

Middle School 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 4
Number of players:	Max on the field of play is 9, one of whom may be goalkeeper Min on the field of play is 6, 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 half 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. 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 their 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.
Duration:	2 thirty minute halves Five minute halftime
Start of play:	Choice of ends and the kick off shall be determined by a coin toss After half time, ends shall be changed and the kick off shall be taken by the opposing team.
Mercy Rule:	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 <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>
Misconduct:	Players and coaches may be cautioned/dismissed Coaches are responsible for the actions of their spectators