

St Bernard Parish Government

Department of Parks and Recreation

2020 Soccer Rules For ALL AGE GROUPS

I. GENERAL:

1. All teams and coaches participating in the SBPRD soccer leagues will be under the supervision of the St. Bernard Parish Recreation Department.
2. All rules not covered within the following guidelines will revert to the National Federation of High School Associations Soccer Rules for the current year.
3. Any rules or judgments not covered by either the SBPRD rules or the National Federation rules will be left to the discretion of the Recreation Department.

II. ELIGIBILITY:

A. AGE GROUPS:

1. 4 year old Boys
2. 4 year old Girls
3. 5 year old Boys
4. 6 year old Boys
5. 5 & 6 year old Girls
6. 7 & 8 year old Boys
7. 7 & 8 year old Girls
8. 9 & 10 year old Boys
9. 9 & 10 year old Girls
10. 11-14 year old Boys and Girls

B. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Age of player by March 1st of current year, will determine age group. (youngest age is 4 years old and no older than 14 years old)

C. Each child must file a complete registration form; have a valid birth certificate on file, and current proof of residency with your attending Booster Club.

D. Any games in which an ineligible player participates will be declared a FORFEIT, and the coach will be subject to penalties outlined in the SBPRD Policies.

III. TEAM ROSTERS:

1. All teams will be selected within the guidelines of the SBPRD Team Selection Process and under the supervision of a Booster Club Representative.
2. All team rosters will consist of a minimum number of players.
3. Team rosters will be turned in to the SBPRD immediately following the Team Selection Process.

4. Rosters will be closed once draft has been completed.

IV. EQUIPMENT:

A. THE BALL:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|--------|
| 1. 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 year olds | ----- | Size 3 |
| 2. 9& 10 year olds | ----- | Size 4 |
| 3. 11& 12, 13 & 14 year olds | ----- | Size 5 |

B. PLAYERS EQUIPMENT:

1. Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes
2. Shin guards are mandatory
3. Goalie MUST wear a different colored jersey that will be provided by your local Booster Club.
4. Mouthpieces are optional

****NOTE****

Players will not be allowed to participate without required equipment.

V. GAME RULES:

A. 4&5 year olds:

1. The game shall be divided into four (4) – six (6) minute quarters.
2. There shall be a half-time break of five (5) minutes
3. No Heading will be allowed.
4. One defender must remain behind the halfway line at all times. (Excluding the goalie). This rule doesn't pertain to 4 year olds.

B. 6,7 & 8 year olds:

1. The game shall be divided into four (4) – eight (8) minute quarters.
2. There shall be a half-time break of five (5) minutes
3. No Heading will be allowed.
4. One defender must remain behind the halfway line at all times. (Excluding the goalie).

C. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 year olds:

1. The game shall be divided into four (4) – Ten (10) minute quarters.
2. There shall be a half-time break of five (5) minutes.
3. Two defenders must remain behind the halfway line at all times. (Excluding the goalie).

D. ALL GAMES CAN START WITH THE 1 LESS RULE. YOU CAN PLAY WITH 2 LESS DUE TO INJURY DURING GAME.

E. NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM ON THE FIELD AT ONE TIME:

1. 4,5,& 6:

- Six (6) including goalkeeper

- One (1) coach per team will be allowed on the field during the break of play. No coach will be allowed on the field during active game play.
- One (1) coach will be allowed on the defensive side of their goal.

2. **7 & 8:**

- Six (6) including goalkeeper
- One (1) coach per team will be allowed on the field during the break of play. No coach will be allowed on the field during active game play.

