



**SOUTH TEXAS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION
PROPOSED RULE CHANGE 12
Submitted: 6/2/2009**

SECTION I: ADD OR CHANGE A RULE

Is there currently a rule that applies? Yes No

Primary Page No(s): 4 Secondary Page No(s): 5

Rule Location: General Rules of Play

Title of Section: **6.2 SPECIAL RULES OF PLAY – Under-11 and Under-12 Age Groups – EXCEPTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO FIFA LAWS**

Rule as it presently reads:

6.2. SPECIAL RULES OF PLAY – Under-11 and Under-12 Age Groups – EXCEPTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO FIFA LAWS

Effective 9/1/2008 – There shall be two age groups in which the number of players on the field may be fewer than that specified in the FIFA Laws of the Game: Under-11 and Under-12.

6.2.1. Age Group

- a. A player with his/her parent's and coach's permission, and in compliance with the local association playing rules, may play in an older age group; however,
- b. Except as provided herein, no player may play in a younger age group than the age group for which he/she is eligible. If a medical condition exists (substantiated in writing by a licensed physician) that will prohibit or severely hinder a player from playing in his/her own age group, the player may seek special approval from his/her Local Association/Club Board and Member Association to allow the player to play down in a younger age group. All requests must be submitted to and approved by the STYSA Executive Committee prior to the player's first game.

6.2.2. Number of Players

- a. Each Member Association / Club shall determine whether their Under-11 and Under-12 teams will play with no more than eleven (11) or eight (8) players on the field at a time, including a goalkeeper.

Effective 9/1/2009 - Each team during a league game shall play with no more than eight (8) on the field at a time, including a goalkeeper. **(Added 2.8.09)**

- b. Under-11 and Under-12 teams may participate in eleven (11) aside play, where offered in sanctioned invitational tournaments. **(Added 2.8.09)**
- c. Coaches must play each registered player that is present one-half of the game unless unable to do so due to a player's illness or injury or for disciplinary reasons. In the event that a player is present but will not be playing, the coach must inform the referee and the opposing coach as to the reason the player will not participate

6.2.3. Size of Teams: The maximum number of players per team shall be eighteen (18) if playing 11 aside or twelve (12) if playing 8 aside.

Effective 9/1/2009 – The maximum number of players per team shall be twelve (12). **(Added 2.8.09)**

6.2.4. **Forfeits for too few players:** The referee shall declare a forfeit if a team has fewer than the requisite number of players on the field ready to play within a reasonable time after the game was scheduled to start. The requisite number of players shall be seven (7) players if playing 11 aside or six (6) players if playing 8 aside.

Effective 9/1/2009 - The referee shall declare a forfeit if a team has fewer than the requisite number of players on the field ready to play within a reasonable time after the game was scheduled to start. The requisite number of players shall be six (6) players. **(Added 2.8.09)**

6.2.5. **Goalkeeper:** There shall be no charging or intentional or reckless contact with the goalkeeper in any manner whatsoever. Any such conduct shall be considered at least “dangerous play” and punished accordingly.

6.2.6. **Ball:** #4

6.2.7. **Field of Play:** The association / club / league which controls the fields shall determine the location of the teams, players, coaches, fans and supporters in relation to the field and each other.

6.2.7.1. Games played with 11 players on the field shall use fields that meet the requirements of Rule 6.1.1.

6.2.7.2. Games played with 8 players on the field shall use fields that meet the requirements shown below:

Effective 9/1/2009 – delete sections 6.2.7.1 and 6.2.7.2. (Added 2.8.09)

Size: 40 to 70 yards wide by 60 to 90 yards long

Goals: 21 feet wide by 7 feet high or 18 feet wide by 6 feet high

Center Circle: 8 yards in radius

Penalty Area: 14 yards by 35 yards

Goal Area: 6 yards by 19 yards

Penalty Spot: 9 yards and perpendicular from the midpoint of the goal line

Penalty Arc: 8 yard radius from the penalty spot

6.2.8. **Length of Games:** two thirty (30) minute halves

6.2.9. **Offside:** The FIFA Offside Rule shall apply.

Proposed Additions and/or Changes:

6.2. SPECIAL RULES OF PLAY – Under-11 and Under-12 Age Groups – EXCEPTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO FIFA LAWS

Effective 9/1/2008 – There shall be two age groups in which the number of players on the field may be fewer than that specified in the FIFA Laws of the Game: Under-11 and Under-12.

