

# **LYSA Exceptions To FIFA For Recreational Games**



# Law 1 - The Field of Play

## **LYSA Exceptions**

**Markings: Field of Play for Under 6 -TBD Field of Play for Under 8 -TBD Field of Play for Under 10 - TBD**

Coaching Areas shall be restricted to the area along and a minimum of two (2) yards outside the touchlines.

- Spectator Areas shall be restricted to the areas along and a minimum of two (2) yards outside the touchlines. No one shall be permitted directly behind the goal, or within four (4) yards of the goal line.
- No dangerous objects (automobiles, benches, chairs, etc.) shall be permitted within three (3) yards of the boundary lines of the field. Play shall not be allowed to begin or continue until this condition is met.
- Goals Dimensions:  
For Under 6 Age Group shall be six (6) feet x four (4) feet  
For Under 8 and Under 10 Age Groups shall be six (6) yards x six (6) feet

Coaches and players from both teams shall use the side of the playing field opposite the spectators. During games, the coaching staff shall be limited to a maximum of two (2).

# Law 2 - The Ball

## **LYSA Exceptions**

- LYSA shall use the following three ball sizes:

Ball Size	Age Group
3	Under 6 Under 8
4	Under 10 Under 12
5	Under 14 Under 16 Under 19

The “Home” Team shall provide the game ball. If the home team does not have a ball which is acceptable to the referee, he/she may select a ball provided by the Visiting Team.

In the event a suitable ball of the correct size is not available, the referee may select a ball of another size.

## Law 3 - The Number of Players

### **LYSA Exceptions**

If one or both teams do not have a minimum of seven (7) players for regular teams or five (5) players for small-sided teams at the scheduled starting time, the game may be delayed for fifteen (15) minutes. If at the end of 15 minutes, one team is unable to field the minimum number of players, that team shall forfeit the game. If neither team is able to field the minimum number of players after the 15-minute delay, both teams shall forfeit the game.

After play begins, either team may continue as long as it is able to field the minimum number of players. If, however, either team is unable to field the minimum, the referee shall stop the game and that team shall forfeit the game.

In the Under 6, Under 8, Under 12, and Under 12 Recreational Age Groups, teams may be formed to play as small-sided teams. In games between Under 6 small-sided teams, the maximum number of players allowed to play at one time shall be five (5). In games between Under 8 small-sided teams, the maximum number of players allowed to play at one time shall be seven (7), one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. In games between Under 10 small-sided teams, the maximum number of players allowed to play at one time shall be eight (8), one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. In games between Under 12 Recreational small-sided teams, the maximum number of players allowed to play at one time shall be eight (8), one of whom shall be the goalkeeper.

In Under 12 Choice, Under 14, Under 16, and Under 19, teams will be formed to play as full-sided teams. The maximum number of players allowed to play at one time shall be eleven (11), one of whom shall be the goalkeeper.

• Unlimited substitution is permitted. A team may substitute as many players as it wishes by indicating the intention to substitute and obtaining the approval of the referee to do so at the following times:

- **Prior to a throw-in its favor; if both teams have substitutions at a throw-in, both teams may substitute.**
- **Prior to a goal kick by either team;**
- **After a goal by either team;**
- **After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play;**
- **At half-time or between periods, by either team;**
- **After a caution, by either team.**

## Law 4 - Player's Equipment

### **LYSA Exceptions**

- Equipment that is dangerous to another player or the wearer shall not be worn.

## Law 5 - The Referee

### LYSA Exceptions

Reports of disqualifications, ejections, cautions, serious injuries, game suspensions, and/or verbal or physical abuse to a referee shall be reported to the Director of Officiating.

**The referee shall, whenever he/she has stopped the game due to the injury of a player(s), require that the player(s) be removed from the field of play as soon as possible.**

The referee has the right to ask the coach and/or assistant coach after the appropriate warning and refusal to comply with this warning to leave the area of play should they, in the opinion of the referee, be affecting the call of the game. Unsportsmanlike conduct, harassment, or any act directed toward the referee will be considered as affecting the call of the game.

