

USSL Referee Rules

U6 play format will be 5+goalie (6v6)

U7 play format will be 5+goalie (6v6)

2 x 20 min halves

- Coach and Co Coach on the field no parents on the turf
- No penalty kicks
- No direct kicks
- No off sides
- The goal kick should be taken within three (3) meters off 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 moved to the center line area until the ball is in play. **A goal cannot be scored directly from a goal kick.**
- The opponents must be moved to the center line area until the ball is in play. **A goal cannot be scored directly from a corner kick.**
- Foul throws are to be re-taken
- Substitutions: At any stoppage, substitutions are unlimited and must be done with the officials' permission

U8 play format will be 6+goalie (7v7)

2 x 25 min halves

- No penalty kicks
- No direct kicks
- No off sides
- The goal kick should be taken within three (3) meters off 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 five (5) meters away from the ball until it is in play. **A goal cannot be scored directly from a goal kick.**
- That all fouls shall result in an indirect free kick. The referee or nominated person must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the center spot on the halfway line if the goalkeeper punts or dropkicks the ball in the air from his/her goal area into the opponents goal area NO cards shown for misconduct.
- If a player intentionally strikes, deliberately kicks or spits at an opponent, this player must be substituted and will not be permitted participate further during the game. The coach should inform the player as to why and correct these actions.
- That all free kicks are indirect and opponents are at least five (5) meters from the ball until it is in play. The kick shall be taken from anywhere within the goal area. Opponents must remain at least five (5) meters away from the ball until it is in play.
- That opponents remain at least five (5) meters from the ball until it is in play. **A goal cannot be scored directly from a corner kick.**
- Foul throws are to be re-taken
- Substitutions: At any stoppage, substitutions are unlimited and must be done with the officials' permission

U9 play format will be 7+goalie (8v8)

2 x 25 min halves,

- No penalty kicks
- No direct kicks
- No off sides
- The goal kick should be taken within three (3) meters off 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 five (5) meters away from the ball until it is in play. **A goal cannot be scored directly from a goal kick.**
- That all fouls shall result in an indirect free kick. The referee or nominated person must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the center spot on the halfway line if the goalkeeper punts or dropkicks the ball in the air from his/her goal area into the opponents goal area NO cards shown for misconduct.
- If a player intentionally strikes, deliberately kicks or spits at an opponent, this player must be substituted and will not be permitted participate further during the game. The coach should inform the player as to why and correct these actions.
- That all free kicks are indirect and opponents are at least five (5) meters from the ball until it is in play. The kick shall be taken from anywhere within the goal area. Opponents must remain at least five (5) meters away from the ball until it is in play.
- That opponents remain at least five (5) meters from the ball until it is in play. **A goal cannot be scored directly from a corner kick.**
- Foul throws are to be re-taken
- Substitutions: At any stoppage, substitutions are unlimited and must be done with the officials' permission
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U10 play format will be 7+goalie (8v8)

U11 play format will be 7+goalie (8v8)

2 x 25 min halves

- Direct free kicks
- Off sides (3/4 marked on field)
 - Offside Rule:
Offside Rule is in effect at the attacking 3rd of the field. This line may be marked as a dotted line, and solid line or single cones on the touch line.
- Penalties at 9 yards
- Foul throws are to be re-taken
- Substitutions: At any stoppage, substitutions are unlimited and must be done with the officials' permission

U12 play format will be 10+goalie (11v11)

2 x 30 min halves

- Direct free kicks
- Off sides
- Penalties at 12 yard

LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

OFFSIDE POSITION

It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position.

A player is in an offside position if:

- he is nearer to his opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second-last opponent

A player is not in an offside position if:

- he is in his own half of the field of play or
- he is level with the second-last opponent or
- he is level with the last two opponents

Offence

A player in an offside position is only penalised if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by:

- interfering with play or
- interfering with an opponent or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

No Offence

There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:

- a goal kick
- a throw-in
- a corner kick

Infringements and Sanctions

In the event of an offside offence, the referee awards an indirect free kick to the opposing team to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick).

LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

Fouls and misconduct are penalised as follows:

DIRECT FREE KICK

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following seven offences in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- jumps at an opponent
- charges an opponent
- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- pushes an opponent
- tackles an opponent

A direct free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following three offences:

- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent
- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within his own

penalty area)

A direct free kick is taken from the place where the offence occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick).

PENALTY KICK

A penalty kick is awarded if any of the above ten offences is committed by a player inside his own penalty area, irrespective of the position of the ball, provided it is in play.

