

Clearfield Recreation Age 5/Kindergarten & 1st/2nd Grade Soccer Bylaws Spring 2026:

Philosophy: This league is to encourage all participants to learn the basic skills of soccer, while also learning how to interact with other participants in a positive, safe atmosphere. Coaches and parents are expected to be examples in creating that positive and safe atmosphere by participating in good sportsmanship on and off the field.

1. A size 3 soccer ball will be used during the games.
2. 4 vs 4 games. A game can start and finish with 3 players. No goalies. We support equal playing time. If a team is not rotating players equally, Clearfield City may require the team follow a substitution outline.
3. There are no forfeits in this league. A game will be organized with players that are present.
4. A game consists of a 15-minute practice followed by four 8-minute quarters. 1-minute quarter breaks. 3-minute halftime interval or when players are ready.
5. Substitutions are only between quarters and at the four-minute mark of the quarter unless a player is injured. The clock will stop long enough to sub players in and out. The substitution break is just to sub players in and out (30-seconds or less), not a break to coach. Play will restart from where the ball was.
6. In the event of an injury, the game will be stopped, and the player should be replaced.
7. Players must not wear anything that is dangerous to themselves or others (i.e. jewelry, watches).
8. Closed toe shoes are required. Soccer cleats can be worn. NO METAL OR TOE CLEATS.
9. SHIN GUARDS ARE MANDATORY.
10. A reversible white/green Clearfield Soccer jersey must be worn. Cold weather clothes can be worn under the jersey. Home team will wear white. Away team will wear green.
11. Clearfield Recreation staff will officiate the games. One coach is allowed on the field only if needed to help assist the players. Parents must remain on the sideline.
12. Home team chooses which goal to attack at the start of the game. Away team kicks off to start the 1st & 3rd quarters. Home team kicks off to start the 2nd and 4th quarters. Switch sides at halftime.
13. Kick-off, free kick, goal kick, corner kick, and throw-in: The ball must be stationary before being kicked. All defensive players must be at least 5-yards away when the ball is kicked. The kicker/thrower cannot touch the ball after the kick/throw until another player has touched it. Thrower must keep both hands on the ball, bring the ball all the way behind their head, and keep both feet on the ground. If a throw is done incorrectly, the player gets one more chance to rethrow and then the ball goes to the other team.
14. Kick-off:
 - a. Ball is placed on the center line in the center circle. Ball can be kicked forward or backward.
 - b. Defensive players must be on their own half of the field and outside of the center circle.
 - c. Offensive players must be on their own half of the field. Can be inside or outside of the circle.
15. The entire ball must cross the whole line to be out of play or score a goal.
16. Free Kicks:
 - a. Awarded on fouls (kicks, trips, strikes, or pushes an opponent), hand balls, and dangerous plays (i.e. sliding, heading the ball, high kicks).
 - i. NO SLIDE TACKLING. No kicking the ball while the player is on the ground.
 - ii. Heading the ball is NOT allowed in games or practices.
 - b. All free kicks will be indirect (the ball must touch another player before going in the goal).
 - c. No penalty kicks (PK's).
 - d. Any free kick within 5-yards of the goal box will be moved to a distance of 5-yards away from the box in a straight line from the center of the goal.
17. Goals can NOT be scored on a kick-off, throw-in, free kick, corner kick, or from a team's own defensive half. A goal can only be scored from a touch on the offensive half of the playing field.
18. Goal Kick:
 - a. Will be taken from the goal box (arc).
 - b. Non-kicking team must stay behind the near edge of the center circle until the ball is kicked.
19. Players may only enter the goal box (arc) to kick the ball.
 - a. If defensive players stand in the goal box for an extended period ("puppy guarding"), it will result in a free kick for the opposing team. Defensive players should be taught to go after the ball.
 - b. If there is a safety concern with too many players being in the goal box, the referee can blow their whistle to help prevent players falling into the goal. Will result in a goal kick.
20. The offside rule is not in effect.