

CHANTILLY YOUTH ASSOCIATION



**SOCCER LAWS FOR
HOUSE LEAGUES**

(Revised September 2003)

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

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NCSL Weather Hotline	703-237-7800
WAGS Weather Hotline	703-241-0099
State Cup Weather Hotline	703-521-3221 x 132

LEAGUE WEBSITES

CYA	www.chantillyyouth.com
SFL	www.sflsoccer.org
ODSL	www.odsl.org
NCSL	www.ncsl-soccer.com
WAGS	www.wagsl.com
COED	www.eteamz.com/nvcasl
State Cup	www.vysa.com
State Referee Program	www.vadcsooccerref.com

LAWS FOR CHANTILLY YOUTH ASSOCIATION, U8 – U11 GAMES

Whereas the Chantilly Youth Association Soccer Program is created for the safety, education, and enjoyment of the youth of the community, Laws of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) shall be used, as modified below:

AGE GROUP	# OF PLAYERS	BALL SIZE	DURATION OF HALF
U – 8	5	3	20
U – 9	7	4	25
U – 10	7	4	25
U – 11	8	4	25

Law One – Field of Play

1. Existing lines shall be used, regardless of straightness or proportion.
2. For U8 matches, both teams shall occupy one side of the field and all parents and spectators shall occupy the other side. No one is permitted along the end lines or behind the goals.
3. For U9 - U11 matches, each team shall occupy an opposing side of the field. Parents and spectators for each team should remain on the same side of the field as their team. No one is permitted along the end lines or behind the goals. Division managers and coaches are responsible for assisting the referee to enforce this rule.
4. All players, coaches, spectators, and fans must remain three (3) feet behind the sideline and between the two eighteen yard boxes. Division managers and coaches are responsible for assisting the referee to enforce this rule.

Law Two – The Ball

1. The balls to be used will be of size 3 or 4 (see chart) as determined by the Soccer Board.

Law Three – Number of Players

1. Games will be played with the correct number of players per side on the field (see chart) as determined by the Soccer Board in accordance with VYSA and USSF guidelines.

2. A match cannot be started with fewer than five (5) players on the field for a given team. A team with fewer than five (5) players at the start of the match shall forfeit the match.
3. Teams may use any player as a substitute; Substituted players are permitted to return to the match later in the game.
4. Each player must play a minimum of one-half of a match. No player may the entire game if by do so he/she prevents another player from playing at least half of the match.
 - a. A coach may override this rule for disciplinary reasons, but must inform the opposing coach and the referee of this action before the start of the match. The coach must notify the Division Manager, in writing, as soon as.
5. For U8 matches, the referee shall halt the match approximately mid-way through the first and second halves during a natural stoppage in play to allow both teams to substitute. In the event there is no natural stoppage of play, the referee shall stop play for a substitution break and then restart the match with a dropped ball.
6. For U9 – U11 matches, teams may substitute on possession throw-ins, any goal kick, and any kick-off. All substitutions must be from the mid-field line. Coaches should refrain from entering the field of play during substitution breaks.
7. No player may play as goalkeeper for more than one half of any match.
8. Any player receiving a Caution (Yellow Card) will be required to sit down for a five (5) minute “cool off” period. The coach may substitute for this player.

Law Four – Player’s Equipment

1. The referee is the sole judge of admissibility of any equipment worn by a player.
2. All players must wear age appropriate shin guards during a match.
3. Players may only wear non-metal soccer cleats or sneakers. Metal cleats or otherwise dangerous footwear is prohibited. Shoes with a toe cleat (a clear at the point of the shoe as in football and baseball cleats) or a removed toe cleat are positively prohibited.
4. Jewelry or accessories, including but not limited to earrings, bracelets, necklaces, and ornamental hair pieces are expressly prohibited. Soft hair control devices (rubberbands, yarn, and scrunchies) shall be permitted so long as they do not pose a hazard to other players. Medical/religious necklaces may be worn if taped to the chest.
5. Players shall not be permitted to play with any type of hard cast or splint. Players with soft casts may play provided the cast is wrapped protectively and the player has written

permission from a doctor. The referee is the sole determinant of the admissibility of any cast, brace, or other protective devices.

