

OLD SAYBROOK PARKS AND RECREATION

Kindergarten - 2nd GRADE

FALL SOCCER RULES



Purpose:

The purpose of the OSPR soccer league is to introduce young children to the sport of soccer. This is a developmentally appropriate and instructional league. Our focus will be player development, knowledge of the rules, and sportsmanship. We want to develop players with more: individual skill, intelligence, creativity and confidence.

Throughout the season, our players should be taught the very basics of soccer. At the end of the 7 weeks, they should understand and be able to perform the following.

1. Identify offense vs. defense.
2. How to properly dribble with the inside of their foot.
3. How to properly pass to a teammate.
4. How to properly throw, by stepping towards their target and keeping their foot down.
5. Understand that in soccer you cannot use your hands, unless you are the goalie.
6. What to do after the ball is passed to kicked.
7. Demonstrate superior sportsmanship.

Players:

Kindergarten - Play 4v4 with no goalkeeper

1st - 2nd Grade - Play 5v5...4 players in the field and a goalkeeper

* This can be modified if each team does not have at least 5 players

Game Time:

- All leagues will play 4, 10 minute quarters
- There will be a quick break between quarters, to regroup and make your substitutions
- Half Time - 5 minutes
- No overtime - games will end in a tie

Playing Time:

- Each player should play a minimum of 50% of the game.
- Exceptions to the rule:
 - Discipline/Sportsmanship
 - Removed from the game due to injury

Substitutions:

- Substitutions may be made:
 1. Prior to a corner kick
 2. Prior to a throw-in
 3. Prior to a goal kick
 4. After a goal is scored
 5. Whenever a referee stops play

- 6. Between quarters or half.
- There is no limit to the number of substitutions that can be made and can be done “Hockey Style”

Referees:

- Each game will have 1 - 2 referees (6th - 10th graders)
- If a referee does not show up for a game, it's the responsibility of the coaches to step in and officiate
- The referees should give a brief explanation of the rule violation and use it as a teaching moment for the players
- Referees should only be addressed by the coaches for rule clarification
- Referees will have the final say

Spectators:

- Spectators should be respectful at all times.
- If a referee feels uncomfortable regarding a spectator, they will make the coaches aware and it's then the coaches' responsibility to speak to the spectator
- Spectators are not allowed to stand behind the goal or on the lines of the field

Player Equipment:

- Shin guards required
- Sneakers or soccer cleats
- No jewelry
- Soccer Ball - Size 3

Additional Rules:

- Offsides will not be called
- Direct kicks are not allowed, all kicks must be indirect
- No headers
- Corner Kicks - If the ball goes out of bounds on the baseline (goal line) and was last touched by the **defense**, the ball is awarded to the team on **offense** and is a kick in at the corners.
- Goalie Kicks and Throws - If the ball goes out of bounds on the baseline (goal line) and was last touched by the **offense**, the ball is awarded to the team on **defense** and the goalie must put it in play with a throw, roll or place on the ground and kick to a player. No punting is allowed. The ball must be passed to a teammate on the same side of the field before it can cross ½ field.
- When the goalie has possession of the ball, no defender is allowed inside the goalie box to “steal” the ball.
 - **Kindergarten** - The defense should retreat to half field until the ball has reached a defender.
 - **1st - 2nd Grade** - Must get out of the goalie box.
- **Kindergarten** - If the first throw-in is incorrect, a second throw-in must be allowed. The referee shall demonstrate the proper technique before allowing the second throw-in