

The Farm League Youth Soccer Program

www.thefarmleague.com/soccer

MISSION STATEMENT: The goal of The Farm League Youth Soccer Program is to provide a safe learning environment where players can have fun playing soccer and coaches can teach the game without worrying about “winning”. The league rules have been created with this in mind. What matters is fun, encouragement, lots of touches on the ball and as much continuous play as possible.

About

The Farm League Youth Soccer Program (TFLYS) offers separate Fall and Spring seasons for Pre-K through Second Grade boys and girls. All games are played at The Farm League Park. Registration is done online only. Teams are created based on friend requests and balancing of the talent. It benefits no one if games are lopsided.

Training Program

The Farm League Youth Soccer Program goes beyond just throwing players on a team and letting them run with it. Instead, the professional coaches from the Texans Soccer Club offer a weekly skills session for all players. During these sessions, the focus is on Technical Skills. Players may not always be grouped with their teammates, but may be placed in a group that is more suitable for their current level of play. Each team has a volunteer coach whom may choose to offer a separate practice for their team.

Training Expectations | PLAYERS:

1. Bring a Ball
2. Bring Water
3. Wear Shin Guards
4. Go to the Bathroom before Practice
5. Listen to Your Coaches
6. Be Respectful of Your Teammates

Training Expectations | PARENTS:

1. Please stay off the soccer field. You may watch from the sidelines. Coaches will summon you if needed. *If your child requires you to walk around with them, they may not be ready for this program yet.*
2. Let your child have an hour alone with soccer; they don't have to run to you at every water break.
3. Keep distractions away: pets, little brothers and sisters, kites, frisbees, etc.

SKILLS TRAINING SCHEDULE

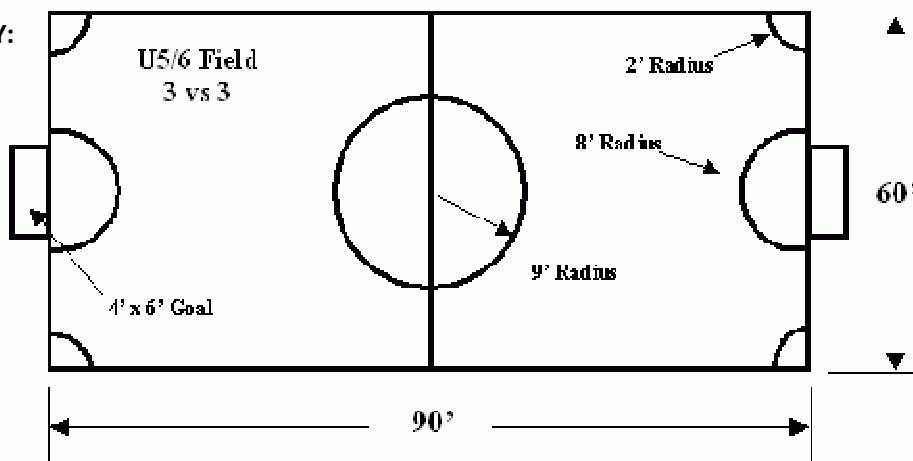
Pre-K and Kindergarten | Mondays | 5:30p | The Farm League Park
First and Second Grade | Wednesdays | 5:30p | The Farm League Park

2013 Fall Soccer League Rules and Suggestions

Pre-K and Kindergarten (U4-U5)

4v4 No Goalkeeper

THE FIELD OF PLAY:



CONTINUOUS PLAY: TFL Soccer is adopting a "Continuous Play" or "New Ball" format for Pre-K and Kindergarten age players. Here is a brief description of how this works.

The Process: Whenever a ball goes OUT OF PLAY or a GOAL IS SCORED, a coach announces "New Ball!" and rolls another ball into play. NO KICK OFFS after a Goal! NO KICK-INS! NO GOAL KICKS! NO CORNER KICKS! There is no referee. The coaches are responsible for controlling the game. Substitutions are done "on the fly" like hockey. When a player gets tired or the coach wants to make a substitution, the player runs off the field and a new player runs on. No stoppage.

Tips for Success: Several balls are required for this method. Use a regular "kick-off" to start each half. The two coaches assign themselves each to half of the field and carry one or two balls in their arms. If the ball goes slightly out of play, but the player dribbles the ball back in, that's ok - let them play on! The 'new ball' should be rolled to neutral space or toward the disadvantaged team. Coaches control the pace of the game. You may need to pause for a few seconds before distributing a new ball, especially after a goal. Give the players several seconds to re-set and rest after a goal. Roll the new ball in near the center of the field toward the team that was scored against. DO NOT bounce the 'new ball' as it is difficult for these players to judge a bouncing ball at this age. Favor the team on the wrong end of a one sided game. Favor individual players who are not becoming involved in the game. Have parents retrieve lost balls and return them to the coach who just rolled the new ball in so he/she now has 2 balls once more!

GAME LENGTH: Four, (10)-minute quarters, with a (2) minute break between quarters, and a (5) minute break at the half.