3. **9,10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Boys & Girls:**

- Eleven (11) including goalkeeper

F. SUBSTITUTIONS:

1. Free substitutions for all age groups during the 2nd half
2. Substitution can be during any stoppage of play, regardless of possession. This includes any free kicks, corner kicks, throw-ins and goal kicks. All substitutions are subject to referee's discretion.
3. **All substitutions must be made at mid field.**

G. MANDATORY PLAYING TIME:

1. 1st Half: Each player must play one full uninterrupted quarter.
2. 2nd Half: Each player must play a minimum of half of a quarter.
3. 5-8 year olds: teams with (13) thirteen or more players must play one full uninterrupted quarter.
4. 9-14 year olds: teams with (23) twenty three or more players must play one full uninterrupted quarter.

****NOTE****

For the betterment of the sport, it is recommended that all children receive equal playing time.

VI. THE FIELD:

A. SIZE

1. 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 year olds - 50yds X 30yds
2. 9-14 year olds - 80yds X 50yds

B. FIELD MARKERS:

1. Chalk lines shall be marked around the entire playing field.
2. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field

C. GOAL SIZE:

1. 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 year olds - 6' high by 12' wide (official)
2. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 year olds - 8' high by 24' wide (official)

D. GOAL AREA:

1. Six (6) yards from each goal post and six (6) yards into the field of play joined by a line parallel with the goal line.

E. PENALTY AREA:

1. Fourteen (14) yards from each goal post and fourteen (14) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. There shall be NO penalty kicks for 4, 5, 6, year olds.

VII. THE START OF PLAY:

1. **MANDATORY: Opponents MUST shake hands at the End of EACH GAME.**
2. The toss of a coin determines which team gets to kick off first.
3. At start of play, all players must be outside of center circle.
4. A kickoff is used to start play at the beginning of the game, after a goal has been scored and after halftime. The ball is placed on the center spot and the kicker must send it into the opponent's half of the field.
5. Opponents must be ten (10) yards from the center mark while kick-off is in progress.
6. The ball is in play after it has traveled the distance of its own circumference
7. The kicker may not play ball again until it has been touched by another player.

VIII. BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:

1. The ball is out of play when it has completely crossed the goal line or touchline (sideline), whether on the ground or in the air and when the game has been stopped by the referee.
2. The ball is in play at all other times, including when it rebounds from the goalposts and/or deflected by officials who are on the field of play.

IX. METHOD OF SCORING:

- A. A goal is scored when the whole ball has passed over the whole goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, providing it has not been thrown, carried or propelled by hand/or arm by a player of the attacking side.
- B. All age groups
 - 1. **If the game is tied at the end of regulation time, the game will go into a one (1) time, five (5) player shoot out.**
- C. Each team will be responsible for keeping track of all scores made by each team and who it was made by. Each coach and official will meet at the end of each quarter to verify.

X. OFF-SIDE:

- A. 4, 5, 6 Off-sides will not be called on accidental penalty; however it will be enforced upon official discretion.
- B. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14
 - 1. A player is offside if he is nearer his opponent's goal line than the ball at the moment the ball is passed unless: he/she is in his own half of the field; at least 2 opponents (including the goalkeeper) are nearer their own goal line than he is, or he received the ball directly from a goal kick, corner kick, throw-in or drop-ball situation.
 - 2. The penalty for being offside is an indirect free kick by a player of the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred.
 - 3. Even though a player may be technically in an offside position, the penalty is not called unless, in the opinion referee, he is interfering with play or with an opponent or is seeking to gain an advantage by being offside.

XI. FOULS AND MISCONDUCT:

XII. SUSPENSION FROM PLAY:

ALL AGE GROUPS

- XIII. Any player who deliberately acts on any of the fouls below will be suspended for a minimum of two minutes of the game regardless of playing time upon official's judgment.

