



# SOUTH TEXAS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION PROPOSED RULE CHANGE #16 (One Change per Form, Please)

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## SECTION I: ADD OR CHANGE A RULE

Is there currently a rule that applies?  Yes  No

Primary Page No(s): General Rules of Play Pages 6 (4U-5U)

Secondary Page No(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Title of Section(s): **4U-5U table within section 6.1.3**

### Rule as it presently reads:

Age	Marking on the field	Minimum Dimensions	Maximum Dimensions
4U-5U	Field Size	(W) 15 x (L) 20 yards	(W) 20 x (L) 30 yards
	Goals	Goals shall be approximately 4 feet tall by 6 feet wide. Hockey goals may be used. Cones spaced 6 feet apart may be used.	
	Center circle	3 yards in radius	
	Penalty Area	None	
	Goal Area	None	
	Penalty Spot	None	
	Penalty Arc	None	
	Fouls	There shall be no penalty shots. All fouls shall be penalized with indirect kicks.	
	Restarts	From the point of taking an indirect kick or corner kick, opponents shall not be any closer than 3 yards.	
	Throw-ins	If there is an infraction of the FIFA throw-in rules, the player throwing the ball in shall receive one additional throw-in after a correcting instruction from referee. If the player violates the FIFA rule on his/her second attempt then the opposing team shall be awarded a throw-in.  Some associations may elect to play without throw-ins. In such cases, the ball will be returned to play by an indirect kick taken from the touchline where the ball exited the field of play. STYSA- sanctioned tournaments will use the throw-in.	
	Offside	There shall be no offside	
Goalkeeper	There will be no goalkeeper		

Table 6.1.3(E)

(Changed 2.21.16)

**Proposed Additions and/or Changes:**

4U-5U

Marking on the field	Minimum Dimensions	Maximum Dimensions
Field Size	(W) 15 x (L) 25 yards	(W) 25 x (L) 35 yards
Goals	Maximum: 6 x 4 feet No corner flags needed on field Hockey goals may be used. Cones spaced 6 feet apart may be used.	
Center circle	None	
Penalty Area	None	
Goal Area	None	
Penalty Spot	None	
Penalty Arc	None	
Fouls	All fouls shall be penalized with indirect kicks	
Restarts	<p>Kick offs, free kicks, throw-ins, goal kicks and corner kicks are used to start or restart play. Kick-ins and/or dribble-ins are also acceptable if coaches agree prior to match.</p> <p>Substitutions are unlimited and can occur at any stoppage</p> <p>Goal kicks and corner kicks should be taken in the general vicinity of the respective goal or corner.</p> <p>Opponents should be 10 feet away from the ball on all restarts.</p> <p>No penalty kicks</p> <p>If there is an infraction of the FIFA throw-in rules, the player throwing the ball in shall receive one additional throw-in after a correcting instruction from referee. If the player violates the FIFA rule on his/her second attempt then the opposing team shall be awarded a throw-in</p>	
Offside	No offside	
Duration of Match (Law 7)	<p>4 quarters</p> <p>10 minute quarters</p> <p>5 min break between quarters</p> <p>No added time</p> <p>*Games can be less than 10 minutes when managed by coaches and parents</p>	
Ball Size (Law 2)	Size 3	
Number of Players (Law 3)	<p>See STYSA Rule 6.1.1</p> <p>4v4 (4 field players, no goalkeeper)</p> <p>Game may not start or continue if there are less than 3 players on a team</p>	
Heading	<p>Heading is not allowed in 4v4 games.</p> <p>If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.</p>	

Table 6.1.3(E)

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

Provide justification for the proposed change

General Rules of Play: 6.0-6.1.2.

Specific to the 4v4 game format for U4-U5  
Table 6.1.3(E)

The US Soccer PDIs do not include 4U or 5U but by default it could be argued they are in the 4v4 category and therefore the PDI 4v4 format rules would apply to these younger players.

**Submitted by:** Jené Baclawski, STYSA Technical Director Education  
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**Rules Committee Recommendation:** The Committee recommends passage. However, the Committee does not agree that USSF requires 4U-5U to play as a minimum 4 v 4.

**Executive Committee Recommendation:** The Executive Committee recommends passage with the following amendment:

- Amend the table reference from “4U-5U” to “4U-6U”.