

# U6 & U8 Tri Valley Little Ballers Soccer

In the fundamental stage of soccer learning which covers ages 4 to 6. The objective is to learn all elementary movement skills by building overall motor skills. Individual and small group play is essential for both touches on the ball and learning at their own pace. The emphasis should be on letting the children play. Other modifications adapted to the ability of the players are as follows:

## Purpose

- To allow participants to have fun in a safe environment
- To allow all participants the opportunity to participate
- To teach basic skills and fundamentals of not only soccer but team work and sportsmanship
- To provide participants the opportunity to learn the fundamentals in a recreational atmosphere
- To provide participants with a chance to develop social, motor, and movement skills

## Rules and Regulations

### **A. Equipment**

- All players must wear protective shin guards and socks. Socks must be long enough to cover the shin guard completely.
- Aluminum or metal cleats are not allowed and must be removed. Only rubber or plastic cleats will be deemed acceptable for play. Tennis shoes are acceptable footwear.
- Uniforms will be provided by the sponsoring recreation agency.
- Players must remove all watches, earrings, and any other jewelry that the officials deem hazardous

### **B. Duration of Practice – Up to 2 one hour practices a week**

### **C. Code Of Conduct**

- If the game supervisor witnesses any acts of intentional tackling, elbowing, cheap shots, blocking, or any unsportsmanlike act, the game will be stopped, and the player will be ejected from the game. The decision is made at the game supervisors' discretion and no appeals will be considered. FOUL PLAY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.
- Offensive or confrontational language is illegal. Game Supervisors have the right to determine offensive language. If offensive or confrontational language occurs, the game supervisor will give one warning. If it continues, the player/players/coach/spectator will be ejected from the game.
- Spectators must also adhere to good sportsmanship, as well.
  - o Yell to cheer on your players, not to harass officials or other teams.
  - o Keep comments clean and profanity-free.
  - o Compliment ALL players, not just one child or team.
- Spectators are required to keep fields safe and kid friendly.

- o Keep younger children and equipment (i.e., coolers, mats, chairs, etc.) a minimum of 10 yards off the side of the field.
- o Stay in the "fan zone" area- opposite side of the field as the teams.
- o No one is allowed behind the end zones for safety reasons.

#### **D. Inclement Weather**

All activities will be cancelled if any one of the following weather occurrences exist:

- Thunder/Lightning: We will delay or cancel activities when lightning is determined to be within 6 miles. This will be determined by using the WeatherBug App.
- Rain or Snow: Any time there is constant rain or snow that affects the visibility and/or safety of the field, the game will be cancelled.
- Light: No light is present due to loss of sunlight and facility does not have adequate light to provide a safe environment.
- Playing Field: Activities will be cancelled if the playing environment is determined unsafe due to condition.
  - o Standing water on activity surface.
  - o Footing is unsure and slippery.
  - o Temperature is lower than 36 degrees Fahrenheit.
  - o Sustained wind speeds exceeding 25 mph or wind gusts of 50 mph. Any time there is wind that makes visibility of the playing field poor.

#### **U6 (Age: 4-6) 4v4**

- Size 3 ball
- Field Dimension: 35x25 yards (105ft by 75ft)
- Goal Size:
- 3 or 4 Field Players - No Goal keepers
- Two 15-minute halves with 5-minute half time
- No referees - Coaches facilitate the game from the touchline. (sideline)
- Kick-offs used to start play. Kicks and kick-ins used to restart play. NO THROW INS
- All restarts and kicks are indirect.
- Goal kicks and corner kicks should be taken in the general vicinity of the respective goal or corner
- On goal kicks, opponent must retreat to the midfield line
- Opponents should be 10 feet away from the ball on all restarts, including kick-ins, except goal kicks
- No Heading
- Substitutions allowed on any stoppage of play
- Home team will keep time

### **U8 (Age: 7-8) 5v5**

- Four field players plus one goal keeper
- Size 3 ball
- Field Dimension: 35x25 yards (105ft by 75ft)
- Goal Size: 6x12
- Two 20-minute halves with one 5 minute half-time
- Home team provides a facilitator to manage the game
  - Kick offs, free kicks, throw-ins, goal kicks and corner kicks are used to start or restart play
- Corner kicks should be taken in the general vicinity of the respective goal or corner
- Goal kicks can be taken from anywhere within the penalty area
- On goal kicks, opponent must retreat to the midfield line
  - Goalkeeper makes the save and waits for the defending team to retreat to midfield. The play is live the moment the goalkeeper releases the ball.
  - Goalkeepers are allowed to throw the ball out to r or they may set the ball down and kick the ball in for the restart.
  - Spirit of the game: This gives teams options to allow goalkeepers to release the ball quickly or after the defending team retreats to midline. This will allow for more success for the goalkeepers when distributing.
- On throw-ins, opponent must be 2 yards from the ball
- All free kicks are indirect. This includes kick offs, corner kicks and goal kicks.
- Opponents should be 5 yards away from the ball on all restarts except goal kicks and throw-ins
- No punting, no heading
- If a player intentionally punts or heads the ball, the opposing team will be awarded an indirect free kick
- If the penalty occurs inside the penalty area, the facilitator will place the ball outside of the penalty area and the opposing team will be awarded an indirect free kick. NO PENALTY KICKS.
- Substitutions allowed on any stoppage of play
- Home team will keep time and record keeping

