Committee hearing to consider additional sanctions and/or remedial actions.

Coming onto the field to confront a youth referee.

Minimum 4 game suspension

NCSC Arbitration Committee hearing to consider additional sanctions and/or remedial actions.

A letter of apology to the youth referee.

Any specified form of appropriate apology to the players, coaches, and parents of the teams affected by the conduct.

Threatening any referee (by word or action)

NCSC Arbitration Committee Hearing

Reported to Bardstown/Nelson County Rec Board

4. Egregious offenses (e.g. repeated or multiple abusive situations, physical contact with a referee, or exceptionally inappropriate behavior directed toward a referee) shall result in immediate and continuing suspension of the offending person pending a thorough review. The NCSC Arbitration Committee will determine if further or more serious discipline is warranted. An egregious offense violates the fundamental mission of NCSC and requires strong

action. Discipline may include, but is not limited to, suspension for the season, suspension for multiple seasons, or lifetime coaching bans.

5. These sanctions apply only to the discipline of spectators and coaches. Sanctions necessary for any player will be dealt with using the Red Card Policy from the NCSC Rules.

6. A plea of ignorance to this policy is not sufficient, and violators may expect appropriate action by the NCSC Board of Directors.

7. These sanctions do not limit, prevent, or replace any voluntary or required report or referral of improper conduct, by an adult toward any child, to any law enforcement or child protection agency.

Article XII: Scheduling, Practice, and Games

Section I: Scheduling

The Scheduling Commissioner will prepare all schedules for practices and games. Request for changes, additions, or deletions must be approved by the Scheduling Commissioner.

Section II: Practice

1. Coaches draw for field and practice time at the coaches' meeting.
2. Practice times for U6 will not exceed 45 minutes twice per week.
3. Practice for age groups U8/U10/U12 shall not exceed one hour twice per week.
4. Practice for age groups U14 and up shall not exceed one and one-half hours two days per week.
5. No team may initiate practice until two (2) weeks prior to the first game.
6. If at any time during a practice or game lightning is seen within the area all activity shall be halted and coaches will remove all players from the fields and have them take cover. Practice may resume 30 minutes after the last strike was witnessed. Games will resume 30 minutes after the last strike. If a game has started the second half, it may be called and made official if the delay will cause delays to following games.

Section III: Games

Games will be played as scheduled unless canceled, postponed, terminated, or rescheduled as set forth in these rules. (These rules apply to both Recreational and Select Program games.)

No game shall be played without a NCSC referee and a board member present.

1. Postponement of Games (prior to start of game)
 - a. The Referee(s) in charge of any particular game shall have the authority to postpone said game because of weather conditions or such other special condition(s) affecting the playability of the game with regard to the safety of the players or the preservation of the field.
 - b. Any current Board member shall have the authority to postpone any game because of weather conditions or such other special condition(s) affecting the playability of the game.
 - c. If a game is postponed as set forth above, the individual who postponed the game shall notify the League President. The League President is responsible for notifying the coaches and Referee assignor as soon as possible.
 - d. If any Board member has decided to postpone a game or games, the Referee or coaches cannot alter that decision by forcing play.
 - e. Games that have been postponed due to inclement weather will be played on the approved date, which will be determined by the Scheduling and Referee Commissioners
 - f. When the decision has been made that a game shall be played, and 1) one coach or team refuses to play, that team shall forfeit the game, or 2) both coaches or teams refuse to play, both teams shall forfeit the game.
2. Terminated Games
 - a. The Referee in charge of a particular game shall have the authority to terminate the game, once begun, because of weather conditions or any other special condition(s) which affect the playability of the game with regard to the safety of the players or the preservation of the field, or for reasons of persistent or severe unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the players, coaches, or spectators.

