



Abbreviated Rules for All Age Groups (Rec) | Fall 2016 (version 4)

| | Age Groups | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Topics | U6 | U8 | U10 | U13 |
| Field Size (L x W) | 30 x 20 yards | 50 x 30 yards | 65 x 40 yards | 70 x 50 yards |
| Practice Length | 45m - 1 hr | 1 hr | 1 hr | 1hr |
| Events per Week (practices and games) | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Game Length /Format | 32m (8 min quarters) Casual, "pick-up" No refs | 40m (10 min quarters) 1 referee used | 50m (25 min halves) 1 referee used | 60m (30 min halves) 2 referees used |
| Ball Size | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Equipment | Shin Guards, Cleats, No Jewelry | Shin Guards, Cleats, No Jewelry | Shin Guards, Cleats, No Jewelry | Shin Guards, Cleats, No Jewelry |
| Coaches During Game | Sideline only or Field | Sideline only (not behind goal) | Sideline only (not behind goal) | Sideline only (not behind goal) |
| # of Players on Field | 3 | 4 | 6 (5 + GK) | 9 (8 + GK) |
| Playing Time | Ensure all players allowed to play a ½ game minimum | Ensure all players allowed to play a ½ game minimum | Ensure all players allowed to play a ½ game minimum | Ensure all players allowed to play a ½ game minimum |
| Substitutions (Ref may give consent for more frequent rotation) | Typically made between quarters | Typically made between quarters | Typically made at quarter marks and halves | Typically made at quarter marks and halves |
| Goalkeepers | None | None | Yes | Yes |
| Goalkeeper Rotation | N/A | N/A | Only at half-time unless injury occurs | Only at half-time unless injury occurs |
| Throw-ins | No penalty for incorrect throw/kick-in. Kick in are fine. Just get them playing again! | 3 chances to make correct throw | Improper throw = turnover | Improper throw = turnover |
| Defense Distance on Throw-ins | 3 yards | 3 yards | 3 yards | 3 yards |
| Goal Kick Type | Retreat Line | Retreat Line | Retreat Line | Standard |
| Restart of play | Ball is in play when kicked out of the box from anywhere inside the box | Ball is in play when passed/kicked out of the box | Ball is in play when passed/kicked out of the penalty area | Ball is placed anywhere on 6y box. Ball must be kicked out of penalty area to be in play. |
| Non-kicking team positioning on goal kicks | Across midfield "retreat" line until ball leaves the box | Across midfield "retreat" line until ball leaves the box | Across midfield "retreat" line until ball leaves penalty area | Outside penalty box |
| Goal Kick Notes | Use the time/space afforded by retreat line to start attack from the back with dribbling /passing | Use the time/space afforded by retreat line to start attack from the back with dribbling /passing. A goal may "technically" be scored directly from goal kick. | Goal may be scored directly from goal kick. | Goal may be scored directly from goal kick. |
| Corner Kicks | Goal may be scored against the opposing team. | Goal may be scored against opposing team. | Goal may be scored against opposing team. | Goal may be scored against the opposing team. |
| Defense Distance on Corner Kicks | 3 yards from ball | 5 yards from ball | 8 yards from ball | 10 yards from ball |
| Penalty Kicks | None | None | Yes | Yes |
| Free Kicks | All indirect | All indirect | Direct & indirect | Direct & indirect |
| Offsides rule | No | No | No | Yes |
| Kick-offs to start game and restart from quarters/halves | Just get the play started! Any kick/dribble/pass will work! No scoring directly from kick-off. | Ball is in play when passed in any direction, including backwards , to a teammate. No scoring directly from kick-off. | Ball is in play when passed in any direction, including backwards , to a teammate. No scoring directly from kick-off. | Ball is in play when passed in any direction, including backwards , to a teammate. No scoring directly from kick-off. |
| Position of opposing players during kick-off | Outside the center circle | Outside the center circle | Outside the center circle | Outside the center circle |

If you have any questions about the content in this document, please contact Scott Sandlin at doc@decatursoccer.com.