



# Brunswick Youth Soccer League

## 4/5 BOYS Division Rules 2024- Edwards Field

**Field/Players:** In the 4/5 Boys Division the game will be held on a max size 50 x 70 field with 10 x 10 players per team (includes the goalie) on the field at a time. They will be using a 6.5 X 18.5 goal. Game is played with Size 4 ball.

\*\*If teams do not have enough players for 9 x 9, coaches can add guest players to their team from other BYSL 4/5 teams only. Coaches can only add enough guest players to equal the number of players on the other team. If no subs are available, teams should keep an equal number of players on the field (e.g., 8 v 8, etc.). If guest players from another 4/5 BYSL team are used, priority of play is given to the regular rostered players.

### **OR**

Coaches can agree and choose to play 10 x 10 or 9 x 9

### **Game Rules:**

Rules conform to FIFA, except as shown below.

- 2- 25-minute halves. 5-minute break between halves. No extra time/overtime.
- Coin toss is used to determine possession at start of the game. Ball can be kicked backwards or forwards.

**Substitutions:** Unlimited substitution of players can occur on throw-ins, goal kicks, goals, injuries, and at the discretion of the referee. Subs must wait at the midfield sideline prior to the referee allowing them to come in. All roster players should receive equal time.

**Offside** will be enforced.

**Heading**- No Deliberate heading allowed. If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area (penalty area) the indirect free kick should be taken from the goal area line parallel to the goal line nearest the point of the infringement

**Fouls and Misconduct:** All fouls are enforced including offside and penalty kicks if appropriate, plus: Referee should verbalize ALL infractions.

**Free Kicks:** Conform to FIFA, except: Opponents must retreat 10 yds. from ball

**Penalty Kick:** Penalty spot 10 yards from the goal.

**Slide Tackles- Not Permitted**

**Throw In:** Foul throw-ins shall be retaken once. Second foul throw results in a change of possession and throw in for opposing team

**Goal Kick:** Conform to FIFA except: In a goal kick situation the defending goalie will be given the ball to clear by a free kicking from inside the goalie area. **The attacking team must retreat to midfield area when kick is taken.**

**Goal Keeper Restarts-** The goal keeper may throw or punt the ball, Free kicks only

**Player Equipment:** No jewelry, hoodies, or hard hair clips. Players must wear shin guards covered by socks. Goalie(s) must wear different colored shirts (or pinnie) than teammates.

- There will be only one practice session a week, not to exceed 90 minutes. Coaches will work with league director to set the schedule for a weeknight practice

Games are played unless the Park Director determines the fields unplayable. This also goes for practices. Postponement will be announced by a phone call from your coach, at least 1/2 hour before game time. If you do not receive a call, then assume the game is to be played. Cancellations will be placed on the Brunswick Parks and Recreation Department website [www.brunswickme.gov/departments/parks-recreation](http://www.brunswickme.gov/departments/parks-recreation) and posted on the Brunswick Parks & Recreation Facebook page [www.facebook.com/BrunswickParksandRecreation](http://www.facebook.com/BrunswickParksandRecreation)

Spectators should remain at one sideline and give the players room for throw-ins and corner kicks. There shall be no spectators or coaches behind the goal area or on the goal line. Only coaches and medical personnel are allowed on the field after the referee determines they are needed.

We strongly discourage you from bringing your dog to games and practices. Under no circumstances should a dog be on the players bench or unleashed.

### **PARENTS' ROLE**

Parents have the greatest influence on each child's level of enjoyment. Your child, his/her teammates, and opponents should hear only encouragement from the sidelines. The coach should be the only one "coaching" during the game. Encouraging your child and his teammates after the game is very important for young children. Teaching good sportsmanship in victory and defeat is an important skill that can begin at home. Practice and preach commitment and the idea that soccer is a team sport in which one relies on the others. Do not argue with or yell at the referee.

The league goal is that participants have fun and that everyone participates. If your child is not having fun, please speak to the coach or one of the league officials.

All parents are asked to volunteer, when possible, to become familiar with league rules and to join in the fun. Parents are also asked to transport their child to practices and games on time and notify coaches when an absence is anticipated. You should check with the coach about his/her policy for parents leaving children at practices and games. ***It is your responsibility*** to be on time to pick up your child.