- b. The Referee shall notify the League President of the decision to terminate the game providing the reason(s) for termination, the score at the time of termination, the official game time at the point the game was stopped, cautions and/or ejections administered, and any other details which may be required by the President.
- c. Games terminated for reasons other than unsportsmanlike conduct (weather conditions, field playability, safety of players, etc.) will be replayed in their entirety, unless at least one half (1/2) of the scheduled game has been completed, in which case the score at the point of termination shall be the final result.
- d. Games terminated for reasons of unsportsmanlike conduct shall be reviewed by the Board who will decide whether the game is to be replayed, forfeited, or let stand as played (with the final score to be that at the point of termination). Disciplinary action may be taken if appropriate. The League President shall report the decision to the persons involved within one (1) week of the date of the game in question. The decision may be appealed pursuant to NCSC Articles & Bylaws.

3. Process of Rescheduling Games

- a. The League Scheduler may agree to allow a game to be rescheduled if a request is made by the two head coaches involved. Such a request must be made the Sunday prior to the originally scheduled game.
- b. Rescheduled games must be played within two weeks of the original play date unless authorized by League Scheduler. The two coaches are responsible for notifying the Referee Commissioner and Scheduler by direct phone contact or in person of the cancellation, if other than weather related, the Sunday prior to the day of the game. If not, the game will not be rescheduled (select teams will be charged for referees).

Article XIII: Tournaments

- 1. Tournaments may be played at season end as determined by the board with first and second place trophies.
- 2. The scheduler will conduct a random draw of the teams for tournament seeding. The commissioner for the age group will be present for the draw.

Article XIV: Non-NCSC Teams

All teams and or players playing within the NCSC Recreational and Select Programs or using NCSC fields must be registered with NCSC and conform to all articles & bylaws, rules, and policies.

NCSC Select Rules

Article I: Team Formation

Section 1: Teams formed after Fall 2011

A. Tryout Dates

- a. Tryouts will be held twice a year. Directly following the Spring season for all younger age groups (U10 through U14) and directly following the Fall season for the older age groups (U15 through U18). Tryouts will also be held at this time for any younger age groups for which a team was not formed in the previous season and for any younger teams seeking to add players.
- b. The Select Program Director will, with the approval of the Board, determine tryout dates. These dates will be published per the NCSC Rules.

B. The Process

- a. A combined age group tryout will be organized by NCSC. A minimum of two 90 minutes tryout sessions will be scheduled. All players intending to play for NCSC must attend one tryout session unless give special consideration via a Medical Waiver.
- b. Each player must sign in at the beginning of each session. Upon signing in the player will be issued a numbered jersey. This same numbered jersey will be worn at each session attended by the player.

- c. A registration form and medical release must be completed by the parent or guardian of the participant prior to the beginning of the session. If a player is unable to participate in the tryout because of illness or injury, a Medical Waiver must be submitted (these will be made available at the tryout session).
- d. The tryout format will incorporate a combination of skills based evaluations, speed and agility evaluations, and small sided games to assess players.
- e. A uniform evaluation process will be used to develop a single ranking for the entire age group. In the event of a disagreement between evaluator and coach, a third independent evaluator will be asked to step in to help the board make a final decision.
- f. Prior or current coaches input is of a high value in regards to individual knowledge of a player (e.g. attitude, effort, sportsmanship, attendance) and may be utilized during the evaluation and selection process.
- g. Player evaluations and rankings shall be kept private and known only to those involved in the evaluation and selection process.
- h. All NCSC Select teams will be formed from these tryouts. The number of teams formed will depend on the skill level and number of players trying out.

C. Evaluators

- a. It is the goal of NCSC to provide the most highly qualified, professional, non-biased evaluators available for the tryout. (Evaluators possessing the minimum coaching license required and/or playing experience for the age group they are evaluating will be sought.)
- b. Coaches are encouraged to participate in the tryout process. Ideally coaches will run the session while independent evaluators provide player assessments.
- c. In the event independent evaluators cannot be obtained other NCSC coaches along with the Technical Director and Director of Coaching may be used.

