



# Palmetto Bay Soccer Rules

All games will be played according to FIFA Rules, except as otherwise indicated below:

1. **Game Length:**

- |                                                                   |                   |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| • Pre-K: four (4) 8 minute quarters                               | Ages (3-4 yrs.)   | <b>4U</b>  |
| • Kinder: four (4) 10 minute quarters                             | Ages (5 yrs.)     | <b>6U</b>  |
| • 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade: four (4) 10 minute quarters              | Ages (6 yrs.)     | <b>8U</b>  |
| • 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> : four (4) 10 minute quarters | Ages (8-9 yrs.)   | <b>10U</b> |
| • 4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> : two (2) 25 minute halves     | Ages (10-11 yrs.) | <b>12U</b> |

2. **Game Format:**

- |                                       |         |                    |                                                          |            |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| • Pre-K :                             | 4 vs. 4 | Size Goals: 4 x 6  | <b>(No goalkeepers will be used in this grade group)</b> | <b>4U</b>  |
| • Kinder :                            | 6 vs. 6 | Size Goals: 5 x 10 | (5 players on the field and 1 goalkeeper)                | <b>6U</b>  |
| • 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade:              | 6 vs. 6 | Size Goals: 5 x 10 | (5 players on the field and 1 goalkeeper)                | <b>8U</b>  |
| • 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> : | 7 vs. 7 | Size goals: 6 x 12 | (6 players on the field and 1 goalkeeper)                | <b>10U</b> |
| • 4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> :  | 8 vs. 8 | Size Goals: 6 x 12 | (7 players on the field and 1 goalkeeper)                | <b>12U</b> |

3. **Ball Size & Field size:**

- |                                       |        |                 |            |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|------------|
| • Pre-K :                             | Size 3 | 25 yds x 20 yds | <b>4U</b>  |
| • Kinder :                            | Size 3 | 40 yds x 35 yds | <b>6U</b>  |
| • 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade:              | Size 3 | 40 yds x 35 yds | <b>8U</b>  |
| • 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> : | Size 4 | 60 yds x 45 yds | <b>10U</b> |
| • 4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> :  | Size 4 | 60 yds x 45 yds | <b>12U</b> |

4. All games have a (5) five minute half time. There is no overtime.

5. Coaches and players should be at the field at least 30 minutes before game time. Games will start promptly at the scheduled times. If for whatever reason a game is delayed beyond the starting time, the length of the delay will be subtracted from the total playing time. Games are only forfeited after 30 minutes of the start time if a team does not have 5 players. A shortened game will be played if the team is late. Our goal is to give the players that are present an opportunity to play.

6. If there are fewer than the required # of players at the time the game is to start, the following shall be done to start the game on time:

- Start with an equal number of players including the goalkeeper, EX. (4v4, 5v5, 6v6) which can be fielded by the team with the fewest players.
- A soccer game will not start with less than 2 players per side (including the goalkeeper). As the players arrive they may be inserted into the game until the correct numbers of participants are all on the field.
- Exception: this rule does not apply to 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade divisions during tournament playoffs.
- During tournament play all players do not have to play ½ the game. A new rule sheet will be passed out for Jamboree tournament play at the end of the season. (If there's a Jamboree Tournament)

7. **Coaches are responsible for ensuring that all team members play at least half of the game.**

**\* This rule will not be applied during tournament games, ONLY for regular season games.**

8. Every child must wear shin guards. **( NO EXCEPTIONS )**

9. Coaches are not permitted on the field during a game. Exception: **PK3/PK4 ONLY - one coach per team** and one referee are permitted on the field. **Coaches are not allowed in the penalty area. PK& Kinder division players must be at least 1 foot of the goal box/penalty area when playing defense. They cannot stand inside the box.**

10. **Off-sides** will be enforced in the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade divisions.

11. Substitution Rule for Kinder-5<sup>th</sup> divisions: Players may be substituted only when the Referee has stopped play. Substitutions are unlimited. Substitutions may be made at the following times and requires the official's permission:

- By the offensive team prior to a throw-in the team's favor;
- Prior to a goal kick, by either team;
- After an injury, by either team, when the Referee has stopped play;
- Between periods and after a goal is scored by either team.

12. Two registered and one team parent can be on the sideline with the team. All others must sit or stand on the opposite side of the field at least 3 feet from the sideline. Parents, Coaches, and spectators are not permitted near or behind the goal area.

