

## **U11-12 Modified Rules**

### **GSPAA – Club Program Under 11-12 Playing Recommendations**

GSPAA recommended modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game.

FIFA Laws of the Game can be found at

<http://www.fifa.com/aboutfifa/footballdevelopment/technicalsupport/refereeing/laws-of-the-game/>

**Law 1 - The Field of Play:** (Girls) dimensions are smaller (80 yards by 55 yards) to accommodate the 8-versus-8 game and are appropriate for the movement capabilities of this age group. These adjusted dimensions provide more practical space allowing players to be successful. (Boys play 100 x 65 maximum)

**Field Markings:** (Girls) the goal area is smaller than the adult size goal area and is proportional to the U12 field of play. 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 two 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.

**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 (girls = 8, boys = 11) players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than (girls = 7, boys = 10) players.

**Substitutions:** At any stoppage and unlimited, but at referee's discretion.

**Playing time:** Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.

**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. All rule infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

**Law 6 – The Assistant Referees:** Not required.

**Law 7 – The Duration of the Match:** Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) equal 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, (Girls) 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. (Boys = 10 yards, per FIFA)

**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, (Girls) 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 half of the field.

**Law 13 – Free Kicks:** Conform to FIFA with the exception that all opponents are at least (Girls = 8, Boys = 10) yards from the ball.

**Law 14 – The Penalty Kick:** Conform to FIFA, (Girls) 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, (Girls) with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards from the ball until it is in play.

**Other Considerations:**

- Playing Time: A minimum of at least 50% playing time is required.
- Opposing coaches and players 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 slide tackles to be allowed in this age group.
- Scores will be kept by the referee. Game scores and standings will be maintained by the league coordinator and distributed to the coaches; however, these standings will not be published via website, etc. Standings will be the basis for an end of year, single elimination playoff. If the score is getting lopsided, consider telling your team that a shot cannot be taken until X number of successful passes has been completed.