D. Coaches

- a. Those interested in coaching must submit a Coach's Application and Background Check.
- b. Coaches will be selected based on but not limited to the following:
 - Certification/License (U10 must have E; U13 and above must have D)
 - Playing Experience
 - Previous Coaching Experience
 - Service to NCSC
 - Previous Compliments/Complaints received
 - Skill Level of Coach
- c. Approved Coaches will be requested to attend player tryouts.

The NCSC Board makes all final decisions on player and coach assignment and team formation.

Section 2: "Grandfathered Teams"; those teams in existence prior to Fall 2011

A "grandfathered" coach who wishes to continue his/her team for the following playing season must apply to the board in the spring of the current playing season (approximate date May 1). The coach must complete the application form which will include team age, coach's fee, tryout dates. The NCSC Board will determine a schedule of tryouts and field assignments for all teams. The coach will run his/her tryout and select players. The players must attend at least one tryout in order to be selected. A NCSC board member must be present at the tryout.

Article II: Registration

Coaches are responsible for obtaining a birth certificate, recent 1" x 1" full face photograph, signed medical release form from each player and forwarding this information to the Select Program Director who will then obtain player cards for each player.

Article III: Uniform

A committee will be formed to choose the uniform every two years.

- A. This committee will be comprised of one representative from each team, the Select Program Director and the President of the league.
- B. The committee may be comprised of as many members as want to attend but only one member from each team shall have a vote. The Select Program Director and President shall not have a vote unless they are representing a team.
- C. The committee will select the style, color, price and vendor for the uniform.
- D. The committee will then be responsible for presenting a proposal to the NCSC. board which will include a color picture of the uniform with NCSC logo, price and a letter from the vendor guaranteeing the price and availability for 2 years.
- E. The board will elect to accept the proposal or send back to the committee for more information.
- F. If this committee cannot reach a decision by a specified date as set forth by the NCSC. board then the NCSC. board will select the uniform.
- G. Each team will be responsible for supplying the uniform vendor with a list of players names and sizes.
- H. Each team will be responsible for sizing its players.

Article IV: Practices

Practice times and field assignments will be selected by the coach at the coaches' meeting. Coaches not present at this coaches' meeting will choose times and fields based on what remains after the meeting.

Article V: Fees

Player Fees for field maintenance, insurance, referees, and KYSA required fees will be paid to NCYSA by each player before the season starts. The player fees as of Fall 2012 are as follows:

U10 \$200

U11 \$220

U12 \$240

U13 and above \$280

Parents will pay the above fees directly to NCSC.

The coach and/or team manager is responsible for obtaining any additional fees from the parents on his/her team. Additional fees may include but are not limited to tournament fees, coaches' hotel fees, etc. as agreed upon by the team.

All players on a team roster after the KSSL roster due date will be assessed the NCSC player fee--no exceptions. Players must be dropped before April 15 or Sept 15 in order to avoid the charge for player insurance. Players may be added to a team roster as per the KYSA/KSSL rules.

Grandfathered teams: The coach and/or team manager is responsible for obtaining the fees from the parents on his/her team.

Article VI: Team Managers

A team may have a team manager. The team will determine the duties of the team manager. The team manager is the liaison between the coach and the parents of the team. It is not acceptable for the team manager to attend any coaches meeting to represent the coach.

Article VII: Games

Games will be played as scheduled unless canceled, postponed, terminated, or rescheduled as set forth in the NCSC recreational rules and KSSL rules.

APPENDIX A NCSC U12 Recreational Rules***US YOUTH SOCCER***

Revised April 12, 2005

US Youth Soccer Official Under 12 Playing Recommendations

US Youth Soccer recommended modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game.

FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at www.ussoccer.com/referees.**Please note the U12 addendum and appendix.****Law 1 – The Field of Play**

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 70 yards maximum 80 yards

Width: minimum 45 yards maximum 55 yards

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of eight (8) yards is marked around it.

The Goal area: Conform to FIFA.

