

Central Penn Youth Soccer League

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September 7, 2016

To All CPYSL Clubs and Board Members;

With EPYSA sending the final information from US Youth Soccer, we have given careful considerations to the changes recommended. These changes to the youth game are not all-inclusive, they are an overview of the amendments that are prominent in league play.

- Roster Sizes for 2016-17 will remain as stated in the Spring memo from EPYSA.
- CPYSL will publish standings for all age groups; scores & standings will also be maintained by the league office to help place teams in upcoming seasons in appropriate brackets to encourage skill sets to be challenged as players grow in the sport. Champion patches will be awarded to winning teams in all age brackets for the Fall '16 season.
- 50% playing time is a recommendation for all U12 and younger age groups. CPYSL will review this policy and help develop guidelines for clubs & teams. At this juncture we are encouraging all clubs to mandate this policies adoption. As winners & champions are no longer identified, having players participate will be instrumental in keeping players active and returning.
- Field of Play: **For 7v7** - 55-65 yards (length) x 35-45 yards (width). Goals should be no larger than 6.5 feet (height) x 18.5 feet (width) with a 6.5 feet (height) x 12 feet (width) goal recommended based on the age and ability of the players. **For 9v9** - 70-80 yards (length) x 45-55 yards (width). Goals should be no larger than 7 feet (height) x 21 feet (width) with a 6.5 feet (height) x 18.5 feet (width) goal recommended based on the age and ability of the players.
- The new field sizes are to be followed as closely as possible, as clubs develop fields in the future, considerations shall be given for total compliance. CPYSL will not be policing field dimensions, however we ask that clubs work toward the dynamic the US Youth Soccer is requesting.
- Goal sizes are not mandatory this year but must be phased in over time. No game will be postponed or cancelled due to goal size. CPYSL will not be checking goal sizes, however we request that goals be as close as possible to the recommended sizes, and as replacements are purchased, conformity made.
- In 7v7 play, the build out line is mandatory. Build out line is to be placed equidistant between the halfway line and the penalty area line. Cones may be placed on the touchlines as markers. A painted buildout line is preferred but not required. As interpreted, once in possession by the goalie the attacking team must withdraw to the build out line and cannot cross into this quadrant until the ball is released or put into play by the defense. Once the ball is put into play, the opponents may cross the build out line and resume normal play. Offside will also not be taken into consideration until attacking play crosses this boundary line. If the ball is put into play prior to players crossing the BOL, play will continue with no infraction.

- Heading shall be discouraged in games for U11 and younger. Players deliberately heading the ball will cause the referee to stop the match, discern if medical assistance is warranted, and restart play with a drop ball at the spot of the contact. If inside the goal area, the ball will be moved out to a spot parallel with the contact on the goal area line. Underage players playing in U12 competitions should follow this as well. It is up to coaches, parents and players to comply, not the referee.
- If there is a suspected head injury during a match, play will be stopped by the referee to discern if the player needs attention, if player leaves the field they may be substituted for, however it is mandated that the player may not return unless a health care professional or certified athletic trainer clears them of injury. Policy of 'if in doubt, keep them out' is recommended by EPYSA.
- Concussion protocol requirements will be emphasized.
- Please see IFAB for further clarifications of kick off, cautions/send-off offences, denying a goal scoring opportunity as many of the Laws of the Game have been amended.

Respectfully,



**Central Penn Youth Soccer League
President**