

# MLS Go Moraine Youth Soccer Rules

FIFA Soccer Laws used except for the following:

## MOST IMPORTANT RULE:

- This program focuses on teaching kids the fundamentals of soccer and the importance of teamwork, respect, and sportsmanship while having fun.

## Equipment:

- All players must wear shin guards during practices and games.
- Players may wear rubber cleats or gym shoes.
- No jewelry of any kind.
- We will use a #3 size ball for ages 3-6 and a #4 size ball for ages 7-9.

## Game Play:

- For ages 3-6 games will consist of four, 8-minute quarters with a running clock with 4-minute breaks in between each quarter.
- For ages 7-9 games will consist of two, 25-minute halves with a 10-minute halftime.
- Substitutions are unlimited and can occur at any stoppage of the game.
- Officials will be provided for all age groups.
- Each player must play at least 50% of the game.

## Corner/Goal Kicks:

- A ball kicked past the end line will result in the following:
  - o If last touched by a defensive player, the opposite team will kick in from the nearest corner.
  - o If last touched by an offensive player, the opposite team will kick in from their goal box.

## Throw Ins:

- Any time the ball crosses the sideline a throw-in or a kick-in/dribble-in by the opposing team will restart play for ages 3-6.
- Any time the ball crosses the sideline a throw-in by the opposing team will restart play for ages 7-9.
- A correct throw uses both hands on the ball from behind the head, both feet on the ground behind the sideline and becomes in play as soon as the ball crosses the sideline.
- The ball must touch another player first and cannot be thrown directly in the goal.

## Build-Out-Line:

- The purpose of the build-out line is to allow players more time and space with the ball at their feet near their own goal (to build out of the back in a less pressured setting).
- Ages 3-6 the build-out line should be 5-7 yards from the goal line.
- Ages 7-9 the build-out should be between the penalty area line and halfway line.
- Prior to a goal kick, the opposing team must move behind the build-out line.
- Once the opposing team is behind the build-out line, play can restart.
- After the ball is put into play, the opposing team can cross the build-out line and play resumes as normal.

## Fouls:

- Fouls will be called at the referee's discretion and the infringed player will have an indirect kick.
- No penalty shots for ages 3-6.
- Penalty shots for ages 7-9.
- Heading or head balls are not allowed in both age divisions.
- Continued rough play will result in that player sitting out immediately. **NO SLIDE TACKLING IS ALLOWED!**
- When the goalkeeper has possession of the ball, the opposing team cannot charge or make contact with the goalkeeper.

## Number of Players/Positions:

- **The 3-4 Division: 3 v. 3 no goalie.**
- **The 5-6 Division: 4 v. 4 no goalie.**
- **The 7-9 Division: 7 v. 7 with goalie.**
- Players should try to remain in their given position on the field.
- There will be no offside penalties.

Weather:

- We will cancel if the fields are not in safe condition or if there is thunder/lightening. Rain does not automatically mean practices or games are canceled.
- Please do NOT cancel practice on your own. We will make the call by 4 pm for practices and as soon as we can on game days (Saturdays).

*Updated 3/14/24*

