

Lower Elementary Fact Sheet

This fact sheet is intended to serve as a guide to the coaches and referee of the WTYSA modified rules of competition for the specified age group. Where not specifically stated otherwise, the Referee should refer to the FIFA laws of the game, guide for referees, United States Soccer Federation.

- Ball:** FIFA approved Size 3
- Number of players:** Max on the field of play is 5, one of whom may be goalkeeper
Min on the field of play is 3, one of whom may be goalkeeper
Any team that fails to have the minimum on the field must forfeit
- Substitution:** By either or both teams before the start of any quarter
By either or both teams before the match is restarted from a stoppage caused by a ball out of play
If play is stopped to attend to an injured player, then that player must be substituted for. The opposing team is entitled to make a reciprocal substitution.
- Equipment:** Compulsory equipment includes matching team jerseys, shorts, socks, shin guards, and sneakers or soccer cleats.
Players shall not wear anything deemed dangerous to another player. Items considered dangerous include, but not limited to: earrings, ring, necklaces, bracelets, watches, non prescription glasses, sunglasses, helmets or hats with bills.
Goalkeepers shall wear colors which distinguish them from the colors worn by their team and the colors worn by their opponents.
- Coaching** Coaches may convey tactical instruction to there teams
If the teams are located on opposite sides of the field, coaches are restricted to an area of 10 yards on either side of the half way line.
If the teams are on the same side of the field, coaches are restricted to their own half of the field.
Each team may locate one parent or assistant coach on the opposite of the field for the purpose of assisting in the direction of play
- Duration:** 4 twelve minute quarters
Two minute breaks between quarters 1 and 2 and 3 and 4
Five minute halftime between quarters 2 and 3
- Start of play:** Choice of ends and the kick off shall be determined by a coin toss
Between quarters 1 and 2 the kick off shall be taken by the player of the team opposite to that of the player who started the game
After half time, ends shall be changed and the kick off shall be taken by a player of the same team as that of the player who started the game
Between quarters 3 and 4 the kick off shall be taken by a player of the team opposite to that of the player who started quarter 3.

Offside:	There shall be no offside.
Fouls:	All fouls must be explained to the offending player
Mercy Rule:	<p>If the score is starting to get out of hand early on, the referee shall alert the coach in the lead to implement steps to slow down goal scoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Placing offensive-minded players on defense• Reducing the number of players on offense• Placing your best player in the net as the goalie• Playing with the non-dominant foot <p>Once the score reaches a point where the goal differential is 6 goals, the score at the time becomes the final score for the game. The two teams continue to play allowing players to focus on soccer skills</p>
Heading:	Intentional heading of the ball during a game will now be considered a “dangerous play” and it will result in an indirect kick being awarded to the opponent from the point of the infraction.
Misconduct:	Players and coaches may be cautioned/dismissed Coaches are responsible for the actions of their spectators
Free kicks:	All free kicks shall be indirect Players of the team opposing that of the player taking the free kick shall not approach within 6 yards of the ball until it is in play.
Penalty kicks:	No penalty kicks are to be awarded
Throw ins:	If on the first attempt, the ball is improperly thrown in, the throw in shall be retaken. The referee shall explain the proper method before allowing the player to attempt the throw in again. If on the second attempt, the ball is improperly thrown in, the throw in shall be awarded to the opposing team.
Misc	There shall be no limit on the amount of steps that a goalkeeper may take after he has gained possession of the ball. The FIFA “pass-back” rule (Intentionally passing the ball to the goalkeeper, by a member of the goalkeepers side, with the foot) does not apply.