



WSYSA - RULES OF COMPETITION

Rule 300. OUTDOOR/FIELD

INTRODUCTION

All competitions shall be governed by the RULES as stated herein in all cases where they are applicable and where they are not in conflict with the WSYSA Constitution and By-Laws. All affiliated members of WSYSA shall be governed by these Rules of Competition.

RULE 301 - RULES OF PLAY

All games and competitions under the jurisdiction of the WSYSA shall be conducted subject to the "Laws of the Game" as published or authorized for publication by FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association), with those modifications published by WSYSA.

301.1 FIELD OF PLAY

(a) The following specifications are applicable to all competitions administered by the WSYSA. These WSYSA standards are recommended for league play administered by Member Associations; they are not mandatory.

Recommended field dimensions

Under-11 and below: 50 yards wide x 90 yards long minimum.
 Under-12 and above: 50 yards wide x 100 yards long minimum.

(b) Acceptable deviations from Law of the "Laws of the Game" (FIFA) for goalposts shall be: plus/minus 6-inches in width; plus/minus 3-inches in height from inside measurements.

301.2 GAME DURATION, OVERTIME PERIODS and BALL SIZE

Age Group	Game Duration	Ball Size	Circumference	Weight
Under – 19	Two 45 min. halves	# 5	27" – 28"	14 – 16 oz
Under – 17	Two 45 min. halves	# 5	27" – 28"	14 – 16 oz
Under – 16	Two 40 min. halves	# 5	27" – 28"	14 – 16 oz
Under – 15	Two 40 min. halves	# 5	27" – 28"	14 – 16 oz
Under – 14	Two 35 min. halves	# 5	27" – 28"	14 – 16 oz
Under – 13	Two 35 min. halves	# 5	27" – 28"	14 – 16 oz
Under – 12	Two 30 min. halves	# 4	25" – 26"	11 – 13 oz
Under – 11	Two 30 min. halves	# 4	25" – 26"	11 – 13 oz

Overtime Periods	
U-15 through U-19	2 x 15 minute halves
U-11 through U-14	2 x 10 minute halves

301.3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS

(a) Each team will have a limit of eighteen (18) registered players. No team shall be allowed to have fewer than eleven (11) registered players. (Exception: General Procedures, Rule 4.3.4a).

(b) Any coach, manager or official found guilty of knowingly using an ineligible player(s) (over-age, improperly registered, or under judicial suspension) shall not be eligible to compete further in the current and subsequent seasonal year.

301.4 SUBSTITUTIONS

(a) Substitutions maybe made, with the consent of the referee:

- (1) Prior to a throw-in, in your favor.
- (2) Prior to a goal kick, by either team.
- (3) After a goal, by either team.
- (4) After an injury, when the referee stops play, by either team.
- (5) At half-time.
- (6) When the referee stops play to caution player, only the cautioned player may be substituted, prior to the game's restart.

(b) The number of substitutes shall be unlimited unless a competition superceding the jurisdiction of this Association determines otherwise; special competitions may be more restrictive.

(c) Players not on the field of play must remain two (2) yards behind the touchline and not within 18 yards from the corner of the field.

(d) "A cautioned player shall be substituted for immediately and not return until the next legal substitution."

301.5 PLAYER'S EQUIPMENT

(a) All players on the field must be attired in matching uniforms to the satisfaction of the referee. A proper uniform consists of shorts, jersey, socks, shin guards, and legal soccer shoes. In case of a color clash, the designated home team will change jerseys.

(b) All or any member(s) of any team are permitted to wear extra protective clothing, including gloves, without dangerous, protruding or hard objects, against the cold, provided that:

- (1) The proper team uniform is worn outermost.
 - (2) Any hat should be without peak, bill, and dangling or protruding object of any kind; however, the goalkeeper may wear a soft-billed hat.
 - (3) Referee discretion may be used to determine if an item of protective clothing is considered to go beyond the purpose of providing a means of retaining body heat.