6. Hooded sweatshirts are prohibited.

Law Five – Referees

1. For all U10 and U11 matches, CYA uses a “3-man” system consisting of a USSF-certified center referee and two USSF-certified assistant referees. In the event only one USSF-certified referee is assigned to a match, each team must provide the referee a “Club Linesman.”
2. The referee shall not allow any person to enter the field of play until play has stopped and then only after the referee has given a signal for the person to enter.
3. The referee shall have the authority to remove from the area of the match any player, coach, parent, or other fan whose conduct is, in the opinion of the referee, detrimental to the game:
 - a. Any player sent off from a match (Red Card) shall be suspended for the remainder of that match and the entirety of the team’s next scheduled match.
 - b. Any player receiving two (2) cautions (Yellow Cards) in the same match shall be suspended for the remainder of that match and the entirety of the team’s next scheduled match.
 - c. The conduct of any player receiving two or more red cards or four or more yellow cards shall be referred to the Soccer Board for review. Such conduct could lead to the individual’s banishment from the field of play for the remainder of the season.
4. Referees shall immediately report to the CYA Director of Referees **ALL** cards administered in a match.
5. Referees shall immediately stop play and have a player removed from the field of play if the player has an injury, regardless of severity, with visible blood. Players may return to the match when the bleeding has stopped, the wound is appropriately covered, and the referee has signaled them to reenter the pitch.
 - a. A trainer and/or a coach may enter the field with the referee’s consent to treat an injured player. The injured player should be moved as quickly as possible off the field so that play may resume.
 - b. Referees should report serious injuries to any player to the Director of Referees as soon as possible after the match.

Law Six – Assistant Referees/Club Linesmen

1. For U8 and U9 matches, if asked by the Referee, each coach must provide one parent to serve as a club linesman for the match. Club Linesmen shall only indicate when the ball is in or out of touch. When requested by the referee, they may also indicate which team is entitled to a throw-in, goal kick, or corner kick.
2. Club Linesmen cannot indicate off-side or fouls.
3. Club Linesmen are expressly prohibited from coaching. Failure to abide by this restriction may result in the referee replacing them with another Club Linesman.

Law Seven – Duration of the Match

1. The duration of the match shall be determined, in writing, before the beginning of the season (see chart).
2. A match shall be considered complete upon the conclusion of the first half of play.
3. Duration of a match may be shortened due to field conditions, weather, darkness, or at the discretion of the referee after the match starts. The match may also be shortened by agreement between coaches and/or Division Managers before the start of the match, with the referees being notified of this decision before the opening whistle.
 - a. In the event of visible lightening, the referee will immediately terminate the match and all players, coaches, and spectators will immediately leave the field.
4. A match must be terminated five minutes before the scheduled start of the next match.
5. For the U8 Division, the first game of the season is a whistle game. ONE coach from each team is permitted on the field to POSITION and COACH the players throughout the match. The coaches must make every effort not to interfere with play or the referee.

Law Nine – Ball In and Out of Play

1. A ball striking the framework of a dual-purpose football/soccer goal above the crossbar shall be deemed to have passed over the goal-line, even if it rebounds into the field of play. A goal kick or corner kick shall be awarded as appropriate.

