

# WSA Under 5 Guidelines

## THE FIELD:

- **Size:** 110 feet long by sixty feet wide (**110' x 60'**)
- **Center:** The center circle has a radius of fifteen (**15**) feet and is in the center of the field on the half/center line.
- **Goals:** Six feet wide by four feet high (**6' x 4'**)
- **Goal Box:** Fifteen feet wide by twenty feet long (**15' x 20'**)
- **NOTE:** The Goal Box is directly in front of the goal. An attacking player is always allowed to play the ball within the goal box. A defender is allowed to play the ball within the goal box provided the defender was not purposely playing as a “goalie” immediately prior to the infraction. If a defender is purposely playing as a goalie by standing or guarding the goal in a position directly in front of the goal box and then touches the ball in the goal box, a goal is awarded to the attacking team.

## THE BALL:

- Size **3**. Teams are responsible for providing game balls.

## NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM:

- Recommend **FOUR (4)** players on the field at any time.
- Can also play **FIVE (4) or THREE (3)** players.
- **There are no goalkeepers.**

## SUBSTITUTIONS:

- May be made at any dead-ball situation, regardless of possession (e.g. between periods, and during stop in play).
- Teams must get the referee's permission to make a substitution. **There are no substitutions on the fly.**

## PLAYING TIME:

- **Minimum** of **50%** of the total playing time for each player and **75%** when possible. No one should play four periods until everyone has played three.

## PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT:

- Soccer cleats and shin guards are **MANDATORY** for both practices and games.
- **NOTE:** Players without the proper equipment will not be allowed to play.

## REFEREE:

- Will be either a league-assigned referee or coach.
- Should emphasize fun, fairness, safety and learning.
- **NOTE:** Referees should briefly explain any infringements to the player(s) and help players with instructions. All referees must be registered WSA volunteers.

**Referee decisions are final and must not be questioned by coaches, parents or spectators.**

## DURATION OF GAME:

- Four (**4**) periods of nine (**9**) minutes.
- Period breaks of two (**2**) minutes, with a Halftime break (after the second period) of five (**5**) minutes.
- **There are no timeouts.**

## METHOD OF SCORING:

- A goal may only be scored from a touch (either by offense or defense) within a team's offensive half of the field.

## OFFSIDE:

- **There is no offside.**

## SLIDE TACKLING:

- Slide tackling is not allowed and will result in a foul.

## BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:

- The coaches/referees have the option to not call the ball out of play if it is only a **foot or less** over the line. Otherwise, no change from regular play.

## FIVE YARD RULE:

- In all dead ball situations, except the “kick-off”, defending players must stand at least **five (5)** yards from the ball.

## KICK-OFF:

- Is an indirect kick and may be taken in any direction.
- The opponents must be **outside the center circle** for the kick-off.

## INDIRECT KICK:

- All dead ball kicks (kick-ins, free kicks) are indirect kicks, **except for corner kicks.**

## PENALTY KICK:

- No penalty kicks.

## THROW-IN:

- There are no throw-ins. The ball shall be kicked into play from the sideline instead of a throw-in.
- **A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in.**

## GOAL KICK:

- May be taken from any point in the goal box area.
- Opponents must be **five (5)** yards from the ball.

## CORNER KICK:

- No change from regular play (**direct kick**).
- Opponents must be **five (5)** yards from the ball.

## WSA RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Team standings are not recorded.
- 2) Game scores are not recorded.
- 3) Coaches, and players from both teams exchange handshakes after each game.
- 4) Coaches, parents and spectators are not allowed to run the length of the field, except for the coaches on the field who are refereeing.
- 5) Coaches, parents and spectators should encourage players, but parents and spectators must not coach or instruct players during game time.
- 6) **Spectators are not allowed behind either goal or within two (2) yards outside the touchline.**