The Penalty Area: A penalty area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, fourteen (14) yards from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of fourteen (14) 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 ten (10) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of eight (8) yards from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

Flagposts: Conform to FIFA.

The Corner Arc: Conform to FIFA.

Goals: Conform to FIFA with exception that the maximum distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the maximum distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size four (4).**Law 3 – The Number of Players:** A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eight players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven players.

Substitutions: At any stoppage and unlimited.

Law 4 – The Players Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.**Law 5 – The Referee:** Registered referee.**Law 6 – The Assistant Referee:** Use U.S.S.F. registered referees or club linesmen/women.**Law 7 – The Duration of the Match:** Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.**Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play:** Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.**Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play:** Conform to FIFA.**Law 10 – The Method of Scoring:** Conform to FIFA.**Law 11 – Offside:** Conform to FIFA.**Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct:** Conform to FIFA with the exception that an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the center spot on the halfway line if a

goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball in the air from his/her penalty area into the opponents penalty area.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents are at least eight (8) yards from the ball.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that the penalty mark is at ten yards and that players other than the kicker and defending goalkeeper are at least eight (8) yards from the penalty mark.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards away from the ball until it is in play.

PLEASE ALSO READ THE U12 ADDENDUM AND APPENDIX (found on the KYSA website).

APPENDIX B NCSC U10 Recreational Rules**Nelson County Soccer Club
Official Under 10 Playing Recommendations**

Note: These are US Youth Soccer recommended rules for U-10 except for NCSC modifications to Law 10 and 12.

FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at

<http://www.ussoccer.com/laws/index.jsp.html>.

Please note the U10 addendum and appendix (found on the KYSA website).

Law 1 – The Field of Play

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 45 yards maximum 60 yards

Width: minimum 35 yards maximum 45 yards

Dimensions are smaller to accommodate the six versus six game and are appropriate for the movement capabilities of eight- and nine-year-old children. These adjusted dimensions provide more practical space allowing players to be successful.

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of eight (8) yards is marked around it.

The penalty area is marked, but is smaller than the adult field size penalty area and within the penalty area is the penalty mark which is four yards shorter than the adult size field marking. The center circle is two yards smaller in radius than the adult size field marking. All other markings are per FIFA.

The Goal Area: Conform to FIFA.

The goal, 6 x 18 feet, is the same for the U10 and U12 age groups. By using the same size goal for both age groups clubs will have to buy fewer goals.

The Penalty Area: A penalty area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, ten (10) yards from the inside of each goal post. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of ten (10) 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 eight (8) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of eight (8) yards from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

Flag posts: Conform to FIFA.

The Corner Arc: Conform to FIFA.

Goals: Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corner flag posts and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The maximum distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the maximum distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet. Safety: Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size four (4).

The smaller ball is lighter and more easily kicked, received, dribbled and passed.

Law 3 – The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than six players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match

may not start if either team consists of fewer than five players.

The six-a-side game now includes the goalkeeper. The smaller number of field players will provide the opportunity for the children to further develop their physical and technical abilities. These are valuable traits for all soccer players to develop. With fewer players on the field each child has an increased number of contacts with the ball and has more actual playing time. Additionally the players will be required to make more decisions and experience repeating game situations more frequently. The work rate and involvement of players will be more consistent. While learning both offense and defense, players will become well rounded and will understand more readily the roles and importance of teammates. The need for the players to make the mental and physical transition from offense to defense and vice-versa will be enhanced in this playing environment. The minimum number of players to begin a match for preteen players in SSG should be one (1) less than the number required on the field. That is for U12 the minimum will be seven (7) and for U10 the minimum will be five (5). There should not be a minimum for U8 and U6 and clubs, administrators, coaches and referees should be encouraged to allow players from the team with sufficient numbers to 'loan' a player or two to the team that is short players and then PLAY.

Substitutions: At any stoppage and unlimited.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time (except as stated in NCSC Article IX Section 2).

