

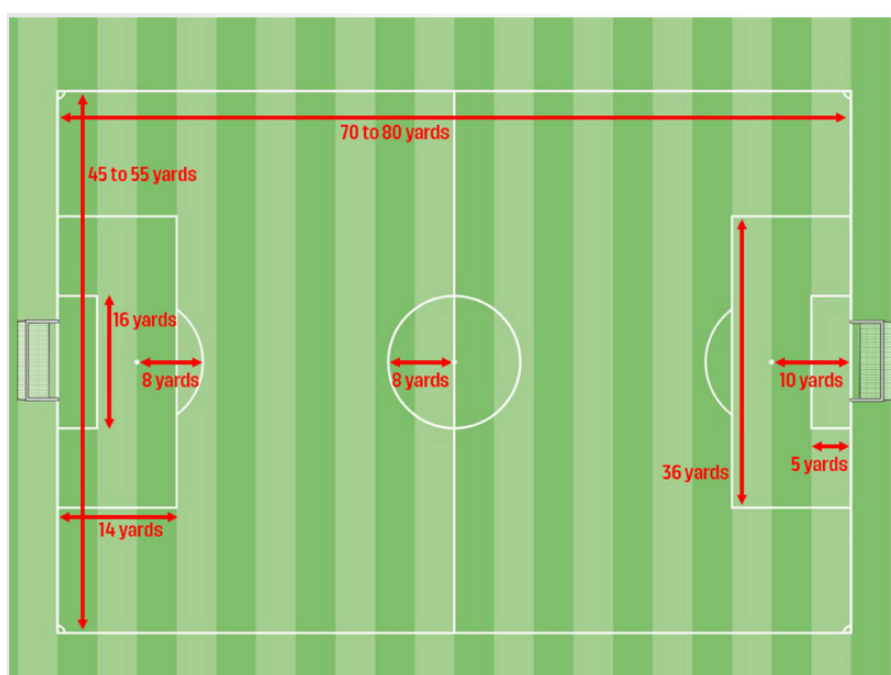


## Modifications to the Laws of the 9 v 9 - Small-Sided Games

Birth years 2008 (U11) and 2007 (U12)

### Law 1 – The Field of Play

- 70-80 yards (length) with 45-55 yards (width)
- Goals should be no larger than 7 feet (height) x 21 feet (width) - A 6.5 feet (height) x 18.5 feet (width) goal is recommended based on the age and ability of the players
- Diagram with the recommended field markings and dimensions:



### Law 2 – Ball

- Size 4

### Law 3 – The Players

- 9v9 (8 field players and 1 goalkeeper)
- Game may not start or continue if there are less than 6 players on a team
- Substitutions are unlimited and can occur at any stoppage

### Law 5 – Referee

- Minimum certification as a U.S. Soccer Grade 9 Referee.

#### **Law 6 – Other Match Officials**

- Used at the discretion of the competition.

#### **Law 7 – Duration of the Match**

- 2 halves
- 30 minutes halves
- 10-minute halftime
- No added time

#### **Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play**

- If a player is struck in the head by the ball accidentally, the referee will assess the force of the impact and if the referee stops the game because of the strike/blow to the head,
  - The referee restarts the game with a dropped ball in accordance with Law 8.
- The hit to the head will be considered accidental if when the ball hits the player's head, it occurred in a way that was not planned or intended; happening by accident. The player may be standing still or in motion but not in either case playing the ball. The player may not even be aware that the ball is coming in a direction from which contact is imminent.
- If the accidental hit to the head occurs inside the penalty area AND the referee stops the game, the ball will be dropped at the penalty area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the incident occurred.

#### **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**

- Deliberate heading is not allowed in U11 (Birth year 2008) games
  - If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team from the location of the offense.
  - If the deliberate header occurs within the penalty area, the indirect free kick will be taken from the penalty area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the offense occurred.

#### **Standard Laws of the Game**

Law 4 - Players Equipment

Law 9 - The Ball in and Out of Play

Law 10 - Determining the Outcome of a Match

Law 11 - Offside

Law 13 - Free Kicks

Law 14 - The Penalty Kick

Law 15 - The Throw-in

Law 16 - The Goal Kick

Law 17 - The Corner Kick