SUB CONTROL: Each team should designate a parent who can fairly manage substitutions.

Law 1 THE FIELD OF PLAY: The dimensions and marking of the field shall be as illustrated. The size of the goal will be 4' High x 6' Wide. The 8' Arc in front of each goal is the *Goal Area*. No player may stand within the Goal Area; however any player may move through the Goal Area.

Law 2 THE BALL: Size 3.

Law 3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS: Maximum of 4 players from each team on the field at any one time. There are **No Goalkeepers**. Players may be substituted by either team "on the fly" at any time. **NOTE:** Goal Tending (positioning a player in front of your own goal inside the semi-circle for the sole purpose of keeping the opposition team from scoring) is not allowed.

Law 4 PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes. Shin guards are MANDATORY. Shin guards are to be worn UNDER the socks and the jersey tucked in. Players may not wear watches, necklaces, earrings, rings, or other jewelry.

Law 5 METHOD OF SCORING: Conform to FIFA - Ball must completely cross goal line between posts and beneath crossbar to count.

Law 6 OFF-SIDE: There is no off-side in small-sided games. **NOTE:** Cherry Picking (positioning a player in front of the opposing team's goal for the sole purpose of scoring) will not be allowed.

Additional Information

- Coaches WILL NOT keep score during games for these age groups. Coaches and parents are to be reminded that the purpose of this program is to develop the individual player's ball control skills, not to gather an impressive team victory record.
- No alcoholic beverages or smoking will be allowed near the playing area.
- Parents of both teams will sit on the same side of the field with their players.
- Parents should avoid coaching their kids. Leave that to the designated coach. The more information that is given, the less that will be heard by the players.
- Coaches will handle any injuries and parents should not run onto the field in the event of an injury. If the coach determines that the injury is serious, the parent will be summoned to the field.
- Players should arrive to the fields at least 20 minutes early to find their team and begin a warm up with their coach.
- The Farm League wants all games to be as balanced as possible and may adjust the teams at different times to create a more balanced game. Be aware that this is simply to improve the overall experience for everyone.

***** Relax and Let the Kids Enjoy THEIR Game *****

First Grade and Second Grade (U6 and U7)

5v5 (Goalkeeper plus 4)

Law 1 THE FIELD OF PLAY: Expect the field dimensions to be 40 yards x 30 yards.

Law 2 THE BALL: Size 4.

Law 3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS: Maximum of 5 players, including the goalkeeper, from each team on the field at any one time. Players may be substituted at any time with the permission of the referee: prior to a goal kick or throw in by either team; after a goal by either team; after an injury by either team; when the referee stops play and at half-time. Players must Enter and Exit the field from the halfway-line. Each player rostered to a team SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time. Teams and games may be coed.

Law 4 PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes. Shin guards are MANDATORY. Shin guards are to be worn UNDER the socks and the jersey tucked in. Players may not wear watches, necklaces, earrings, rings, or other jewelry.

Law 5 REFEREES: TFL will furnish referees whose primary objective is to ensure that players are learning the rules of the game. This may mean that a referee allows players to "redo a throw-in". Such decisions are left to the referee and all parents and spectators should recognize that the focus of the league is Player Development.

Law 6 DURATION OF THE GAME: Game shall be divided into two (2) equal halves of twenty (20) minutes each and a half-time break of five (5) minute.

Law 7 THE START OF PLAY: Conform to FIFA except that opposing players shall be eight (8) yards from the center mark while kick-off is in progress.

Law 8 BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY: Conform to FIFA - Ball must completely cross line to be "out of play". Ball is "in play" if any part of the ball is on or above the line.

Law 9 METHOD OF SCORING: Conform to FIFA - Ball must completely cross goal line between posts and beneath crossbar to count.

Law 10 OFF-SIDE: There is no off-side in small-sided games. **NOTE:** Cherry Picking (positioning a player in front of the opposing team's goal for the sole purpose of scoring) will not be allowed.

Law 11 FOULS: Don't expect many fouls to be called unless things are blatantly obvious.

Law 15 THROW-IN, GOAL KICKS AND CORNER KICKS: Conform to FIFA

ADDITIONAL TFL RULES: Referees will keep score during games. Coaches and parents are to be reminded that the purpose of this program is to develop the individual player's ball control skills, not to gather an impressive team victory record.

- No alcoholic beverages or smoking will be allowed near the playing area.
- Parents of both teams will sit on the same side of the field with their players.
- Parents should avoid coaching their kids. Leave that to the designated coach. The more information that is given, the less that will be heard.
- Coaches and Referees will handle any injuries and parents should not run onto the field in the event of an injury. If the coach or referee determines that the injury is serious, the parent will be summoned to the field.
- Players should arrive to the fields at least 20 minutes early to find their team and begin a warm up with their coach.
- The Farm League wants all games to be as balanced as possible and may adjust the teams at different times to create a more balanced game. Be aware that this is simply to improve the overall experience for everyone.

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