WCSA Rules of Play for Small-Sided Games *

Changes and clarifications are in *italics* and highlighted – ***February 13, 2012 Update***

FIFA Law	U5 and U6	U7 and U8	U9 and U10	U11 and U12
1-Field of Play	Up to 30x25 yard field	Up to 35x30 yard field	Up to 60x45 yard field	Up to 80x55 yard field
	No penalty area		10x26 yd penalty area	14x35 yd penalty area
	No penalty mark		Penalty mark 8 yards from the end line	Penalty mark 10 yards from the end line
	No goal area	*No goal area*	6x18 yard goal area	6x19 yard goal area
	4x6 foot goals	6x12 foot goals	6x18 foot goals	7x21 foot goals
2-Ball	Size 3		Size 4	
3-Number of Players	3v3 play, Minimum of 2v2 to begin play. Opposing teams play equal numbers.	4v4 play, Minimum of 3v3 to begin play. Opposing teams play equal numbers.	6v6 including GKs, Minimum of 4v4 to begin play. Opposing team plays equal numbers.	8v8 including GKs, Minimum of 6v6 to begin play. Opposing team plays equal numbers.
	No goalkeeper		Any player in the goalkeeper position for half the game must also play a field position for at least one fourth of the game.	
	Roster of 10 with 2 squads of 5.	Roster of 12 with 2 squads of 6.	Roster of 10 with one squad.	Roster of 12 with one squad.
	Both squads play at the same time. Opposing coaches work together and make every effort to field balanced squads by quarter.			
	Substitution at throw-ins for team with possession, at goal kicks, at quarter-end, at halftime, after a score and due to injury with referee permission. Each player plays at least 50% of the game.		Substitution at throw-ins for team with possession, at goal kicks, at halftime, after a score and due to injury with referee permission. Each player plays at least 50% of the game.	
4-Equipment	FIFA rules			
5-Referee	None Required	Yes	Yes	
6-Assistant Referee	None Required	N/A, ARs for training purposes and dependent on referee availability.	N/A, ARs for training purposes and dependent on referee availability.	Yes (2)
7-Duration of the Match	Four 8-minute quarters. 2-minute breaks at the quarter. 5-minute halftime.	Four 12-minute quarters. 2-minute breaks at the quarter. 5-minute halftime.	25-minute halves and a 5-minute halftime. No quarters	30-minute halves and a 5-minute halftime. No quarters
8-Start & Re-start of Play	FIFA rules. Opponent gives up 4 yards.		FIFA rules. Opponent gives up 8 yards.	
9-Ball In & Out of Play	FIFA rules			
10-Scoring	FIFA rules	*FIFA rules plus no goals may be scored from the defensive half.*	FIFA rules	
11-Offside	None			Yes – FIFA rules
12-Fouls & Misconduct	All fouls result in a direct free kick. No cards for misconduct. Coach/assistant briefly explains infractions to the offending player.		FIFA rules. Exception – if a GK punts or drop-kicks a ball in the air from his penalty area into the opponent's penalty area, the opponent gets an indirect free kick at the center spot on the mid-line.	
13-Free Kicks	All free kicks are direct. Opponent gives up 4 yds.		FIFA rules. Opponent gives up 8 yards.	
14-Penalty Kick	None		FIFA rules. Penalty mark 8 yards from goal.	FIFA rules. Penalty mark 10 yards from the goal.
15-Throw In	FIFA rules. 2nd try given for incorrect first try.		FIFA rules	
16-Goal Kick	*Taken from the end line at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved. Opponents are on the other side of the mid-line until the ball is kicked.*	*Taken from the end line at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved. Opponents are on the other side of the mid-line until the ball is kicked.*	FIFA rules. Opponent gives up 8 yards.	
17-Corner Kick	None – goal kicks for balls crossing the end line regardless of the team kicking it out.	FIFA rules. Opponent gives up 4 yards.	FIFA rules. Opponent gives up 8 yards.	
Miscellaneous	No scorekeeping. Participation awards for all.		Scorekeeping, but no standings. Participation awards for all.	Scorekeeping and standings. Awards for 1st and 2nd place teams.

*** Any violation of these rules by a coach can result in sanctioning up to and including that coach's dismissal. For U11 and U12 age groups, violations can also result in forfeiture of the game.**