



## **Burbank AYSO Region 254**

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**To: Under-6 Coaches, Region 254**

**From: Jose A. Perez, Regional Commissioner, Region 254**

**RE: Under-6 Guidelines for play in 2008 – 2009 Season**

Welcome to the 2008/2009 season for the Under-6 Division. This is a non-competitive learning division. At all times, coaches and parents are expected to be encouraging and supportive of all players. The following are applicable rules and information for the U06 Division.

- 1) FIELD – The field is modified to accommodate the younger players.**
  - a) Halfway line the width of the field, marked equidistant between the goal lines.
  - b) Center circle with a six-yard radius in the center of the field. Remember the receiving team must be 8 yards from the point of the kick.
  - c) Goal area in front of each goal.
- 2) THE BALL - Size 3**
- 3) NUMBER OF PLAYERS**
  - a) Maximum number of players on the field at any time: five (5), NO goal keeper allowed
  - b) Maximum number of players on a roster is seven (7)
  - c) Substitutions occur between periods and at halftime.
  - d) **NO PLAYER MAY PLAY FOUR PERIODS UNTIL EVERYONE HAS PLAYED THREE PERIODS.**
- 4) NO SCORE WILL BE KEPT**
  - a) If a team is short 2 or more players for the game the coaches should have the players that would normally be substitutes, play on the opposing team. Just have them turn their shirts inside out or give them practice vests if they are available. The point of this division is to have fun and to let the children play
- 5) Player Equipment**
  - a) Footwear: Tennis shoes or rubber-cleated soccer shoes
  - b) Shinguards: MANDATORY for all practices and games.
- 6) REFEREE**

The coach (or a parent) will referee their own division's games. Coaches usually split the game. Our job is to make it Safe, Fair, and Fun for the players. It is an opportunity to learn all aspects of the game - and yes, you are allowed to make mistakes. Your job is to help the players on both teams when you are functioning as a referee at this level.

- a) Each team will be required to referee 1/2 of each game. THERE IS NO COACHING PERMITTED WHILE ON THE FIELD AS A REFEREE. COACHES ARE THERE TO INSTRUCT **ALL PLAYERS** ON RULES. In the case where a youth referee or adult referee is refereeing the game, be sure your sidelines encourage them.

- b) Referees shall emphasize
  - i) Fun
  - ii) Fairness
  - iii) Safety
  - iv) Learning

#### **7) DURATION OF GAME**

- a) Each team will take half the field, the first 20 minutes will be your practice session – this is to replace the 1 hour during the week practice.
- b) Quick 2 minute water break & selection of first 5 players to go on the field
- c) You will now have a game against 5 players from the opposite team
- d) Quarters are 7 - minute periods (Two 14-minute halves) **THE CLOCK DOES NOT STOP FOR SUBSTITUTIONS AT THE QUARTER BREAK.**
- e) Halftime break: 5 minutes
- f) The Field Monitor or Regional official will stop the game if it is running behind schedule

#### **8) START OF PLAY**

No change from regular play except that opponents must be eight yards from the center mark while kick off is in progress.

**9) SPORTSMANSHIP** - This is a fun division. At the end of the year our goal is for the players to learn 3 technical skills:

- a) How to dribble
- b) How to throw the ball in.
- c) How to do an instep drive.

**10) SCOREKEEPING - Remember this is a non-competitive division - let's keep things fun.** You are there to teach the players about the basics of soccer. **WE DO NOT KEEP SCORE.**

**11) VOLUNTEER** The sportsmanship/volunteer program is designed to increase parent participation while maintaining sportsmanship ideals and rewarding referee and coach training and participation.

**Coaches and parents should limit their comments to those that are positive.** As a coach you are responsible for the parents on your sideline. You are also limited to the coaching area, which extends about 10 yards on either side of the half line of the field. ***Do the coaching on the practice field.*** When you referee the games, refrain from coaching. If something is not going the way that you planned, make a note of it and work on it next practice.

Parents are allowed to sit along the sideline or "touchline" only. Parents and coaches are not permitted to stand on the goal lines or next to the goals. Cheering from parents is expected, however coaching from parents is not permitted.

This is a "teaching" division. If a player does a throw-in incorrectly, let them do it again. The point is for them to learn the fundamentals of soccer and to have fun. We are there as coaches to make sure that happens in a positive environment.

## **Rules for Under 6 Division.**

1. ABSOLUTELY no goalkeepers. You may **not** station a player as a "de-facto" goal keeper. **NO CAMPING A PLAYER IN FRONT OF THE GOAL!** You may have a fullback.
2. **THERE WILL BE NO PRACTICE DURING THE WEEK -**
3. Games are to be **5 v. 5.**
4. Players are required to play a minimum of three quarters of the game unless they are ill or injured.
5. "Quarters" are to be 7 minutes long with no more than 2 minutes between quarters. Half time is to be 5 minutes long. - KEEP IT MOVING! If you are running late, you may be asked by a Field Monitor or Staff Member to cut the game short. The "clock" does not stop for the "quarter" substitutions.
6. Coaches may coach from the sideline only. Coaches or parents may not coach from the goal lines or by the goals.
7. There are no penalty kicks in Under 6 division.
8. If there is a foul (most likely tripping, pushing or handling the ball) the free kicks are DIRECT FREE kicks.
9. Again - if a player does a throw-in incorrectly, let them do it again.
10. **There are goal kicks and corner kicks. Please take the time during practice and during game time to explain and show the difference.**

***Teams that have the first game of the day are responsible for setting up the goals AT LEAST 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED GAME TIME.*** They are to be centered on the goal line and anchored with the provided stakes. Children are not to hang on the goals.

**Teams that have the last game of the day are responsible for returning the goals and the stakes to the containers.** Please keep track of the stakes!

Again, thank you for your time and effort. Let's make this season a positive one for everyone - players and volunteers. You will be assigned a contact person (Division Manager) to answer questions and provide assistance to you throughout the season. When you have questions, please talk with a Field Monitor or call your Division Manager.