

# CAMP FIRE USA SOCCER

**OBJECTIVE:** To Provide youth with the opportunity to develop skills and good sportsmanship, while building self-confidence and having fun.

## GAME FORMAT:

1. Preschool division: Divide the game into four 8 min quarters, with a 1-2 min. break between quarters, and 3-5 min. break for halftime.
2. Kindergarten - 6<sup>th</sup> grade divisions: Divide the game into four 10 min. quarters, with a 1-2 min. break between quarters, and 3-5 min. break for halftime. The games will be no longer than 50 min.
- 3.. For preschool games, a 4 v 4 format will be in place. Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade will employ a 5 v 5 format, 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade a 6 v 6 format, and 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> grades a 11 v 11 format.
4. Rotate sides of the field after halftime for.
5. Two timeouts per half (not cumulative) per team, with maximum time being 1 minute. Timeouts can be used to make substitutions or used to make coaching corrections as needed.
6. Remember, we are noncompetitive. Try to divide the playing time evenly among all players. Also, try to rotate the players in all positions throughout the season. Rotate goalies in and out as well (2- 6 grades) with free substitutions in all divisions.

## OFFICIATING

1. Coaches are responsible for referees, except in the 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade league. For preschool and kindergarten teams, one coach is allowed to be on the field with the children. These coaches (one from each team) will also referee the game. If the head coach does not want to be on the field with the children, then an assistant coach or parent who has a knowledge of soccer may referee. For the K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade teams, an assistant coach or parent who has a knowledge of soccer may referee. The head coach should coach from the sideline, but may help the referee with calls along the sideline.
2. No scores or standings will be kept during the season for Pre-K thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

## SPORTSMANSHIP

1. Please remember Camp Fire is a noncompetitive sports program. The focus is on skill building, self-confidence, and fun. Encourage players, parents, and coaches from both teams to promote an atmosphere of cooperation and fun. Cheer positively for all players involved on the field.

2. Negative chatter, taunting, foul language, rough play, fighting, etc. will not be tolerated by any player, parent, or coach for any reason!
3. After each game, cheer the other team and shake hands.

## **SOCCER RULES**

1. **2<sup>nd</sup> grade - 6<sup>th</sup> grade will use goalies.** The goalie will be able to use his/her hands to stop the ball within the marked goal box. If the goalie does gain possession of the ball, he or she may punt the ball or throw the ball down the field. Placing the ball on the ground makes it a live ball. Go over these rules with your players during practices.
2. Goal kicks will take place 4 steps forward from goal post.
3. When the ball goes out of bounds on the end-lines, a goal kick will be made if an offensive player kicked it out. If a defending player kicks it out of bounds, then an offensive player makes a corner kick. If the ball goes out of bounds on a sideline, the opposing team performs an overhand throw-in (all ages).
4. An overhand throw-in is done by holding the ball over your head with both hands and throwing the ball forward. Both feet must be on the ground at the time the ball is released from the hands. The ball must be thrown from directly over the head, not from the side or with just one hand. Redo the throw-in if it is not performed correctly.
5. There is a “no hands” rule for all players (except the goalie). A hand ball results in a free indirect kick for the opposing team. A handball occurs when the ball hits a player anywhere from the fingertips to the shoulder.
6. An indirect kick means that the ball must be touched by a teammate before the ball can enter the goal.
7. There will be a goal box marked with cones in which a goalie is permitted to pick up or handle the ball with his/her hands. A ball may be kicked by an offensive player until the goalie makes a play to field the ball **with their hands**. The ball may not be kicked once the ball is in the goalie’s hands.
8. The kick to start the game or the second half must be a forward kick. It also must touch another player once the ball has been put into play.
9. When kicking the ball, a player’s foot is not permitted to go above chest level.

## **COACHES:**

1. Teach the children to play in positions (forwards and defenders at least). It is up to the coach on how many forwards and defenders to have. This rule applies mainly to K-6 graders.
2. Treats are traditionally given out AFTER games. A halftime snack can be provided as well to re-energize the children (drink or fruit). Assign parents the responsibility to bring treats. No soda pop or candy (healthy treats please). **Be sure all wrappers are picked up and the field is left clean. We get complaints from the school principals if this is not done.**
3. It is the coach's responsibility to complete all games. If a game needs to be rescheduled because of weather or other reasons, make sure that you discuss this with the other coach. Remember that soccer is an outdoor sport and can be played in the rain, snow, and cold weather. Also, games can only be played when Camp Fire is contracted with the field and the field is not being used by any other teams.
4. Coaches are responsible for equipment checked out to them. Equipment is to be returned during the week following the last game. **Coaches will be billed if equipment is not returned.**
5. Make sure your team always arrives early to games. The games must start on time and prompt arrival is needed. Also, make sure that your team arrives early to their assigned picture time.

## **PARENTS & COACHES:**

1. Please help support Camp Fire in carrying out our program objective in providing your children with the most positive sports experience possible.
2. **NO SMOKING OR DRINKING IS ALLOWED DURING GAMES OR PRACTICES. PLEASE NOTIFY PARENTS THAT WE ARE USING SCHOOL PROPERTY AND IT IS AGAINST SCHOOL POLICY TO SMOKE OR DRINK ON SAID PROPERTY. WE DO NOT WANT TO LOSE OUR CONTRACT WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT. IT IS ALSO CAMP FIRE POLICY.**
3. If any coach, child, or parent has any problems with any other coach, parent, or child please feel free to contact the office at 232-8819.