

Fall 2017 Rule Changes – Highlights

NOTE: These are only selected highlights. There were several significant changes. Please familiarize yourselves with the rule changes relevant to your divisions.

Changes to Rules of Play (Article IV):

U8 4v4*	The play format and rules have changed in many respects. There will be no referees; the Field Marshal will supervise. See Appendix D.** <i>NOTE: The 15-minute waiting period will NOT apply.</i>
SD 7v7*	Rules are the same as for U9 7v7 except that ball size is No. 3.
U9 7v7	Rules are essentially the same as for past 8v8 divisions except for the reduction to seven players and the addition of build out lines on each half of the field, equidistant between the penalty area line and the halfway line. See Rule IV.4. with respect to demarcation of these lines. While recommended field size is 40 x 60 yards, field sizes permitted in the past will continue to be permitted this season.
U10 8v8	For this soccer year only, U10 teams, which played 8v8 last year, will continue to play 8v8 under the same rules as in the past. While recommended field size is 45 x 70 yards, field sizes permitted in the past will continue to be permitted this season.
U11 & U12 9v9	No changes. While recommended field size is 50 x 75 yards, field sizes permitted in the past will continue to be permitted this season.
U13 and older	No changes.

*Teams consisting entirely of U8 players (i.e., born 2010 or later) chose between playing in 4v4 mini-festival competitions or in Specially Designated (SD) 7v7 Divisions consisting entirely of U8 players playing under essentially the same format as the U9 divisions.

**Appendix D was revised in a few respects from the version distributed 9/1/17. Please review the revised version if you have teams playing U8 4v4.

NOTE: These changes are separate and apart from the changes to the IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game, which are our Rules of Play except as modified by our rules.

See Other Changes on the back.

Other Changes:

1. Silent Sunday: October 1. *[See IV.6 on p. 25 and Appendix A.]*
2. Initial deadline for scheduling TBS games is September 22 (Friday before third game). After this date, the away team becomes the home team and has three weeks to schedule the game, failing which the game becomes a double forfeit. *[See VI.1.F on p. 28 and VI.3.E. on p. 31.]*
3. While referees will continue to report game scores, clubs and coaches no longer need to report game scores except where a game (other than U8 4v4) is played without a referee. *[See I.1.D. on p. 2.]*
4. The rule with respect to failure to adhere to registration deadlines was clarified and tightened. *[See I.2.A. on p. 3.]*
5. The first day of the tryout window was changed from May 1 to April 1. *[See I.2.J.1. on p. 8.]*
6. The rule with respect to intra-club borrowing of players was clarified to more clearly define when a team is “age appropriate” for a player and to clarify the rule’s application to players who play as guest players in the U8 divisions. *[See I.2.N. on pp. 9-10.]*
7. The League’s policies and practices with respect to guest teams (teams from clubs not registered as members) were codified. *[See I.2.O. on p. 11.]*
8. Requirements for coaching education/certification have been updated to reflect the new NSCAA 7v7/9v9 coaching certification; a requirement with respect to coaches of teams playing U13 and older receiving NSCAA 11v11 coaching certification was added. *[See I.2.2. on p. 14-15.]*
9. The rules with respect to coaching and referee responsibilities were otherwise updated in certain respects to reflect the differences between the U8 4v4 format and other game formats. Generally, in U8 4v4 matches, the Field Marshal assumes most of the referee’s responsibilities including with respect to heading and concussion management. *[See Article II on pp. 14-19, Rule III.4 on p. 21, and Appendices D and E.]*
10. The email address for the League’s Referee Assignor has changed to assignor@wyslsoccer.org. *[See VI.2.G. on p. 30 and VI.4.A. on p. 33.]*
11. A fine of up to \$500 may be imposed for last-minute cancellations or postponements not permitted by the rules that could have been avoided or less disruptive if handled in a timely fashion. *[See VI.4.B. on p. 33.]*