

**WEST ISLIP SOCCER CLUB**

**SUMMARY of THE LAWS OF THE GAME**

LAW I THE FIELD OF PLAY  
**Age appropriate**

LAW II THE BALL  
• Inspect for quality and proper inflation

LAW III NUMBER OF PLAYERS  
**Age appropriate**

LAW IV PLAYERS EQUIPMENT  
• Shin Guards  
• Proper footwear  
• Jersey or shirt  
• Shorts

**SAFETY**

- Each goal keeper wears colors which distinguish him/her from other players
- No jewelry to be worn by any player

LAW V REFEREES  
• Enforces the laws of the game  
• Ensures that the ball and players equipment meet requirements  
• Allows play to continue when the team against which any offense has been committed will benefit from such an advantage  
• The decision of the referee regarding play is final

LAW VI ASSISTANT REFEREES

LAW VII DURATION OF THE GAME  
**Age appropriate**

**LAW VIII THE START OF PLAY**

- The coin is tossed to decide which goal will be attacked in the first half
- The other team takes the kick off
- At the second half teams change ends

**KICK OFF**

- To start the match
- After each goal
- At the start of the second half
- A goal may be scored directly from the kick off
- All players are in their own half
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward
- The kicker cannot touch the ball until it touches another player

**LAW IX BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY**

- The ball is out of play when it has wholly crossed the goal line or touch line
- The ball is in play all other times including rebounds from a goal crossbar or corner flag

**LAW X METHOD OF SCORING**

- The entire ball must pass completely over the goal line.

**LAW XI OFF-SIDE**

- Offside position is not an offense in itself

**A player is in an offside position if**

- The player is nearer to an opponents goal line than both the ball and the second last opponent

**A player is not in an offside position**

- On a goal kick
- A throw in
- A corner kick
- In his/her own half of the field

**The referee will award an indirect free kick to the opposing team, to be taken where the infringement occurred.**

**LAW XII FOULS AND MISCONDUCT**

**Direct free kick**

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits the following offenses in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless, or using excessive force.

- Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- Trips an opponent
- Jumps at or charges an opponent
- Strikes, pushes or attempts to strike at an opponent
- Tackles an opponent to gain possession before touching the ball
- Holds an opponent
- Spits at an opponent
- Handles the ball deliberately

**Indirect free kick**

An indirect free kick is awarded when

- The keeper takes more than six seconds to release the ball
- The keeper touches the ball after it has been deliberately kicked or thrown to him/her by a teammate
- Any player plays in a dangerous manner
- Prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball

**The indirect free kick is taken where the offense occurred**

**LAW XIII FREE KICKS**

- A second player must touch the ball before a goal can be scored on an indirect.
- Opposing players must be ten yards from the ball.
- A goal can be scored on a direct free kick
- On a free kick taken from the penalty area, players must be outside the area and the ball must leave the area to be in play.

**LAW XIV PENALTY-KICK**

- A goal can be scored directly from a penalty kick

**Procedure**

- The ball must be kicked forward
- Cannot be played a second time until it touches another player
- The ball is placed on the penalty mark
- The goalkeeper must remain on the goal line
- All other players must be outside the penalty area, behind the penalty mark

**LAW XV      THROW-IN**

- A goal cannot be scored from a throw in
- Both feet must be on the ground outside the touch line
- The player must use both hands and deliver the ball from behind or over the head

**LAW XVI     GOAL KICK**

- A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick
- Opponents must be ten yards from the ball
- Kicker cannot play the ball a second time until it has touched another player
- The ball must leave the penalty area to be in play.

**LAW XVII    CORNER KICK**

- A goal may be scored directly from the corner kick
- Opponents must be ten yards from the ball.
- The ball can be anywhere within the corner arc
- Kicker cannot play the ball a second time until it has touched another player