

OLD SAYBROOK PARKS & RECREATION

INDOOR SOCCER RULES



Purpose

The purpose of the OSPR indoor soccer league is to introduce young children to the sport of soccer and build off the success and development from the fall outdoor season. Our focus will be skill 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 and build off the skills learned in the longer fall outdoor season. At the end of the 5 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. Understand that in soccer you cannot use your hands, unless you are the goalie.
5. What to do after the ball is passed or kicked.
6. Demonstrate superior sportsmanship.

Game length

- Two (2) half's. Each half will last for 15 minutes running time. In the final minute of each half the clock will stop/start. Time is kept on the Scoreboard
- There will be a (2) minute break at halftime.
- The first team listed on the schedule (left side) is the home team. The home team will start the game with possession, the other team will get the ball at the start of the 2nd half.
- The ball is put into play with an indirect kick to a teammate from the mid-court line.

Number of Players

- **Kindergarten:** 5 Players - no goalie.
- **1st - 4th Grade:** 5 Players – 4 on the field and a goalie.
- Coaches may play fewer in cases where a team is short players, but both teams must field equal number of players
- Players will play every position.
- All players must play in at least half of the game.

Equipment

- All players must wear non-marking tennis or indoor soccer shoes
- **Shin guards are mandatory.**
- A Futsal soccer ball will be used for play.
- (2) Nets will be set up and taken down each night.

General Rules

- **Kindergarten** - no player is allowed to stand and “guard” the goal.
- There is no offsides rule, however, an offensive player cannot be “goal sitting”.
- Slide tacking is **not** permitted. Other fouls to be called include hand ball, pushing, tripping and goalie interference.
- For all fouls that may be called by the referee, an indirect free kick from the point of the foul will result. **There are no direct kicks or penalty shots.**
- Goals may not be scored from behind the mid court line.
- The **basketball court sidelines as boundaries** but **can play off the back wall.**
- There will be **NO throw in's** when a ball goes out of bounds. Instead, the team **will kick the ball into play.**
- Heading the ball is not allowed.
- Coaches should not walk out onto the court to coach.

Substitutions

- Substitutions may occur at any time during play.
- However, the player(s) being substituted for **MUST** return to the bench before the other replacement may go into the game.

Goalie Play (1st – 4th Grade)

- A goalie may use their hands to control the ball inside of the **three-point arch** of the basketball court.
- When a goalie gains possession of the ball with his/her hands he/she must put the ball back into play with a **THROW/ROLL**. A throw by a goalie may not pass mid court line before touching the playing surface.
- Punting the ball is **not** allowed.
- Penalty for this violation is an indirect free kick from the mid court line by opposing team
- When a goalie is passing the ball into play, **no defense is allowed inside the blue “10’ Volleyball Line”**

Obstruction

- Once the ball contacts an obstruction, I.E. under scorer’s table, behind bleachers, ceiling, backboard, the ball will be declared out of play. The opposing team will then take an indirect kick to put the ball back into play.
- Please be aware that the space is limited, and there will be many spectators watching from the sidelines.

Referees

- Referees will be assigned by the Park & Recreation department whenever possible.
- If said official fails to show for an assignment, it is the responsibility of the coaches to officiate the game, unless a suitable replacement can be found. It is recommended that the coaches each work one-half of the court.
- Referees will have final say concerning rules infractions.
- Referees should give a brief explanation of the rules infractions to players when it is possible.
- **Referees may only be addressed by coaches for rules clarification only, and only during time outs.**

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Sharon Linder



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