

# **MSC - RECREATION SOCCER**

## **LAWS OF THE GAME**

### **PRE KINDERGARTEN (PRE-K) AND KINDERGARTEN (K) BOYS & GIRLS**

#### **LAW 1 – The Field of Play:**

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 20 yards / maximum 30 yards

Width: minimum 15 yards / maximum 25 yards

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is a rectangle. There is no center mark or circle.

The Goal Area: None

The Penalty Area: None

Flag posts: None

The Corner Arc: None

Goals: Two (2) “pug” style goals

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#### **LAW 2 – The Ball: Size three (3)**

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#### **LAW 3 – The Number of Players:**

A match is played by two teams; each consisting of not more than four (4) players per team. There are NO goalkeepers (4v4).

Substitutions can occur a: At any stoppage and unlimited. Coaches can substitute “on the fly”.

Playing time: Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.

Teams are kept small with no more than 8 players assigned to a roster.

Teams may be coed based upon the player-registration numbers. Players must be four (4) years of age upon the date registration opens.

Rosters are selected randomly with a goal to form equal/balanced teams to promote a fun/competitive environment. The Recreation Soccer Commissioner or his/her designee will assign players to teams. Player allocation considerations may include, but not be limited to, the following: teammate/coach requests, carpooling requests, school and neighborhood similarities. If appropriate, efforts will be made to separate PRE-K and K into two divisions. TEAMMATE/COACH REQUESTS ARE NOT GUARANTEED.

Each team must have a volunteer coach. When possible an assistant coach will also be allocated.

If the number of players outweighs the number of volunteer coaches, players will be removed from the program and given a full refund. The order to which players will be turned away will be based upon the last to register and so forth.

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**LAW 4 – The Players Equipment:**

Conform to FIFA rules. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams. All players must wear shin guards and provided soccer socks that cover the shin guard entirely. Shin guards cannot be worn over the socks. Soccer cleats are suggested.

Jewelry: All earrings and necklaces must be removed. Taping earrings is unacceptable by the rules.

Glasses: No eyeglasses are to be worn, without protective eyewear, as per NJ Law Chapter 306. This applies to matches and training sessions.

CHAPTER 306

An Act concerning protective eyewear for certain children and supplementing Title 5 of the Revised Statutes.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.5:18-1 Protective eyewear for certain children participating in sports.

1. Any child who wears corrective eyeglasses while participating in racquetball, squash, tennis, women's lacrosse, basketball, women's field hockey, badminton, paddleball, soccer, volleyball, baseball or softball, sponsored by a school, community or government agency, shall be required to wear protective eyewear that meets the frames standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F803 and lens standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z87.1.

C.5:18-2 Grants to assist low-income families.

2. The New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, established under P.L.1999, c.265 (C.26:1A-37.5 et seq.) is authorized to provide grants to assist low-income families in purchasing the protective eyewear. As used in this section, a "low-income family" means a family which qualifies for low-income housing under the standards promulgated by the Council on Affordable Housing pursuant to the "Fair Housing Act," P.L.1985, c.222 (C.52:27D-301 et al.).

C.5:18-3 Immunity from civil liability.

3. No school, community or government agency engaged in organizing, teaching, refereeing or coaching a sports activity described in section 1 of this act shall be liable in a civil action for failure to administer or enforce the provisions of this act.

4. This act shall take effect six months after the date of enactment.

Approved January 11, 2006.

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**LAW 5 – Referees: None**

Each team coach or assistant coach should remain on the field and monitor play. Coaches may provide guidance, if appropriate. No more than two (2) coaches should be on the field [one (1) coach per team] Parents, players, and spectators shall remain back a minimum distance of 1 yd from the touch line.

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**LAW 6 – Assistant Referees: None**

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**LAW 7 – The Duration of the Match:**

Matches should not exceed thirty (30) minutes and can be managed accordingly by coaches providing adequate water breaks and rest breaks to players.

**LAW 8 - The Start and Restart of Play:**

Conform to FIFA, with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

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**LAW 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play:**

Conform to FIFA.

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**LAW 10 – The Method of Scoring:**

A goal is scored when the ball crosses the goal line into the “pug” net. SCORE is not recorded at this level and no official team standings are posted.

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**LAW 11 – Offside: None**

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**LAW 12 – Fouls and Misconduct:**

Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in a direct free kick. The coach will explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards or send off shall be issued to players. If a player is being too rambunctious, then the coach shall make a substitution of that player.

No slide tackles to be allowed in this age group.

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**LAW 13 – Free Kicks:**

Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all free kicks are direct and opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

**LAW 14 – The Penalty Kick: None**

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**LAW 15 – The Pass-In: (Throw-in)**

A pass-in is considered as a direct free kick with the opponents four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play. Since some U6 players do not yet have the hand-eye coordination to execute a throw-in to the letter of the law, a throw-in is played as a pass-in and is awarded to the opposite team who last touched the ball, prior to the ball leaving the field of play.

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**LAW 16 – The Goal Kick:**

The goal kick should be taken within two (2) yards from the goal line anywhere across the width of the field of play at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved. Opposing players must be a minimum of four (4) yards away from the ball until it is in play. It is suggested that if necessary that opponents are in their own half of the field until the ball is in play.

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**LAW 17 – The Corner Kick:**

Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

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## **GENERAL RULES & INFORMATION**

SPORTSMANSHIP – Sticking tongues out, spitting on hands for “high fives” after matches etc., are unacceptable. Coaches should promote positive play and good sportsmanship. Opposing coaches, players and parents should shake hands after each match.

PRE-K and K activities will begin with a thirty-minute training session conducted by MSC’s training vendor. Volunteer coaches are encouraged to assist with the training activities.

Coaches and players will be allocated and team rosters will be sent electronically to coaches no less than two (2) weeks before the opening day.

Specific teammate and coach requests are not guaranteed.

PRE-K and K players will be issued a Medford Soccer Club team jersey and soccer socks.

The recreation program (season) will generally consist of ten (10) matches. Efforts will be made to “make-up” matches cancelled due to inclement weather; however based upon scheduling, not guaranteed.

Each team is permitted to have a maximum of two (2) volunteer coaches on the sideline with the players. Parents/spectators should be on the opposite side of the field from the player bench.