6.2.1. Age Group

a. A player with his/her parent’s and coach’s permission, and in compliance with the local association playing rules, may play in an older age group; however,

- c. Except as provided herein, no player may play in a younger age group than the age group for which he/she is eligible. If a medical condition exists (substantiated in writing by a licensed physician) that will prohibit or severely hinder a player from playing in his/her own age group, the player may seek special approval from his/her Local Association/Club Board and Member Association to allow the player to play down in a younger age group. All requests must be submitted to and approved by the STYSA Executive Committee prior to the player's first game.

6.2.6. Number of Players

- a. Each Member Association / Club shall determine whether their Under-11 and Under-12 teams will play with no more than eleven (11) or eight (8) players on the field at a time, including a goalkeeper.

Effective 9/1/2009 - Each team during a league game shall play with no more than eight (8) on the field at a time, including a goalkeeper.

- d. Under-11 and Under-12 teams may participate in eleven (11) aside play, where offered in sanctioned invitational tournaments.
- e. Coaches must play each registered player that is present one-half of the game unless unable to do so due to a player's illness or injury or for disciplinary reasons. In the event that a player is present but will not be playing, the coach must inform the referee and the opposing coach as to the reason the player will not participate

- 6.2.7. Size of Teams:** The maximum number of players per team shall be eighteen (18) if playing 11 aside or twelve (12) if playing 8 aside.

Effective 9/1/2009 – The maximum number of players per team shall be twelve (12).

- 6.2.8. Forfeits for too few players:** The referee shall declare a forfeit if a team has fewer than the requisite number of players on the field ready to play within a reasonable time after the game was scheduled to start. The requisite number of players shall be seven (7) players if playing 11 aside or six (6) players if playing 8 aside.

Effective 9/1/2009 - The referee shall declare a forfeit if a team has fewer than the requisite number of players on the field ready to play within a reasonable time after the game was scheduled to start. The requisite number of players shall be six (6) players.

- 6.2.9. Goalkeeper:** There shall be no charging or intentional or reckless contact with the goalkeeper in any manner whatsoever. Any such conduct shall be considered at least "dangerous play" and punished accordingly.

- 6.2.6. Ball:** #4

- 6.2.7. Field of Play:** The association / club / league which controls the fields shall determine the location of the teams, players, coaches, fans and supporters in relation to the field and each other.

6.2.7.3. Games played with 11 players on the field shall use fields that meet the requirements of Rule 6.1.1.

6.2.7.4. Games played with 8 players on the field shall use fields that meet the requirements shown below:

Effective 9/1/2009 – delete sections 6.2.7.1 and 6.2.7.2. (Added 2.8.09)

Size: 40 to 70 yards wide by 60 to 90 yards long

Goals: 21 feet wide by 7 feet high or 18 feet wide by 6 feet high

Center Circle: 8 yards in radius

Penalty Area: 14 yards by 35 yards

Goal Area: 6 yards by 19 yards

Penalty Spot: 9 yards and perpendicular from the midpoint of the goal line

Penalty Arc: 8 yard radius from the penalty spot

6.2.8. **Length of Games:** two thirty (30) minute halves

6.2.7.5. **Offside:** The FIFA Offside Rule shall apply.

6.3. **11 v 11 grandfather for U12 teams (effective until 7/31/2010)** Only U11 teams that were formed and played in an 11v11 format in either the Fall 2008 and/or Spring 2009 season will be permitted to return as a U12 team participating in an 11v11 format through the end of the Spring 2010 season. Returning teams must roster 50% + 1 of the previous players from the final roster of the last season that they participated in as a U11 team using the 11v11 format to qualify as a U12 grandfathered team.

SECTION II - JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PROPOSED RULE CHANGE:

This gives teams that played 11v11 in Under-11 the opportunity to remain together in Under-12 during the transition period with the understanding all district and state competitions will be 8v8 in 2009-2010.

Submitted by: Chris Delay (Houston Youth Soccer Association) & Joe Payton (Capitol Area Youth Soccer Association)

Rules Committee Recommendation: Not reviewed by Rules Committee

Executive Committee Recommendation: Recommends passage