Law 4 – The Players' Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5 – The Referee: Registered referee, especially Grade 9. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Clubs are urged to use this age group as a field training opportunity for Grade 9 Recreational Referees. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 –The Assistant Referees: Not required. May use club linesmen/women if desired.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) equal halves of twenty-five (25) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – No score kept during the regular season. Score will be kept for all U-10 tournament games conforming to FIFA rules if played at the end of the current season.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all opponents are at least eight (8) yards from the ball.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that the penalty mark is made eight (8) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 18 -- A direct kick into the goal during a kick-off will not count as a goal scored.

PLEASE ALSO READ THE U10 ADDENDUM AND APPENDIX (found on the KYSA website).

APPENDIX C NCSC U8 Recreational Rules**Nelson County Soccer Club Official Under 8 Playing Recommendations**

Note: These are US Youth Soccer recommended rules for U-8 except for NCSC modifications to Law 3 and 10.

FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at

<http://www.ussoccer.com/laws/index.jsp.html>.

Please note the U8 addendum and appendix (found on the KYSA website).

Law 1 – The Field of Play

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 45 yards maximum 60 yards

Width: minimum 35 yards maximum 45 yards

Dimensions are smaller to accommodate the six versus six game and are appropriate for the movement capabilities of six and seven year old children. These adjusted dimensions provide more practical space allowing players to be successful.

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of four (4) yards is marked around it.

The center circle gives the players a concrete marking on where to be for the kick-off. The corner arc gives the young player a concrete place to put the ball to kick it back onto the field of play. While kids this young will execute corner kick plays to a modest degree taking a kick from the corner is a reasonable way for them to put the ball into play and provides continuity with all other age groups. However, the center circle and the corner arc for U8 Small Sided Games are not mandatory field markings.

The Goal Area: A goal area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line three (3) yards from the inside each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of three (3) 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 goal area.

The goal, 6 x 18 feet or smaller. By using the same size goal for these age groups clubs will have to buy fewer goals and there will be greater flexibility in the use of fields. A big goal should mean a few more goals for kids whose shooting technique is primitive along with their eye-foot coordination. Let's give them the broad side of the barn at which to shoot, the more goals the merrier. Finally the shooting odds for the U8 age group are one versus seven, so let's give them a chance by having a larger target. However, manufactured goals are not mandatory for U8 Small Sided Games. Clubs are free to use cones, pop-up goals or other items to designate the goal for this age group. Any goal must be properly anchored to the ground.

The Penalty Area: none.

Flagposts: Conform to FIFA

The Corner Arc: Conform to FIFA.

Goals: Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corners and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The recommended distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet. Goals may be smaller in dimension.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size three (3).

The smaller ball is lighter and more easily kicked, received, dribbled and passed.

Law 3 – The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than six players. One of whom is the goalkeeper.

Substitutions: At any stoppage of play and unlimited.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time (except as stated in NCSC Article IX Section 2).

There are 6 players (including goal keeper) in the U8 age group so that all of the players may chase the ball around the field. The kids want to be where the action is and at this age it is around the ball. This will provide the opportunity for the children to further develop their running, jumping and kicking coordination. These are valuable traits for all soccer players to develop. The smaller number of players takes into account the egocentrism of this age group and therefore allows each child more opportunities for shooting, passing and dribbling the ball. With fewer players on the field each child has an increased number of contacts with the ball and has more actual playing time. Additionally the players will be required to make more decisions and experience repeated game situations frequently. The involvement of players will be more consistent. While learning both offense and defense, players will become well rounded and will understand more readily the roles and importance of teammates. Children in the U8 age group will intentionally play in pairs. The smaller number of players on the field will make it easier and more likely that passing and receiving will occur. There should not be a minimum number of players for U8 and U6 and clubs, administrators, coaches and referees should be encouraged to allow players from the team with sufficient numbers to 'loan' a player or two to the team that is short players and then PLAY.

Law 4 – The Players' Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5 – The Referee: A Grade 9 referee will be provided by NCSC. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player. It is strongly recommended that the person officiating the U8 game attend the Grade 9 referee course.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees: None.