7,8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 year olds***

- 1. A player who intentionally commits any of the following offenses shall be penalized with a foul and result in a **DIRECT FREE KICK:**
 - 1. Kicks or attempts to trip an opponent;
 - 2. trips or attempts to trip an opponent;
 - 3. jumps at an opponent;
 - 4. charges an opponent;
 - 5. strikes or attempts to strike an opponent;
 - 6. pushes an opponent;
 - 7. tackles an opponent to gain possession of the ball, making contact with the opponent before touching the ball;
 - 8. holds an opponent;

9. spits at an opponent;
10. Handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within his own penalty area). A direct free kick is taken from where the offense occurred.
2. A goalkeeper who intentionally commits any of the following offenses shall be penalized with a foul and result in an

INDIRECT FREE KICK.

1. takes more than six (6) seconds while controlling the ball with his hands before releasing it from his possession;
2. touches the ball again with his hands after it has been released from his possession and has not touched any other player;
3. touches the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate;
4. Touches the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a throw-in taken by team-mate.
3. A player who intentionally commits any of the following offenses shall be penalized with a foul and result in an

INDIRECT FREE KICK:

1. impedes the progress of an opponent;
2. prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands;
3. Commits any other offence, not previously mentioned in Law 12, for which play is stopped to caution or dismiss a player.
4. Cautions or ejections shall be issued to players by an independent, neutral referee only.

XIV. FREE KICKS:

4, 5 year olds

- A. Shall be classified under one heading – **INDIRECT**. All infractions listed under rule XI shall result in an **INDIRECT FREE KICK**.
- B. A goal may not be scored until the ball has been played or touched by a second player of either team.
- C. NO kicks shall be taken by the attacking team within the defending team's goal box.

XV. PENALTY KICKS:

- A. 4,5,6, year olds: NO penalty kicks are to be taken during these games.
- B. 7,8,9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 year olds:
 1. If a defending player is within his own team's penalty area when he intentionally commits any one of the fouls that result in the awarding of a **DIRECT FREE KICK** (see Rule XI), the opposing team is granted a penalty kick.
 2. The penalty kick is taken from the penalty spot twelve (12) yards, and all players (except the defending

goalkeeper) must stay outside of the penalty area and at least twelve (12) yards away from the ball.

3. The defending goalkeeper must remain stationary on his goal line between the goalposts until the kick is taken
4. The person making the kick must propel the ball forward and cannot play the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player

XVI. THROW-IN:

- A. To restart play after the entire ball has passed over a touchline, the ball is thrown in from the point where it crossed the line by a player of the team opposing that of the person who last touched the ball.
- B. The thrower must use both hands and deliver the ball from over his head, while keeping part of each foot either on or outside the touchline. He cannot again play the ball until it has been touched by another player.
- C. A second throw-in must be allowed if the player commits a foul on initial attempt. The Referee shall explain the proper method before allowing the player to re-throw.

XVII. GOAL KICK:

- A. Goal Kick may be taken from any point inside the goal area.
- B. Opponents must be eight (8) yards away from the ball.
- C. The kicker cannot play the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player.
- D. A goal may not be scored directly from a goal kick.

XVIII. CORNER KICKS:

- A. When the entire ball passes over the goal line (excluding that portion of the line between the goalposts) and it was last played by a member of the defending team, the attacking team is allowed a corner kick.
- B. The ball is kicked from the quarter circle (corner area) at the nearest corner.
- C. Opposing players must remain at least ten (10) yards from the ball until it is in play, and has traveled the distance of its own circumference.
- D. The kicker may not play the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player.
- E. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.

SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP:

(DOES NOT INCLUDE JAMBOREE NOR BOWL GAME PLAY)

Records will be used for seeding of the End of Season Tournament.

Top 4 Teams will participate in the End of Season Tournament.

League champions will be the winner of the end of the season tournament.

Teams qualifying for playoffs will be determined by.

1) Record 2) Head to Head competition 3) Goal differential against

each other 4) Goal differential against the highest seed.

****NOTE****

**ALL RULES OR DECISIONS NOT COVERED IN THE ST BERNARD PARISH
RECREATION DEPARTMENT SOCCER RULES WILL BE LEFT TO THE
DISCRETION OF THE ST BERNARD PARISH RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

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