

## RULES OF PLAY for NorCal Region 3-4 League

*Referees, Coaches and Team Managers, it is very important that you read this carefully and print out for your records. Note that sometimes the referee will have to be reminded this is a NorCal Region 3-4 Fall League Game and be asked to try to adhere to the guidelines below:*

1. All U9-U11 games will be 8v8 (7 and Goalie). All U12 games will be 11v11.
2. U9-U10 games will be two 25-minute halves with 5-min break. U11-U12 games will be 30-minute halves with a 5-minute break.
3. All U9-U11 games will be played on a U10 size field. General guidelines are between 70x40 and 80x50. U12 games will be played on an appropriate full size field between 100x60 and 120x70. Appropriate size goals are mandatory.
4. A size 4 ball is required for all U9-U12 league play.
5. All teams and players will need USCS player passes in order to play. Printed rosters and game cards are required from the NorCal website.
6. Teams must be ready to play within 10 minutes of the scheduled time of a game with the minimum number of players required. A U9-U11 team is required to have 5 players to begin a game. A U12 team is required to have 7 players to begin a game. The minimum number of players is required at all times for a game to continue.
7. All throw-ins must be done correctly, but at the discretion of the referee a re-throw can be granted.
8. Penalty kicks will be allowed.
9. All major and technical fouls will be enforced resulting in direct free kick or indirect free kick as appropriate.
10. Offside will be enforced.
11. Either team may substitute on their own throw-in or goal kick. A team may also substitute on the other team's throw-in if the other team is also making a substitution.

12. Goal kicks for U9 and U10 will be taken from anywhere in the penalty area. Goal kicks for U11 and U12 are always taken from the 6-yard box.

13. Results need to be reported online by the home team no later than 48 hours after the game has concluded. Game cards should be sent to: NorCal League, 1874 Cannon Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94597.

14. Coach Ejections – The league is taking a very strong stance on coach ejections. An ejected coach will automatically sit 2 games. Additionally, the club will be fined \$50 of their \$200 bond. 2 ejections will result in a coach being removed for the remainder of the season and the following season.

A red card suspension will result in the coach being suspended 2 games within the same competition (ex. league play) that the red card is received. Additionally, that coach is disallowed from coaching any other team within the US Club system on that particular league weekend within the same competitive event.

Clubs that show consistent infringement will be reviewed as to whether they will be allowed to participate in the league in the following year. THIS IS YOUTH SOCCER. WE ASK THAT EVERYONE CONDUCT THEMSELVES ACCORDINGLY, MAKING THIS A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE FOR OUR YOUTH PLAYERS. Please see the red card procedures provided as a reference on how to handle a red card situation. It is important that all referees report any ejections so the proper action can be taken against the individual offender.

15. Please try to avoid running up the score and keep the spirit of good sportsmanship throughout the league. Emphasis should be placed on safety and player development above anything else at this young age.

16. We will award championship banners to those teams that win each division within the league.

17. Referees, while respecting the Laws of the Game, will do their best to keep the game flowing, simple, fun and, most importantly, safe for the players.

18. If two referees show for a game, a club linesman is acceptable as the third official for U9-U12. If there is only one referee present, then two club lines, one from each team, should participate in the officiating of the game, if possible. The visiting team has the first opportunity to provide the second official in the case of only one referee present at a game. If the visiting team cannot or will not provide an assistant referee, the home team is able to provide both assistant referees.

19. Please report any incidents (red cards, unsportsmanlike behavior, etc.) online under game notes and send an email with the incident details to [region3-4coordinator@NorCalpremier.com](mailto:region3-4coordinator@NorCalpremier.com). This e-mail address is protected from spam bots so you need JavaScript enabled to view it. Please note that NorCal will strictly enforce a zero tolerance policy in this regard.

20. Coaches will be absolutely responsible for the behavior of their parents on the sidelines. Referees will reserve the right to eject coaches or terminate a game in which parents and spectators are unable to control negative behavior directed towards referees, players or other spectators of the game. NorCal reserves the right to suspend any parent or spectator from attending Region 3-4 League games if that parent or spectator is unable to control negative behavior on a consistent basis. If a parent or spectator ignores this suspension, the child or relative (player) of this parent or spectator will no longer be able to participate in Region 3-4 League. This same policy will apply to teams as a whole where a team's spectators, parents, players and coaches show continual disrespect to game officials, league officials, players and/or other spectators. Continued negative behavior from a team's coaches, players, parents and spectators will result in the removal of that team from the league indefinitely. The club to which the team belongs will forfeit the league bond and a review will be held with the discipline committee to determine the future of the club's overall participation within the league.