INDIRECT FREE KICK

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside his own penalty area, commits any of the following four offences:

- controls the ball with his hands for more than six seconds before releasing it from his possession
- touches the ball again with his hands after he has released it from his possession and before it has touched another player
- touches the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate
- touches the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate

An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if, in the opinion of the referee, a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands
- commits any other offence, not previously mentioned in Law 12, for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player

The indirect free kick is taken from the place where the offence occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick).

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

- The yellow card is used to communicate that a player, substitute or substituted player has been cautioned.
- The red card is used to communicate that a player, substitute or substituted player has been sent off.
- Only a player, substitute or substituted player may be shown the red or yellow card.
- The referee has the authority to take disciplinary sanctions from the moment he enters the field of play until he leaves the field of play after the final whistle.
- A player who commits a cautionable or sending-off offence, either on or off the field of play, whether directed towards an opponent, a team-mate, the referee, an assistant referee or any other person, is disciplined according to the nature of the offence committed.

CAUTIONABLE OFFENCES

A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he commits any of the following seven offences:

- unsporting behaviour
- dissent by word or action
- persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game
- delaying the restart of play
- failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in
- entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
- deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission

A substitute or substituted player is cautioned if he commits any of the following three offences:

- unsporting behaviour
- dissent by word or action
- delaying the restart of play

SENDING-OFF OFFENCES

A player, substitute or substituted player is sent off if he commits any of the following seven offences:

- serious foul play
- violent conduct
- spitting at an opponent or any other person
- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area)
- denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- receiving a second caution in the same match

A player, substitute or substituted player who has been sent off must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area.

LAW 13 – FREE KICKS

TYPES OF FREE KICK

Free kicks are either direct or indirect.

The Direct Free Kick

Ball Enters the Goal

- if a direct free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal is awarded
- if a direct free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team

The Indirect Free Kick

Signal

The referee indicates an indirect free kick by raising his arm above his head. He

maintains his arm in that position until the kick has been taken and the ball has touched another player or goes out of play.

Ball Enters the Goal

A goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal:

- if an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded
- if an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team

Procedure

For both direct and indirect free kicks, the ball must be stationary when the kick is taken and the kicker must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

POSITION OF FREE KICK

Free Kick Inside the Penalty Area

Direct or indirect free kick to the defending team:

- all opponents must be at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball
- all opponents must remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play
- the ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area
- a free kick awarded in the goal area may be taken from any point inside that area

Indirect free kick to the attacking team:

- all opponents must be at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball until it is in play, unless they are on their own goal line between the goalposts
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- an indirect free kick awarded inside the goal area must be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred

Free Kick Outside the Penalty Area

- all opponents must be at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball until it is in play
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- the free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred or from the position of the ball when the infringement occurred (according to the infringement)

INFRINGEMENTS AND SANCTIONS

If, when a free kick is taken, an opponent is closer to the ball than the required distance:

- the kick is retaken

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team from inside its own penalty area, the ball is not kicked directly out of the penalty area:

- the kick is retaken

Free kick taken by a player other than the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area

Free kick taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper touches the ball again (except with his hands), before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)
- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

LAW 14 – PENALTY KICKS

A penalty kick is awarded against a team that commits one of the ten offences for which a direct free kick is awarded, inside its own penalty area and while the ball is in play.

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.

Additional time is allowed for a penalty kick to be taken at the end of each half or at the end of periods of extra time.

Position of the Ball and the Players

The ball:

- must be placed on the penalty mark

The player taking the penalty kick:

- must be properly identified

The defending goalkeeper:

- must remain on his goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked

The players other than the kicker must be located:

- inside the field of play

- outside the penalty area
- behind the penalty mark
- at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the penalty mark

Procedure

- After the players have taken positions in accordance with this Law, the referee signals for the penalty kick to be taken
- The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forward
- He must not play the ball again until it has touched another player
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward

When a penalty kick is taken during the normal course of play, or time has been extended at half-time or full time to allow a penalty kick to be taken or retaken, a goal is awarded if, before passing between the goalposts and under the crossbar:

- the ball touches either or both of the goalposts and/or the crossbar and/or the goalkeeper

The referee decides when a penalty kick has been completed.