13. Officials will be scheduled for all divisions. **Coaches may not question official's calls during or after a game. Coaches may only give technical instruction to their players.** Both coaches are responsible for calling their Soccer Program Director

if a red card is given and a player or coach is ejected. If you have any serious concerns with the officiating you may submit them in writing to the Soccer Program Director.

14. Substitutions for the goalkeeper may not be made on penalty kicks. The goalkeeper that was in the goal at the time of the infraction must face the penalty kick. This will be enforced during jamboree tournament.
15. Score is not kept and there are no standings for all divisions.
16. **ZERO TOLERANCE will be applied against abusive coaches & parents. The league will not tolerate coaches or parents who get out of control during game times.**

#### **Prior to the Start of the Game**

1. It is suggested that players and coaches arrive at the field (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the match.
2. Our goal is to start each game on-time. The officials will begin the clock at the scheduled start time. In the event that either team is not ready to begin, this time will be lost from the total playing time.
3. A minimum of **(3) players and a goalkeeper per side** is required to begin a match. Officials will delay the start of the game up to 20 minutes in the event that one side does not have an adequate number of players. Following this period, the match will be considered a **forfeit**.
4. In the event that one side does not have the full compliment of players at the scheduled start time of the match, the following procedure will be followed to start the game on time and ensure a fair match:
  - The game will begin with each team fielding the same number of players.
  - As players arrive from the short-sided team, participants will join the match until the full compliment for both teams is on the pitch.
  - Participants from other teams in the league ARE NOT permitted to join the game in order to aide a short-sided squad.

#### **Seating**

The appropriate seating area for all spectators will be delineated by a painted line running the length of the field. This line will be 5 yards off the playing surface and spectators will not be permitted to sit between this line and the sideline. This is for the safety of the spectators and the participants. In addition, no spectators are permitted behind the end-line and the goal area. Players, coaches, and one team coordinator are to be seated on the opposite sideline from the spectators. Officials will not allow the game to begin (or continue) while participants, coaches, or spectators are not seated in the correct area.

#### **Uniform & Equipment**

In each grade division, players are required to wear the complete team uniform. Participants that are out of uniform will not be permitted to play in the game. In addition, for the safety of all participants, each player is required to wear shin guards and rubber soled cleats.

#### **Playing Time Requirement**

Coaches are required to play every member of their squad a minimum of ½ the game. It is suggested that coaches rotate players equally and allow each participant to play a variety of positions the duration of the game.

#### **Coaches on the Field:**

Coaches are required to remain on the sideline the duration of the match. There are (2) exceptions to this rule:

1. Coaches in the Pre-K division are permitted to enter the field of play. The purpose for this exception is to allow the coach to instruct his/her young players and to organize the team during stoppage of play. It is expected that the coach will not interfere with the flow of the match. Coaches that do impede play will be moved to the sideline for the duration of the match.
2. In the event of injury to a player, the coach may enter the field of play (in all grade divisions) AFTER the official has stopped play.

#### **Officiating**

It is understood that our league officials are **impartial** and their main interest is the **safety** of the participants on the field. In all league games it is important for each coach to illustrate to their players the authority of the officials and to treat them with respect. With these points in mind, it is expected that all coaches will refrain from questioning calls, questioning the authority of the officials, or questioning the integrity of the officials. Players, coaches, and spectators are to refrain from addressing the officials during league games. For the safety of all involved, those who are unable to follow this directive will be asked to leave the game. Individuals that routinely have an issue with this point will face suspension and/or expulsion from the league. Individuals that have comments or concerns regarding the officiating of a game are encouraged to find a league officer during the game and/or to file a complaint with the league director.

#### **Scoring and Standings**

All league games do not have an official/ recognized score kept. Coaches ARE expected to keep an informal tally of the score in order to keep the match pleasurable for both sides. The league encourages coaches to refrain from "running up the score" on their opponent. Coaches whose teams have a goal differential of 3 or more on their opponent should manage their players in such a way that the focus is removed from scoring additional goals and emphasis is placed on developing another skill or facet of the game.

**NOTE: All coaches are responsible for the CONDUCT/LANGUAGE of their players, parents, and spectators. All coaches are to emphasize fair play and sportsmanship.**

