

Chino Hills AYSO Region 779
We are a Volunteer Organization for our Kids
U5 – U8 Guidelines

The Field:

U5 field 30 x 15 yards.
U6 field 30 yards long, 15 yards wide (max).
U8 field 50 yards long, 25 yards wide (max).

The Goals:

U-5 games a maximum of 4 feet high and 6 feet wide.
U-6 games a maximum of 4 feet high and 6 feet wide.
U-8 games a maximum of 6 feet high and 6 yards wide.

The Ball:

A size 3 ball is used for U-5, U6, and U8 games.

Volunteers - Volunteers wishing to volunteer on Friday can complete the volunteer signup form on our website and our Volunteer coordinator will coordinate times. Volunteers signing up to volunteer will receive volunteer points for various volunteer recognition awards. Volunteers interacting with our kids must be a currently registered volunteer and be safe haven certified.

The Official: Any official must be a registered volunteer and be safe haven certified. There is no need for fully qualified referees to manage *U5-U6 games*. It is recommended that a safe haven certified parent from each team officiate. One or both of the coaches could “officiate.” but it is not recommended. The games are intended to be an opportunity for the very youngest of our players to experience the fun of playing. The barest of minimum rules are needed and should be applied with a generous amount of flexibility. Let the players have the freedom to play with minimum interruption.

AYSO-certified U-8 officials or higher are required for U-8 games. The U-8 official should briefly explain any infringements to the player(s) and encourage proper play and sporting behavior. As with all games, every effort should be made to keep the game moving and free from stoppages for doubtful infractions. Let them play and enjoy.

The Field Marshall:

Each team is to provide a Field Marshall for the game prior to their child's game. Field Marshalls are to pick up a Field Marshall vest from the AYSO Tent. Field Marshalls are the additional eyes and ears to monitor the fields during play, responsible for making sure the game finishes on time and the games start on time. Field Marshalls remind teams to remove trash. If the Field Marshall observes any issues, they are to report the issue to the board member on duty at the AYSO Tent.

Field Marshalls will have a clipboard with game durations and do's and don'ts. In addition they will be asking the referees to sign in and print their First Name, Last Name, date, email & or phone. This way we will know who is refereeing on the fields.

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FIELDS.

Every team that plays the first game of the day is responsible for painting one of their fields on Friday or 60 minutes before the first game. Each team is responsible for setting up the goals for their field

Teams playing the last game of the day are responsible for taking down the fields. In U5/U6 goals are to be disassembled and placed in their bags. Goals and flags are to be walked over to the bins. U8 Teams are to take down goals, strap the goal posts. Do not remove Goal posts feet. Nets and corner flags are to be taken to the bins. All Teams will be asked to pickup trash on their fields, take down tables and EZ-ups into the storage bin.

The Teams:

Teams are divided evenly between each field. The visiting team switches fields at half time. Substitutions are made at quarters, halftime and for injuries. A minimum of 3 quarters is required for each player and it is recommended that no one play 4 quarters until everyone has played 3 quarters. Separate boys and girls teams are recommended at all levels.

Players;

- **Number:** Divided evenly between both fields; U5, U6 **no goalkeepers.**
- **Substitutions:** Between periods, at halftime and for injuries.
- **Playing time:** Minimum of three periods per game and **no player should play four periods until everyone has played three.**
- **Teams:** Only players should be allowed on the field.
- **Coaches:** Remain on the sidelines. Coaching area is 30 feet on either side of the half line. They are not allowed down by the goal area.

Player Equipment:

Shoes and shin guards, covered by the socks are mandatory at all practice and game activities. Soccer shoes, tennis shoes, or similar type athletic shoes are recommended.

NOTE: The type and condition of cleated shoes must be inspected for safety before use.

The Start of Play:

To start the first and second halves, and following each goal in all age group games, play is started or restarted with a kick-off in the center of the field. A coin toss is used to determine which team kicks off to start the game and the other team kicks off to start the second half. Following a goal, the team scored upon kicks off.

The Kick-off:

The kick-off is taken from the **center of the field** with each team in **their own half** and the team not kicking off at least **5 yards from the ball.** Do not insist the opponent be a minimum of precisely 5 yards from the ball as this is just a guide to give the kicker room

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to kick the ball without it immediately hitting an opponent. Remember, let them play and do not interfere for technicalities.

Ball In and Out of Play:

The ball is out of play in all age group games when it **completely crosses the touch line** (side line) or goal line (end line) either on the ground or in the air. In U5 games, the coaches will determine when the ball is out of play and should guide the restart, interfering as little as possible. It's the player's game, let them play and work on technique later.

Method of Scoring:

A goal in all age group games is awarded when the ball completely crosses the goal line into the goal. Goals should be enthusiastically celebrated by everyone. **In U5 – U8 games, goals are not recorded to determine who wins as everyone is a winner.**

Fouls and Other Stoppages:

Deliberate fouling should be rare in U5-U8 games. Kicking, tripping, handling the ball and dangerous play may occur. There should be few, if any additional reasons to stop play in U5-U8 games. If a player is “not playing well with others”, or if play must be stopped for any other reason (injury, substitution, confusion, or to watch a passing train, butterfly or frog), refocus the players and begin again with a free kick or as may be appropriate. Award the restart to whichever team deserves it.

Stoppages must not become a lengthy ceremony.

Direct free kicks for all fouls, with the opponents six yards away from the ball.

Free Kick:

Play may have to be stopped occasionally to “sort things out” in U5-U8 games. When this is necessary, correct the situation then restart with a free kick for a deserving team. The opposing team should be at least 6 yards from the ball in U5-U8 games. All free kicks in U5-U8 games are direct free kicks which means, if you're lucky, a goal can be scored directly from the kick without the ball having to be touched or played by another player on the field.

Throw-in:

When the ball goes out of play in U5-U6 games across the touch line (side lines) **or the goal lines (end lines)** without a goal being scored, a throw-in is awarded at the point it crossed the line. The throw-in is awarded to the team that didn't touch the ball last. In U5-U6 games, whether the throw-in is properly taken or not, let it go...teach proper technique later. Again, let them play with minimum interruption. Keep the game moving and fun.

U8 only: Goalkeepers, Goal & Corner Kicks

Each team will provide a goalkeeper.

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Note: *If a team is short players, teams are to play with an equal number of players without a goalkeeper. It is recommended that a player play no more than half of a game as a goalie.*

Goal Kick

A goal kick is awarded to the opposing team, in U-8 and older, when the attacking team is last to touch the ball before it crosses the goal line but not scoring a goal. The goal kick may be taken from any point inside the goal area. The opposing team must be at least six yards from the ball when the goal kick is taken in U-8 games.

Corner Kick

A corner kick is awarded to the opposing team, in U-8 and older, when the defending team is last to touch the ball before it crosses the goal line but not scoring a goal. The opposing team must be at least six yards from the ball when the corner kick is taken in U-8 games.

NO's NO's in U5-U6

There are no Indirect Free KICKS.

There are no Penalty Kicks.

There are no Goal Kicks or CORNER KICKS.

Duration of Games:

U5 - Four 5-minute periods. Halftime break of 5–10 minutes.

U6 – Four 5-minute periods. Halftime break of 5–10 minutes.

U8 - Four 10-minute periods. Halftime break of 5–10 minutes.

Friendly reminder:

- They are children playing a child's game.
- They must be regarded as young children, not mini adults.
- They are essentially self-oriented and relate naturally to one or two others, not to large groups.
- Fun and activity factors must be a central part of a child-centered program.

Have a FUN, FAIR, SAFE and FUN Season!