(c) No player shall be allowed to play in any regularly scheduled game with an injury which can be aggravated by playing or which constitutes a danger to others. No player wearing a cast or splint shall be permitted to play in any regularly scheduled game.

(d) Protective orthopedic or prosthetic devices may be worn provided that:

(1) The device is properly fitted and approved by a physician.

(2) There is no protruding metal.

(3) A letter from the physician, stating that the players' involvement is permitted, is on file with the WSYSA office.

(4) A properly executed release and indemnity agreement signed by the parents or guardians of the player is on file with the WSYSA office.

(5) The player has in his/her possession a letter from the WSYSA office stating the above documents have been received.

(6) The referee of the game determines that the device does not pose a danger to either the player or to others.

(e) Any pre-existing condition, which means an injury sustained for which treatment or services are first rendered or recommended prior to the injury for which a claim is made under the WSYSA Insurance Policy, will be excluded from coverage unless a physician's written permission to participate is furnished prior to the covered activity. This exclusion is applicable to physical, mental and emotional disorders.

301.6 OFFICIATING

(a) A referee shall be appointed to officiate each game with the authority assigned to him as specified in the "Laws of the Game" (FIFA). Officiating of all games will be governed by the Rules of Play and the Rules of Competition.

(b) Failure of a scheduled referee to show up will not be the cause for canceling the match. A substitute official must be chosen upon agreement by both coaches and his decisions will be final.

301.7 CHARGING THE GOALKEEPER

(a) The following rule applies to all competitions under the jurisdiction of the WSYSA:

(b) In all Under-11 age groups and below: No player shall make physical contact with the goalkeeper, or attempt to play the ball once the goalkeeper has control of the ball in any manner and to any degree whatsoever.

(c) In all Under-12 age groups and above: No player shall make physical contact with the goalkeeper WITHIN THE GOAL AREA, harass the goalkeeper, or attempt to play the ball once the goalkeeper has control of the ball in any manner and to any degree whatsoever. For infringement of this special Rule, an indirect kick shall be awarded.

(d) Note: Also included in "having control of the ball" is, if the goalkeeper holds the ball on the ground with one or both hands.

301.8 COACHING

(a) Coaching from the sidelines - giving direction to one's own team on points of strategy and position - is permitted, provided:

- (1) Neither mechanical nor electronic devices are used
- (2) The tone of voice is informative and not a harangue

(b) Each coach, substitute, or player is to remain within the coaching area (2 yards behind the touchline, and not within 18 yards from the corner of the field).

(c) No coach, substitute, or player is to make derogatory remarks or gestures to the referees, other players, substitutes or spectators.

(d) No coach, substitute, or player is to use profanity.

(e) No coach, substitute, or player is to incite, in any manner, disruptive behavior of any kind.

(f) If the above rules are violated, the referee shall ask the offending party for compliance with the rules. The referee may file a written report with the Board of Directors responsible for the match.

(g) In the event that compliance is not received from the offending party, the referee shall ask the offending party to leave the playing area. If this request is made, the referee must file a written report with the Board of Directors responsible for the match. If the offending party refuses to leave the playing area, or returns after leaving, the referee shall abandon the match and file a written report of the game abandonment with the Board of Directors responsible for the match.

(h) It shall be the responsibility of each team to maintain proper spectator conduct. Each coach, manager and team, club or league official shall be held primarily accountable for the conduct of the spectators for or from their respective teams. **At no time shall foul or abusive language be permitted at any field.**

301.9 RESTARTING PLAY AFTER AN INJURY

In the case of a temporary suspension due to an injury or any unusual situation, if one team is clearly in possession of the ball, the game shall be restarted by an indirect free kick by the team in possession of the ball at the point where the ball was when play was suspended. Should there not be clear possession at the time play is suspended due to an injury or any unusual situation, there will be a drop ball at the spot where the ball was declared dead.