Law Twelve – Fouls and Misconduct

1. Sliding tackles are prohibited in all matches at the U11 level and below. Any player who slide tackles, or in the opinion of the referee attempts to slide tackle, **MUST** be cautioned (Yellow Card) for dangerous play.
 - a. Any player who in the opinion of the referee makes a dangerous slide tackle or who tackles from behind with no attempt to play the ball **MUST** be sent off (Red Card.)
2. Heading the ball at, or below, waist-level such that it is dangerous to any nearby players, is regarded as dangerous play and is prohibited.
3. Charging the goalkeeper will not be permitted in the penalty area.
4. **CYA employs a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY toward dissent and verbal abuse.** Any incident by a player, coach, or spectator, directed toward another player, coach, spectator, or referee **MUST** be dealt with immediately as follows:
 - a. **By A Player on the Field.** Automatic Caution (Yellow Card) with a five minute cool off period. Team **MAY NOT** substitute for the player.
 - b. **By a Substitute on the Sideline.** Automatic Caution (Yellow Card) issued to the player involved. Coach must remove one player from the field for five minutes.
 - c. **By a Coach.** Automatic Caution (Yellow Card) issued to the coach. Coach must remove one player from the field for five minutes.
 - d. **By a Spectator.** Automatic Caution (Yellow Card) issued to the coach. Coach must make a deliberate effort to restrain his/her fans. If in the opinion of the referee the coach fails to take effective action, the coach must remove one player from the field for five minutes.
 - e. Any player removed from the field of play for the above infractions must receive the referee's consent before reentering the field of play.
5. CYA abides by all sanctions imposed by VYSA involving referee assault and abuse. Sanctions may be placed upon individuals and coaches at the discretion of the CYA Soccer Board.
6. Dangerous play can be committed against an opponent OR a teammate.
7. The referee may stop play when "bunching" (several players from one or both teams attempting to play the ball) occurs. Play shall restart with a drop ball. If such a stoppage occurs with any player in the "bunch" in the goal area, the ball shall be dropped out and to the side of the goal area.

LAWS FOR SUBURBAN FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE, U12 – U19 MATCHES

All matches will be played in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game as modified by the USSF for youth play and as clarified in these operating instructions:

AGE GROUP	BALL SIZE	DURATION OF MATCH
U – 12	4	30
U – 14	5	35
U – 16	5	40
U - 19	5	45

Laws Affecting Players

1. All players must play at least 50% of the match.
2. A team must field seven (7) players at the start of a match. Any team unable to provide seven players within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time shall forfeit the match.
3. **Play Down Rule:** It is up to the coach who has the most players as to whether the playdown rule is in effect. However, if one team only has seven or eight players, the opposing team is required to play no more than nine players. If one team has nine or ten players, the other team may play all eleven if the playdown rule is not employed.

Laws Affecting Equipment

1. Teams must have matching colored jerseys with a unique number assigned to each player. If a color clash between the two teams exists, it is the responsibility of the home team to change colors by using an alternate jersey. Required numbers will be waived.
2. Shin guards providing appropriate protection for the player are mandatory. Each player must wear FIFA-approved soccer shoes or tennis shoes.

Laws Affecting Misconduct

1. At the older age groups, the coach assumes an increased level of responsibility regarding team leadership and maintenance of order and discipline. The SFL expects each of its coaches to set a positive example for their players in promoting good sportsmanship and self-control.

2. The coach is responsible for the behavior of his/her sideline. After being verbally warned or cautioned (Yellow Card) by the referee for unsportsmanlike behavior from his/her sidelines, the coach shall be sent off (Red Card) if the situation persists. The referee also has the power to eject any spectator at any time if he/she deems their conduct detrimental.
3. **YELLOW CARDS:** A player receiving a caution (Yellow Card) is required to leave the field of play for a period of at least five minutes as soon as the card is awarded and may not return until a normal substitution situation arises. The team is allowed to substitute for a cautioned player at the same time the cautioned player leaves the field. Two cautions during a game constitute an ejection (Red Card) and the player must leave the field without substitution.
4. A player who is sent off (Red Card) or a coach or spectator who is ejected will be required to sit out the next game the team plays. If a player receives three red cards during a season, including post-season tournament play, the player is automatically suspended for the remainder of the season, including post-season play. Red cards relating to fighting or conduct treated as fighting will result in an automatic two (2) game suspension.
 - a. Conduct which will be treated as fighting includes but is not limited to:
 - (1) Fighting in the opinion of the referee;
 - (2) Shoving another player or any other aggressive action after the whistle has blown to stop play;
 - (3) Kicking/striking or attempting to kick/strike a player;
 - (4) Spitting.
5. **ALL cards must be reported to the Director of Referees immediately after the match.**

GAME Reports

1. Each center referee **MUST** complete a Game Report for each SFL game they officiate. Game reports must be submitted to the CYA Senior Assignor within 48 hours of the completion of the match.
2. **ALL cards must be reported to the Director of Referees immediately after the match.**