If both coach and/or assistant coach are asked to leave the field of play after appropriate warnings, the referee shall terminate the game unless a responsible adult can assume coaching responsibilities.

Should the spectators become unruly, the game will be stopped, opposing coaches and the referee(s) will consult and the spectators will be asked to maintain order. If, in the opinion of the referee, order is not restored, the game will be terminated.

The referee shall be the sole judge on the field of play, and the referee's decision shall be final. No protest based on a referee's judgment shall be allowed.

Any complaint about a referee shall be directed in writing to the Director of Officiating.

## Law 6 - The Assistant Referee

### LYSA Exceptions

- Each team shall provide a non-neutral linesman if requested by the referee.

## Law 7 - Length of the Game

### LYSA Exceptions

- The duration of LYSA games shall be:  
**Age Group Game Length**

**Under 6 four 10 minute quarters**  
**Under 8 four 12 minute quarters**  
**Under 10 four 15 minute quarters**  
**Under 12 two 30 minute halves**  
**Under 14 two 35 minute halves**  
**Under 16 two 40 minute halves**  
**Under 19 two 45 minute halves**

Intervals between quarters shall not exceed five (5) minutes or between halves ten (10) minutes without approval of the referee. Periods shall not be shortened.

## Law 8 - The Start of Play

### LYSA Exceptions

In Age Groups which play four periods (quarters), teams shall exchange ends of the field at half-time (after the second quarter) unless the coaches of both teams request exchanges at the end of each quarter due to special condition(s) existing on one half of the field. Kickoff shall pass from one team to the other when ends of the field are exchanged.

A team in clear possession of the ball at the time of stoppage in play for injury shall restart play with an indirect free kick from the point where the ball was at the time of the stoppage. If neither team is in clear possession at the time of an injury stoppage, a drop ball shall be taken to restart play.

Should the start of a game be delayed because of no fault of either team, such as an earlier game finishing late, ten (10) minutes will be allowed from the end of that game to the start of the next game.

## Law 11 - Offside

### LYSA Exceptions

- **The offside rule is not used in Under 6, Under 8, and Under 10 Age Groups.**
- **In Under 8 and Under 10, players are not allowed to loiter without the ball around the opponent's goal area in a flagrant disregard of the no offside rule.**  
**Punishment: Indirect free kick to the opposing team.**

## Law 12 - Fouls and Misconduct

### LYSA Exceptions

- **In the Under 6, Under 8, and Under 10 Age Groups, slide tackles which result in physical contact initiated by the tackling player, regardless of whether the ball was played prior to the contact, will be considered dangerous play and shall be penalized by awarding of an indirect free kick. If in the opinion of the referee, a more serious foul (tripping, violent charge, etc.) was committed by the attacking player, the referee shall penalize for the more serious offense.**
- **Direct free kicks and penalty kicks are not given in the Under 6 and Under 8 Age Groups. All fouls are penalized with indirect free kicks.**
- **Players who are cautioned must be substituted immediately. They may return to the game at the next substitution opportunity. (See LYSA exception - Law 3.)**

## Law 13 - Free Kick

### LYSA Exceptions

- **Only indirect free kicks are given in the Under 6 and Under 8 Age Groups.**

## Law 14 - Penalty Kick

### LYSA Exceptions

- **Penalty kicks are not given in Under 6 and Under 8 Age groups.**

## LYSA Severe Weather Policy, from LYSA General Rules

It is the policy of LYSA that any LYSA activity shall be stopped and possibly terminated due to the presence of severe weather. Severe weather shall include but is not limited to:

- 1 The sighting of lightning.
- 2 The hearing of thunder.
- 3 The sighting of a funnel cloud.

If any of these conditions are present during a game, then the referee in charge shall stop the game and instruct everyone to clear the field and seek shelter. After a wait of at least **30 minutes** with the absence of any severe weather, the game may be resumed. If after **30 minutes** the severe weather continues, the referee may terminate the game.