None are needed.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: The match shall be divided into four (4) equal, twelve (12) minute quarters. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarters one and two and another two (2) minute break between quarters three and four. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

The game is divided into four quarters. Clubs may make the quarters shorter in duration if necessary. Quarters are played in the U8 age group to accommodate the attention span and physical limitations of the children.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA, with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – No score kept during the regular season. Score will be kept for all U-8 tournament games conforming to FIFA rules if played at the end of the current season.

Shall conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

There shall be no offside called during these games.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL

infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

No caution or send off shall be issued to players. If a child is being too rambunctious then the game official will ask the coach to make a substitution of that player to give the child a chance to calm down before returning to play.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all kicks are direct and all opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play. *All free kicks shall be direct. This will keep the game flowing and keep the attention of the kids.*

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: None. *There will not be any penalty kicks called.*

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA with the exception that an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken once.

The Throw-In: some U8 players do not yet have the eye-hand coordination to execute a throw-in to the letter of the law. However, some U8 players have sufficient eye-hand coordination to attempt the throw-in. One 'doover' per thrower should be the normal response if the throw-in is incorrect. The referee officiating the match should explain to the child how to execute the throw-in correctly.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents must remain outside the goal area and at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

The defending players must stand at least four yards away from the ball until it is in play. The ball is in play once it has left the goal area.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

The defending players must stand at least four yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 18 -- A direct kick into the goal during a kick-off will not count as a goal scored.

PLEASE ALSO READ THE U8 ADDENDUM AND APPENDIX (found on the KYSA website).

APPENDIX D NCSC U6 Recreational Rules**Nelson County Soccer Club****Official Under 6 Playing Recommendations**

Note: These are US Youth Soccer recommended rules for U-6 except for NCSC modifications to Law 3, 10, 15, 16 and 17.

Please also read the U6 addendum (found on the KYSA website).

Law 1 – The Field of Play:

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 20 yards maximum 30 yards

Width: minimum 15 yards maximum 25 yards

The dimensions are smaller to accommodate the four-versus-four game and are appropriate for the movement capabilities of four- and five-year-old children. These adjusted dimensions provide more practical space allowing players to be successful.

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of four (4) yards is marked around it.

The center circle gives the players a concrete marking on where to be for the kick-off. However, the center circle and the corner arc for U6 Small Sided Games are not mandatory field markings. Cones may be used in lieu of corner flag posts if desired. Neither cones nor corner flag posts to mark the corners of the field are mandatory for this age group.

The Goal Area: None.

The Penalty Area: None.

Flagposts: None.

The Corner Arc: Conform to FIFA.

Goals: Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corners and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The recommended distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet. Goals may be smaller in dimension.

The goal, 6 x 18 feet or smaller, is the same for the U6 to U8 age groups. By using the same size goal for these age groups clubs will have to buy fewer goals and there will be greater flexibility in the use of fields. A big goal without a goalkeeper should mean a few more goals for kids whose shooting technique is primitive along with their eye-foot coordination. Let's give them the broad side of the barn at which to shoot, the more goals the merrier. Finally the shooting odds for the U6 age group are one versus five, so let's give them a chance by having a larger target. However, manufactured goals are not mandatory for U6 Small Sided Games. Clubs are free to use cones, pop-up goals or other items to designate the goal for this age group. Indeed, even the entire goal line could be considered the 'goal' and a ball kicked over the goal line is considered a goal. Any goal must be properly anchored to the ground.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size three (3).

The smaller ball is lighter and more easily kicked, received, dribbled and passed.

Law 3 – The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than four players. There are NO goalkeepers.

Substitutions: At any stoppage and unlimited.

Unlimited substitutions will be allow. Substitutions may take place at any stoppage. Substitutions enter from midfield when beckoned by the referee.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. (except as stated in NCSC Article IX Section 2).

