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# **Age 6-7 Youth Soccer Rules**

### **Equipment:**

- Soft-soled athletic shoes or cleats (optional).
- Shin guards are not required but they are highly recommended (parent discretion).
- Team Shirts will be provided by Orting Parks and Recreation prior to the first game.

#### **Practices & Games:**

 Practices and Games for Ages 6-7 will be held at Gratzer Sports Park located near 416 Orting Ave. NW in Orting (right next to Whitehawk Park). Please note the field is located behind the baseball fields.

## **Number of Players & Playing Time:**

- 4 players on the field per side. There will be no goalie. One player is
  designated as a defender, the other three players are strikers. Play younger
  kids and older kids at the same time.
- If a team does not have 4 players they may play with only 3 players or borrow a player.
- Coaches should play players an equal amount of time, (exceptions: disciplinary reasons).

## **Starting the Game:**

- Home team is responsible for designating a referee (it can be a coach or parent), providing goal nets and a game ball.
- Home team will be given first possession at the center of the field.
- Possession will alternate at the beginning of each period.

#### **Duration of the Game:**

- For Ages 6-7, two (2) 20-minute halves will be played with a five (5) minute break between halves.
- The clock will run throughout the game stopping only in the case of an injury and timeouts.
- Teams are allowed 2 timeouts per game. Timeouts are limited to 1 minute each.

## **Playing Area:**

 The ball is always in play until the official blows their whistle or stops the game.

- When the ball has gone out of play, there are three ways for a team to bring it back into play: a goal kick, a corner kick, or a throw in
- Goal Kick: The referee will award a goal kick when the ball goes out of play
  at either end of the field, and a player from the attacking team was the last
  person to touch the ball. A player from the defending team must take a goal
  kick from within their goal area. All players on the opposing team must be
  outside of the penalty area when the kick is taken.
- Corner Kick: The referee will award a corner kick when the ball goes out of
  play at either end of the field, and a player from the defending team was the
  last person to touch the ball. A player on the attacking team must take the
  corner kick from the corner of the field closet to where the ball went out.
- Throw-in: If the ball goes out of play along the sidelines, the referee will award a throw-in to the opponents of the team that last touched the ball. For a throw-in, a player throws the ball in with both hands from where the ball went out of play. The player taking the throw-in must have both feet on the ground when they release the ball and throw the ball from behind their head.

## Goal Keeper:

- We will not have goalies but instead you may have one player designated as a defender.
- Please do not allow children to play with the soccer goals!

#### **Substitutions:**

- Coaches may substitute at any time. Calling a timeout is a good way to substitute multiple players.
- Coaches should try to get their players on and off the field as soon as possible to avoid confusion.

#### **Fouls and Penalties:**

- Absolutely no sliding is allowed.
- The official will discourage players from using their hands, but penalties for handballs may or may not be called depending on circumstances (referee discretion).
- Absolutely no pushing, elbowing, or putting hands out to stop the ball.

#### Goals:

- A goal will be acknowledged when the ball passes completely into the goal.
- After each goal, the ball will immediately start at the center of the field for the non-scoring team to kick off the ball. Opposing team players must back up behind the half court line until the ball is kicked into play by the defender.
- **Game score is NOT kept.** The emphasis on this league is fun rather than winning and losing.

#### NOTE:

If coaches from both teams agree to other rules that benefit the players for a **FUN EXPERIENCE** then feel free to work it out amongst your teams.