

## **ROO BALL RULES FOR (U6 + U7 + U8)**

### **GAMES ARE NON COMPETITIVE**

**TIME OF PLAY:** 2 x 20 minutes (5 minutes Half Time break) and is played with a **Size 3 ball**.

**THE PLAYERS:** The match shall be played by two teams each consisting of not more than 6 (six) players. One player must be the goalkeeper. The shirt must be readily distinguishable from those of the other players. All players must wear **training shoes or soccer boots and shin pads**. Caps with **soft shield only** may be worn. Players may be interchanged at any time (3 players per team). Interchanging is encouraged to provide all players equal time.

**THE COACHES:** Coaches should rotate players so they don't think of themselves as keepers, defenders or strikers, but as ROO BALL SOCCER PLAYERS. Coaches are permitted on the full field to give his/her players guidance. He/she is expected to **referee one half** of the game.

**TO START:** Before the match begins the opposing team captains decide the choice of ends and kick-off by a toss of a coin. The captain winning the toss chooses the ends.

**KICK-OFF:** Is taken from the centre mark. Opponents must be **6 meters** away from the ball. From a kick-off the ball must be played forward and the kicker must not again play the ball until it has touched another player. A goal can be scored direct from the kick-off. After a goal has been scored the team against whom the goal was scored takes the kick-off to restart play. For the second half of the game the teams change ends. The team that did not kick-off at the start of the game then takes the kick off.

**IN/OUT OF PLAY:** The ball is not out of play until it has **completely** crossed the goal line or touch line. The lines are part of the field of play. The ball is still in play if it rebounds off the goalpost, crossbar, corner flag or coach/referee into the field of play.

**THROW-INS:** When a player plays the ball over the touch line, the opposing team is awarded a throw-in from the spot where the ball crossed the line. The thrower must face the field, keep part of both feet on the ground, and not encroach on the field of play. He/she must use both hands to grip and throw the ball and must deliver it from over his/her head. A player who has thrown in the ball shall not play it again until it has touched another player. Coaches/Referees assist players to achieve the correct method. A second attempt is given. Following 2 foul attempts, possession passes to opposing team.

A goal can't be scored direct from a throw-in.

**GOAL KICKS:** When a player plays the ball over the **opponents' goal line**, other than between the posts, a goal kick is awarded to the defending team. Only the goalkeeper, anywhere within the semi-circle, must take the goal kick. Opponents must be **6 meters** away from the ball. A goal can be scored from a goal kick.

**CORNER KICK:** When a player plays the ball over his/her **own team's goal line**, other than between the posts, a corner kick is awarded to the other team. The kick is taken from within the marked quarter circle in the corner of the field on the side on which the ball passed over the goal line. The corner flag may not be removed to enable the kick to be taken. Opponents must be **6 meters** away from the ball. A goal can be scored direct from a corner kick.

**FREE KICK:** A free kick is awarded for dangerous play, obstruction, intentional back pass and throw-in to the keeper or handball by a field player. All free kicks are **indirect –and a goal can't be scored** - unless the ball was touched by a player before it goes into the goal. All opposing players have to be **6 meters** away from the ball. If a free kick is awarded to the attacking team within the semi circle then the free kick **must be moved 6 meters** from the semi circle and then taken. Defending players may stand on the edge of the semi circle if they wish.

**OFF SIDE:** There is **NO** off side in Roo Ball. But **deliberately placing** a player in an off side position is contrary to the spirit of the game and is discouraged.

**SCORING:** A goal can only be scored from **the outside** of the semi circle and a goal is awarded if the ball has **completely** crossed the goal line between the post and under the cross bar.

**REFEREE:** There are **NO** referees in these age groups. The team sheet must be filled in before each start and completed with the result of the game. After the game this completed team sheet has to be lodged at the canteen of the venue.

**NOTE:** Only goalkeepers are permitted inside the semi circle and allowed to handle the ball with their hands within. In a game the only time the keeper is **not allowed** to pick up the ball with his/her hands is from an **intentional** back pass and a throw-in. He/her can then only handle the ball with their feet. If this offence occurs, a free kick should be awarded. Although this does not apply to a **headed** back pass or an **unintentional** pass back to the goalkeeper.

Should a defending team **continually** play the ball within the semi circle, a free kick is to be awarded to the attacking team.

A player who is **bleeding** must leave the field.

No coaching is allowed from the sideline except the coach and then only to convey information without excessive emotion. No players or spectators are allowed behind the goals.