There are no goalkeepers in the U6 age group so that all of the players may chase the ball around the field. The kids want to be where the action is and at this age it is around the ball. This will provide the opportunity for the children to further develop their running, jumping and kicking coordination. These are valuable traits for all soccer players to develop. The smaller number of players takes into account the egocentrism of this age group and therefore allows each child more opportunities for kicking and dribbling the ball. With fewer players on the field each child has an increased number of contacts with the ball and has more actual playing time. Additionally the players will be required to make more decisions and experience repeating game situations frequently. The work rate and involvement of players will be more consistent. While learning both offense and defense, players will become well rounded and will understand more readily the roles and importance of teammates. There should not be a minimum for U8 and U6 and clubs, administrators, coaches and referees should be encouraged to allow players from the team with sufficient numbers to 'loan' a player or two to the team that is short players and then PLAY.

Law 4 – The Players Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5 – The Referee: An OFFICIAL (Game Manager or Coordinator or Parent or Coach or Grade 9 referee) may be used. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

A referee is provided by NCYSA for this age group. If a referee is not available a parent or a coach should supervise the game for safety sake. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player. 'Do-overs' should be a regular occurrence allowed by the adult(s) supervising the U6 game. It is strongly recommended that the referee officiating the U6 game attend the Grade 9 referee course.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees: None.

None are needed.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: The match shall be divided into four (4) equal, eight (8) minute quarters. There shall be two (2) minute break between quarters one and two and another two (2) minute break between quarters three and four. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes.

The game is divided into four quarters. Each quarter will start off with a kick off. Clubs may make the quarters shorter in duration if necessary. Quarters are played in the U6 age group to accommodate the attention span and physical limitations of the children.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA, with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – No score is kept.

No score or standings should be kept.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

There shall be no offside called during these games.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

No caution or send off shall be issued to

players. If a child is being too rambunctious then the game official will ask the coach to make a substitution of that player to give the child a chance to calm

down before returning to play.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all free kicks are direct and opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

All free kicks shall be direct. This should keep the game flowing and keep the attention of the kids.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: None.

For this age group there will not be any penalty kicks called.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Players will have the opportunity to throw the ball in, may repeat until throw is correct.

Players will have the opportunity to throw the ball in, may repeat until throw is correct.

Opposing players should be at least 4 yards from the throw-in.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: The goal kick should be taken on the goal line anywhere across the width of the field of play at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved. Opposing players must be four (4) yards away from the ball until it is in play.

The kick should be allowed to be taken from anywhere along the goal line over which the ball has traveled. This is so the ball can be put back into play quickly. The ball should be on the goal line to make it easier for the child taking the goal kick to get the ball well into the field of play once it is kicked. The defending players must stand at least four yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 17 – No Corner Kicks

Corner Kicks are throw-ins. Opposing players should be at least 4 yards from the throw-in.

Law 18 -- A direct kick into the goal during a kick-off will not count as a goal scored.

Law 19 -- Coaches: There will be one coach from each team on the field at all times to help the players.

Law 20 -- Coin Toss: The winner of the coin toss chooses which goal to attack. The loser of the coin toss kicks off.

ADVANTAGES OF PLAYING SMALL SIDED GAMES

More time with the coach/facilitator

Energetic workouts due to playing both offense and defense

More efficient use of field space

Matches can be played simultaneously across a full size field

Children are physically more efficient in smaller space

Children are actively involved for a longer period of time

It takes less time to score a goal or advance to goal

Greater success rate for the players

US Youth Soccer Recommendations

Opposing coaches, players and parents should shake hands after each match.

Parent/coaches, non-participating players and spectators should be there to enjoy and encourage the activity of the youngsters.

Spectator and team benches should be on opposite sides of the field.

No alcoholic beverages or tobacco products will be consumed or allowed near the playing area.

No slide tackles to be allowed in this age group.

Coaches of U6 teams should attend the U6/U8 Youth Module coaching course and the Grade 9 referee course.