



**SOUTH TEXAS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION
PROPOSED RULE CHANGE #17
(One Change per Form, Please)**

SECTION I: ADD OR CHANGE A RULE

Is there currently a rule that applies? X Yes No

Primary Page No(s): General Rules of Play Pages 1-3 (sections 6.0 – 6.1.2) Secondary Page No(s):

Rule Location: **GENERAL RULES OF PLAY ALL LEVELS AND AGES EXCEPTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO FIFA LAWS**

Title of Section(s): **6.0 AGE GROUPS, 6.1 SPECIAL RULES OF PLAY 4U through 19U AGE GROUPS EXCEPTIONS ANS ADDITIONS TO FIFA LAWS, 6.1.0 AGE GROUP, 6.1.1 NUMBER OF PLAYERS, 6.1.2 PLAYING TIME & SUBSTITUTION REQUIREMENTS**

Rule as it presently reads:

SEE PDF RULES PROPOSAL E

Proposed Additions and/or Changes:

.....
 6.1.4 **Ball Size (Changed 2.21.16)**
 Ball sizes for the age groups as shown in Table 6.1.4 below will follow USSF/USYS rules and recommended guidelines.

Ball Size	
Age	Size
13U-19U	5
9U-12U	4
4U-8U	3

Table 6.1.4

6.1.54 Length of Games (Changed 2.21.16)

Length of Games	
Age	Time
19U	Two Forty Five (45) minute halves/ 15 min half
17U-18U	Two Forty Five (45) minute halves/ 15 min half
15U-16U	Two Forty (40) minute halves/ 15 min half
13U-14U	Two Thirty Five (35) minute halves/ 15 min half
11U-12U	Two Thirty (30) minute halves/10 min half
9U-10U	Two Twenty Five (25) minute halves/10 min half
8U	Three Fifteen (15) minute periods/5 min breaks
4U-7U	Four Eight (8) minute quarters/5 min breaks

Table 6.1.5

For length of games for 4U-12U playing formats refer to the respective age group tables in section 6.1.3.

If deemed necessary, competition officials, coaches and/or referees may adjust the length of games due to weather conditions (i.e. water breaks) or may adjust based on the nature of the competition.

6.1.5 **Player Equipment**

- (a) All players will wear shin guards which are commercially produced and specifically designed to provide protection to the shins.
- (b) No player will be allowed to play with a hard cast (padded or otherwise)
- (c) No player will be allowed to play with any brace (knee or otherwise) that contains exposed metal or hard plastics, unless it is wrapped with a minimum of ½ inch high-density foam wrapping or the manufacturer's recommended protective coating.
- (d) Bandannas of any style may not be worn during any game. Players may not wear a bandanna either on their heads, legs or arms. Exceptions may be made at the local level for medical reasons.
- (e) The Players' Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

6.1.6 **Referees (Changed 7.19.15)**

The referee's judgment decisions shall be final in all matters concerning the rules governing the playing of the game, the playability of the field and the appropriateness of the uniforms. At the completion of the match, the referee shall have each coach sign the game report and submit the game report to the competition representative.

Rules pertaining to the number of players on the field to avoid forfeit will be determined by the national, state and local competition. Also see Rule. 6.1.1.

A game card will be completed by the referee for all play within STYSA. This card will, at a minimum, contain the following:

- (a) Association, age group, division, game location, date, game time
- (b) Team names and final score
- (c) Cautions (yellow cards) or ejections (red cards) issued, by team with player / name
- (d) Any protest noted and brief basis for those protests
- (e) Prior to each STYSA sanctioned match, each team shall present to the referee the Adult Participation Pass for each Coach and other Eligible Adult who is present. The referee shall record as part of the game card each Adult Participation Pass that is so presented, by marking on the roster next to the name of each Coach (over age 17) or other Eligible Adult who is listed on the roster and is identified on an Adult Participation Pass and by recording on the game card the name of each Coach (over age 17) or other Eligible Adult for whom an Adult Participation Pass is presented but is not on the roster.

These game cards are to be retained through the end of the District or STYSA Tournaments.

Disputes must be noted on the referee's game report and a complete description of the incident shall be submitted to the appropriate Disciplinary and Protest Representative.

6.1.7 Fouls and Misconduct

The FIFA Law with respect to the charging of the goalkeeper shall not apply in youth play. There shall be no charging of the goalkeeper, fairly or unfairly, in STYSA sanctioned competition. Any such act will be considered as "dangerous play" at the least and punished accordingly.

.....
SECTION II - JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PROPOSED RULE CHANGE:

Provide justification for the proposed change

General Rules of Play: 6.0-6.1.2.

Current rules are included in this proposal as there are multiple corrections/updates that are required by ALL US SOCCER MEMBERS to meet US Soccer Player Development Initiatives. The PDIs went into effect nationwide on August 1, 2016 for all US Soccer members.

This STYSA document requires updating to be in compliance with the US Soccer Player Development Initiative Mandates which went into effect on August 1, 2017. Our STYSA rules are out of date and inaccurate.

Many of these US Soccer rules have already been implemented and are being used throughout South Texas but our rules document has not been updated to reflect the new mandate. STYSA implemented most of these changes in August 2016 under the guidance of USYS so the need for updating our documents is important at this summer GBM as we are already out of compliance. Updating our rules provides our members additional clarity and allows for consistency.

Submitted by: Jené Baclawski, STYSA Technical Director Education
Neal Ellis, STYSA Technical Director of Player Development

Rules Committee Recommendation: The Committee recommends passage.

Executive Committee Recommendation: The Executive Committee recommends passage.

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