



## 8v8 Laws of the Game

Starfire Sports' **Modified 8v8 Outdoor League** shall be governed by the official United States Soccer Federation laws with the following exceptions as indicated.

### LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

#### Dimensions

League matches shall be played on a modified field. The length of the touch line shall be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length            minimum 85 yards  
Width            minimum 50 yards

#### Goals

The distance between the posts is 10 feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is 6 feet.

### LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

#### Players

A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than 8 players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than 5 players.

#### Substitution Procedure

To replace a player by a substitute, *the substitute only enters the field of play after the player being replaced has entered the substitution area*. The substitution area shall be 10 yards wide and shall begin 10 yards from either side of the halfway line.

### LAW 5 – THE REFEREE

#### The Authority of the Referee

Each match is controlled by one or two referees who have full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match to which they have been appointed.

### LAW 7 – THE DURATION OF THE MATCH

#### Periods of Play

The match shall consist of two equal periods of 25 minutes. The match shall be played with a running clock and may be stopped at anytime according to the referee's discretion.

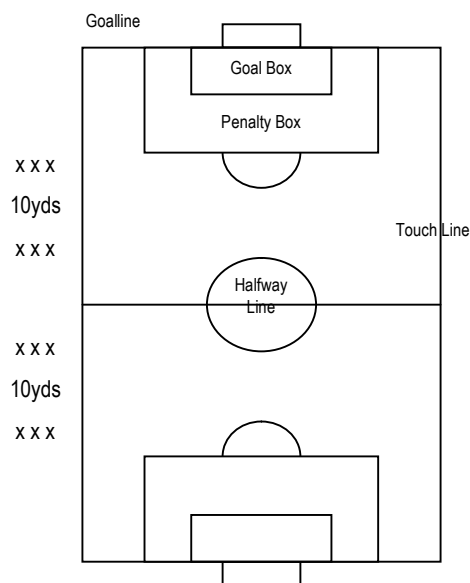
#### Half-Time Interval

Teams shall only switch halves of the field during the half-time interval. The half-time interval shall not exceed 1 minute.

### LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

#### No Offense

The offside provision shall not be used for this league.



Substitution Diagram

## **LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT**

### **Sliding and Slide Tackling**

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player slide tackles an opponent.

Slide tackling, creating contact or a dangerous situation with another player while sliding, is not permitted. Sliding to block a shot or score a goal is permitted provided neither provision is violated.

### **Halfway Line Violation**

A direct free kick, from the center mark, is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper restart does not strike the ground or is not played by another player before crossing the halfway line.

### **Direct Free Kick**

All free kicks awarded shall be direct in nature.

### **Penalty Shootout**

A penalty shootout, dribbling against the goalkeeper, is awarded for any offense committed by a player inside his own penalty area, irrespective of the position of the ball, provided it is in play.

### **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.

**Discipline issues shall be handled by Starfire Sports' Judiciary Committee.** Player appeals must be submitted within 48 hours of the match.

## **LAW 13 – FREE KICKS**

### **Direct/Indirect**

Free kicks shall be direct in nature and all opponents must be at least 10 yards from the ball. *Players shall have 5 seconds to put the ball into play.*

## **LAW 15 – THE THROW-IN**

Throw-ins shall not be used. Players shall kick a stationary ball, from the touch line, from the point nearest where the ball left play.

## **LAW 16 – THE GOAL KICK**

The goalkeeper shall restart play with a throw or drop-kick when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line having last touched a player of the attacking team. The ball must clear the penalty area within 5 seconds and may not be touched by the goalkeeper until another player plays the ball.

### **Forfeit Procedure**

Should the team that is leading cause the match to be forfeited, the score shall be recorded as a 3-0 loss for the offending team. Should the team that is trailing cause the match to be forfeited, the score shall remain.

*Starfire Sports reserves the right to amend the official league rules at any point in the season. Team managers shall be notified should a rule be added, amended, or deleted.*