



Modifications to FIFA Laws of the Game for U9-U10 Games

Players: 7v7, minimum 5 per side

Substitutions: On any ball out of bounds situation (goals, goal kicks, corner kicks, throw-in) regardless of possession, for an injury (1 for 1) and after a player receives a yellow card (1 for 1).

Time: 25-minute halves

Definition of goalkeeper possession: The goalkeeper has possession when they are controlling the ball with their hands inside the penalty area. Controlling the ball with feet is not possession. Nor does simply blocking or deflecting a shot with the hands constitute possession. The goalkeeper must have received the ball in a manner that does not violate Law 12 (ie. not an intentional pass back).

When the goalkeeper gains possession of the ball: The opposing team must move beyond the build-out line and stay there until the goalkeeper distributes the ball. The goalkeeper does not need to wait for the opposing team to cross the build-out line before distributing the ball.

The six-second law begins its count when all opponents are behind the build-out line. If an opponent crosses back across the build-out line before the goalkeeper has released the ball, then the six-second limit is canceled and will start again when all opponents are behind the build-out line.

Goalkeeper distributing the ball back into play: If the goalkeeper punts the ball, an indirect free kick is awarded to the other team at the point of the punt, subject to the positioning rules in Law 13. Otherwise, the ball is in play once the goalkeeper has released the ball from their hands.

Goal Kicks: Are handled as described in Law 16 except that the kicker must wait until the opposing team has retreated beyond the build-out line. If the kicker kicks the ball before all opponents are beyond the build-out line or if the opponents cross the build-out line before the ball leaves the penalty area, then the kick is retaken.

Offside: Applies only between the build-out line and the goal line.

Kickoffs may move backwards on the first touch.

No intentional heading. Infractions are penalized by awarding an indirect free kick to the opposing team.