

Enid Soccer Club

Playing Rules

Revised and amended August 2016

1. Foundation

- 1.1. Enid Soccer Club (ESC) games are played and officiated according to FIFA Laws of the Game and rules of the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA).
- 1.2. Exceptions for specific age groups are described in this document.
- 1.3. Each game card lists home and away teams. The away team calls the coin toss.

2. Heading and Concussions

- 2.1. Deliberate heading of the ball is prohibited for recreational U5-U12 players.
- 2.2. The opposing team shall be awarded an indirect kick from the spot of the deliberate heading.
- 2.3. Any coach or parent insisting on returning a potentially concussed player to a game without approved clearance shall result in the referee ending the game.
- 2.4. Heading is allowed in U13 and older divisions (U13-U19) without limitations.

3. Punting

- 3.1. Punting by a goalkeeper is prohibited in U9-U10 games.
- 3.2. The opposing team shall be awarded an indirect kick from the spot of the punt.
- 3.3. If a goalkeeper causes the ball to reenter the playing area from a height above the crossbar of the goal, an indirect kick shall be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.
- 3.4. Punting is allowed in U12 and older divisions (U11-U19) without limitations.

4. Build-Out

- 4.1. All U9-U10 game fields shall include a build-out line.
- 4.2. Build-out lines shall be between the half line and each penalty area.
- 4.3. The build-out line rules and procedures apply only to the U9-U10 division.
- 4.4. When a goalkeeper has secured the ball, or a goal kick is taken, opposing players may not cross the build-out line until a teammate of the defending goalkeeper has played the ball.
- 4.5. The build-out line shall be used to denote where offside offenses may be called.
- 4.6. Players shall only be called for an offside offense between the build-out line and opposing goal line.

5. Facility

- 5.1. Coaches and players for both teams shall occupy the same side of the field.
- 5.2. Spectators for both teams shall occupy the opposite side.
- 5.3. The seating for each game field is shown on the published ESC field map.

6. Local Recreational

6.1. Conform to FIFA Laws of the Game except as noted below.

6.1.1. Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage of play and are unlimited.

6.1.2. Soft-cleated soccer shoes or tennis shoes. No toe cleats.

6.1.3. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions. However, uniforms must distinguish teams. A player's jersey shall be the top most layer of clothing.

6.1.4. There shall be a halftime break of 5-10 minutes.

6.1.5. When goals are disallowed directly from kickoff, the ball must be played by a teammate.

6.1.6. For age groups without a goalkeeper, defending players are allowed to stand in front of or in the goal. However, deliberate handling of the ball is not allowed.

7. Overview

	U5-U6	U7-U8	U9-U10	U11-U12	U13-U19
Duration	4 x 8 min	4 x 10 min	2 x 25 min	2 x 30 min	2 x 30 min
Ball	3	3	4	4	5
Sides	4v4	4v4	7v7	9v9	Varies
Goalkeeper	No	No	Yes	Yes	Varies
Build-out	No	No	Yes	No	No
Heading	No	No	No	No	Yes
Offside	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Punting	No GK	No GK	No	Yes	Varies
Referees	0-1	1	1	3	1-3
Standings	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kickoff Goal	No	No	No	Yes	Varies
Penalty Kicks	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

8. Exceptions

8.1. The specific and detailed exceptions, for each age group, are as noted.

8.2. These exceptions are complimentary to all other sections of this document.

8.3. **U5-U6.**

8.3.1. Specific rules for deliberate heading.

8.3.2. If an assigned referee is not present, one coach from each team shall act as an official.

8.3.3. Regardless of assigned referee, coaches are discouraged from entering the playing area.

8.3.4. Field has no penalty area, penalty arc, goal area, or penalty mark.

8.3.5. All rule infractions shall be explained to the offending player.

8.3.6. All free kicks are indirect with opponents 4 yards away.

8.3.7. Throw-ins are allowed but not required. A kick-in may be substituted.

8.3.8. An improperly performed throw-in may be retaken. If available, a game official shall explain the proper method before allowing another attempt.

8.3.9. A kick-in is an indirect free kick from the touchline.

8.3.10. The goal kick is taken within 3 yards of the goal line, anywhere across the width of the field at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved.

8.3.11. Opponents must remain at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

8.4. U7-U8.

- 8.4.1. Specific rules for deliberate heading.
- 8.4.2. Field has no penalty area, penalty arc, or penalty mark.
- 8.4.3. All free kicks are indirect with opponents 4 yards away.
- 8.4.4. An improperly performed throw-in may be retaken once. The referee shall explain the proper method before allowing the second attempt.
- 8.4.5. The goal kick is taken within 3 yards of the goal line, anywhere across the width of the field at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved.
- 8.4.6. Opponents must remain at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

8.5. U9-U10.

- 8.5.1. Specific rules for deliberate heading, punting, and build-out lines.
- 8.5.2. Opponents must remain at least 8 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

8.6. U11-U12.

- 8.6.1. Specific rules for deliberate heading.
- 8.6.2. Opponents must remain at least 8 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

8.7. U13-U19.

- 8.7.1. The ESC staff reserve the right to create a format, rule set, and exceptions that best suites the number of U13-U19 players registered in any given season.
- 8.7.2. Exceptions shall be made to the format and rules at the discretion of the ESC staff. The details shall be made available to all coaches of U13-U19 teams.

9. Amendment to Playing Rules

- 9.1. The rules may be amended, repealed, or revised by a majority vote of the ESC board of directors at any meeting provided the amendment or revision upholds the standards and best interests of Enid Soccer Club and Oklahoma Soccer Association.