

# Rules of the Game

Boone Soccer Club's recreational league goal is to introduce the game of soccer to youth of all ages and skill levels. We strive to cultivate a lifelong passion for the sport while providing opportunity for each player to develop to their highest potential. Coaches should support Boone Soccer Club in achieving this goal by providing players with equitable playing time and a fun environment that fosters development.

## Length of Games and Ball Specifications

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Game Length</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u># of Players</u>
U12	Two 30' halves	#4	9 (including the goalie) 8 on 8 with goalies
U10	Two 25' halves	#4	7 (including the goalie) 6 on 6 with goalies
U8	Two 20' halves	#3	6 (including the goalie) 5 on 5 with goalies

## Starting Game

The ball is placed on the center line inside the center circle. The referee will decide which team will start the 1<sup>st</sup> half with the ball. The other team will start with the ball during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half. The defending players must stand outside the center circle until the ball is touched by the opposing team. The player that touches the ball first cannot touch it again until another player has touched it.

## The Throw-In

When the ball goes out of bounds by one team, the other team will throw the ball in from the sideline close to where it went out. The defending players must stand at least four yards away from the ball until it is in play. Player throwing the ball in must keep at least one foot flat on the ground while the other foot is allowed to have just the tip of it touching the ground. Both feet need to maintain some contact with the ground until after the ball is released. Throw in must be done with both hands and must start with the ball over and behind their head.

## Corner Kick/Goalie Kick

When the ball goes out of bounds on the defending team's goal line and was last touched by the defensive team, the offensive team will place the ball in the corner and pass in the ball. The defending players must stand at least four yards away from the ball until it is in play. When the ball goes out of bounds on the defending team's goal line and was last touched by the offensive

team, the defensive team will place the ball anywhere within the goal box and pass in the ball. The opposing team must stand outside the penalty area until the ball has been put back into play.

### **Hand Balls**

Players are not allowed to touch the ball with their hands (bicep to finger tips) when it is in bounds. Referees will blow whistle during the game to stop play and give the ball to the team that did not commit the violation. The ball is placed at the sight of the violation and will be kicked back into play. The defending players must stand at least four yards away from the ball until it is in play. Goalies are only allowed to use their hands within the penalty box. If they are outside the penalty box while using their hands, hand ball violations will take effect.

### **Fouls**

Fouls will be called during the games. Typical fouls would include kicking, tripping and pushing opponents as well as anything deemed unsafe by the coaches. Referees will blow the whistle during the game to stop play and give the ball to the team that did not commit the foul. The ball is placed at the sight of the foul and will be kicked back into play. The defending players must stand at least four yards away from the ball until it is in play. Referees need to remind the player committing the foul to play the ball and not the player. If the same player continues to commit fouls, the third foul will result in the player being removed for the remainder of the half. If another major penalty occurs, the player will sit for the remainder of the game. The player will be allowed to participate at the next game. If a penalty occurs in the goal box, the ball will be placed on the penalty mark and the player will have a penalty kick.

### **Gear**

Players need to wear their team jersey. Players also need to wear shin guards. Players can either wear cleats (non-metal and no front spike) or tennis shoes.

### **Goalies**

Goalies are required to follow the same rules of the game as the other players on the field except that they can use their hands within the penalty box. Goalies can kick, throw and roll the ball back into play. The defending players must stand at least four yards away from the ball until it is in play. Goalies are allowed to wear gloves.