

Seattle RATS Modified 8v8 League Rules

Standard IFAB Laws of the Game are followed with some exceptions:

Law 1 – Field of Play

Matches will be played cross-field and marked with lines on the field or temporary markers/cones on a field similar or identical to those used for Mod U11/12 matches with smaller goals used for same.

Law 3 – Number of Players

Each team will play with a max of 8 players* and a team must have 5 players to start

Coed: 4 males max (GK gender does not count), teams must have min 2 females to start, teams may play with additional females but not additional males. *However, if a team falls behind by 5 goals an additional player may be added either male/female (mercy rule)

Substitutions: Are allowed during live-play or at stoppage and the substitution area is 10 yards long beginning at the halfway line. The substitute only enters the field of play after the player being replaced has entered the substitution area and left the field of play.

Law 7 – Duration of Match

Two 40 minutes halves with a 5-minute halftime which can be shortened based on start time

Law 11 – Offside

There is no offside violation on the short-modified field

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

Slide tackling, creating contact or a dangerous situation with an opponent or teammate while sliding is not permitted and will result in a free kick being awarded to the opponent. Sliding to block a shot, keep a ball in-play, score a goal or intercept a pass is permitted provided that no other player is put in a dangerous position. This is a judgement decision by the referee.

A Penalty Kick is awarded for an offense committed within the penalty area that will result in a direct free kick. All Penalty Kicks are taken from the top of the penalty arc with all other players positioned at the halfway line. Play is live at the referee's whistle and all players including the goalkeeper may advance toward the shooter. The shooter can dribble the ball in any direction, pass or shoot once the whistle has blown.

Law 13 – Free Kicks

All free kicks require the opponents to be at least 8 yards away or retreating to that spot.

Law 16 – Goal Kick

Rather than a traditional goal-kick the goalkeeper will restart play with a throw, punt or a goal-kick from anywhere within the goal area. A direct free kick at the halfway line is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper restart does not touch the ground prior to the halfway line.