INFRINGEMENTS AND SANCTIONS

If the referee gives the signal for a penalty kick to be taken and, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:

the player taking the penalty kick infringes the Laws of the Game:

- the referee allows the kick to be taken
- if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken
- if the ball does not enter the goal, the referee stops play and the match is restarted with an indirect free kick to the defending team, from the place where the infringement occurred

the goalkeeper infringes the Laws of the Game:

- the referee allows the kick to be taken
- if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
- if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken

a team-mate of the player taking the kick infringes the Laws of the Game:

- the referee allows the kick to be taken
- if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken
- if the ball does not enter the goal, the referee stops play and the match is restarted with an indirect free kick to the defending team, from the place where the infringement occurred

a team-mate of the goalkeeper infringes the Laws of the Game:

- the referee allows the kick to be taken
- if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
- if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken

a player of both the defending team and the attacking team infringe the Laws of the Game:

- the kick is retaken

If, after the penalty kick has been taken:

the kicker touches the ball again (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken

from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

the kicker deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

the ball is touched by an outside agent as it moves forward:

- the kick is retaken

the ball rebounds into the field of play from the goalkeeper, the crossbar or the goalposts, and is then touched by an outside agent:

- the referee stops play
- play is restarted with a dropped ball at the place where it touched the outside agent, unless it touched the outside agent inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when play was stopped

LAW 15 – THE THROW-IN

A throw-in is a method of restarting play.

A throw-in is awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball crosses the touch line, either on the ground or in the air.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in.

Procedure

At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower:

- faces the field of play
- has part of each foot either on the touch line or on the ground outside the touch line
- holds the ball with both hands
- delivers the ball from behind and over his head
- delivers the ball from the point where it left the field of play

All opponents must stand no less than 2 m (2 yds) from the point at which the throw-in is taken.

The ball is in play when it enters the field of play.

After delivering the ball, the thrower must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

INFRINGEMENTS AND SANCTIONS

Throw-in taken by a player other than the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the thrower touches the ball again (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If, after the ball is in play, the thrower deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the thrower's penalty area

Throw-in taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper touches the ball again (except with his hands), before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)
- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If an opponent unfairly distracts or impedes the thrower:

- he is cautioned for unsporting behaviour

For any other infringement of this Law:

- the throw-in is taken by a player of the opposing team

LAW 16 – THE GOAL KICK

A goal kick is a method of restarting play.

A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the attacking team, and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law 10.

A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team.

Procedure

- The ball is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team
- Opponents remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play
- The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player
- The ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area

Infringements and Sanctions

If the ball is not kicked directly out of the penalty area from a goal kick:

- the kick is retaken

Goal kick taken by a player other than the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker deliberately handles the ball before it has

touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area

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Goal kick taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper touches the ball again (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)
- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

In the event of any other infringement of this Law:

- the kick is retaken

LAW 17 – THE CORNER KICK

A corner kick is a method of restarting play.

A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the defending team, and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law 10.

A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team.

Procedure

- The ball must be placed inside the corner arc nearest to the point where the ball crossed the goal line
- The corner flagpost must not be moved
- Opponents must remain at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the corner arc until the ball is in play
- The ball must be kicked by a player of the attacking team
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player

INFRINGEMENTS AND SANCTIONS

Corner kick taken by a player other than the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken

from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area

Corner kick taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper touches the ball again (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)
- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (see Law 13 – Position of Free Kick)

In the event of any other infringement:

- the kick is retaken

Parents on the Field

Each coach is responsible for his or her parent's behaviour and attendance on the field. The rules of the USSL only allow for a coach, assistant coach and 1 field linesman from each team to be present on the turf fields. If a Coach fails to remove his or her parents off the field and have them behind the fence surrounding the turf field that team will be fined \$50.00. This fine will be deducted for their Club bond. The field marshal may ask to have parents removed or issue a fine.

Game Structure for each age group:

Coaches and Clubs please remember that the goal of the USSL is to develop players and increase the number of touches each player has during a game. The USSL is working hard to follow guide lines set by BC Soccer.

Please remember to enter your team in the same age as you were in the winter program, only exception is U11 girls teams during the winter soccer will play U12 silver or gold.

A Player is allowed to play 1 game, for 1 team for the USSL league game.

Team roster is to be provided before the start of each game: The roster must be signed by the coach and the referee will enter the score to help the league better schedule your matches. No record of points GF or GA will be kept.

Exceptions of adding a player to your team roster:

Must be agreed by both coaches, both coaches must sign the roster.

Coach can only add a player to the roster if he or she is short of players.

Paper work not submitted will result in a \$100.00 fine for the team.



REFEREE RULES

HANDBOOK

PAYMENT STRUCTURE

U8 and U9	\$20.00
Travelling to Langley or Abbotsford	\$25.00
U10 and U11	\$25.00
Travelling to Langley or Abbotsford	\$30.00
U12	\$25.00
Travelling to Langley or Abbotsford	\$30.00

LEVELS AND AGE REQUIRMENTS FOR REFEREEING GAMES

U8 and U9	at least 11 years old – Level 5
U10	at least 14 years old – EXPERIENCED Level 5 PREFERRED LEVEL 4
U11 and U12	at least 15 years old – Level 4