

Orange County Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation
Under 6 Soccer Playing Rules
Spring 2019

Orange County Recreation Division Mission Statement

DEAPR-Recreation Division exists to provide Orange County residents of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and interests with a wide-variety of affordable recreation programming, open access to recreation facilities and opportunities for all people to gather, celebrate, and engage in activities that promote healthy lifestyles, teach important life skills and build a stronger community.

Player Draft

All eligible players will be assigned to teams through a draft process. The draft process is as follows:

Objective

The objective of Orange County Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation – Recreation Division draft procedure for athletic leagues is to ensure that each parent, participant, and coach are given the opportunity to participate in a fun, enjoyable, and fair athletic league

Draft Order

Youth Soccer Leagues will employ a snake draft method. Each coach will pick out of a hat a number designated one for each team in the division (for example: a 6 team division will have numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6). The corresponding selected number will be the coach drafting order. The first round (and all odd numbered rounds) will begin with coaches drafting in sequential order, with the coach drawing “1” taking the first pick, coach drawing “2” taking the second pick, and so on. The round continues until all coaches have made a selection. The second round (and all even numbered rounds) will begin with the coaches drafting in reverse sequential order, with the coach drawing the highest number taking the first pick and continuing downward until all coaches have made a selection.

Example using a 6-team league with 60 players:

Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5	Team 6
1	2	3	4	5	6
12	11	10	9	8	7
13	14	15	16	17	18
24	23	22	21	20	19
25	26	27	28	29	30
36	35	34	33	32	31
37	38	39	40	41	42
48	47	46	45	44	43
49	50	51	52	53	54
60	59	58	57	56	55

Gender

In co-ed divisions each team shall include on its roster a comparable number of girls and boys with each other team in the division.

Rosters

Rosters are set as of the first team practice.

A player must play on the team that he/she is assigned to through the draft process and may only switch teams at the discretion of the Recreation Division.

Teams that have players drop may request a replacement player, if available.

Knowingly permitting a player to participate in a game without having registered for the program shall result in ejection for the remainder of the league/activity season.

Playing Rules**Law 1 – The Field of Play:**

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 20 yards maximum 30 yards

Width: minimum 15 yards maximum 25 yards

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of four (4) yards is marked around it.

The Goal Area: A goal area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, three (3) yards from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of three (3) yards and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the goal area.

The Penalty Area: None.

Flag posts: Conform to FIFA.

The Corner Arc: None

Goals: Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corner flag posts and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The recommended distance between the posts is twelve (12) feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet. Goals may be smaller in dimension.

Safety: Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.

Law 2 – The Ball: Conform to FIFA with the following exception: size three (3).

Law 3 – The Number of Players: A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than five (5) players. There are no goalkeepers.

Substitutions must be made at the half way point of all four quarters. The clock should stop at the half way point as play allows. All players on the bench must go in the game and stay throughout the rest of the quarter. Exception: Injured players can be substituted for as necessary

Short-handed play: If at any time a team is unable to field a full side (must play short-handed) the opposing team must equal the number of players on the field. A team unable to field a full side may “borrow” players from the opposing team in order to maximize the playing time for all players in attendance.

Law 4 – The Players’ Equipment: Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:

Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but shirts must still distinguish teams.

No casts permitted.

Law 5 – The Referee: Team coaches. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees: None.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions

Periods of Play: The match lasts four (4) equal periods of ten (10) minutes each.

Quarter and Halftime Intervals: There shall be one (1) minute between the first and second and third and fourth quarters and a half-time interval of three (3) minutes.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA, with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – The Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in an indirect free kick. The referee/coach/parent must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all free kicks are indirect and opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: None.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: The ball is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team. Opponents remain behind the midfield until the ball is in play. The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves outside of the goal area.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Additional Rules:

Heading:

Heading is not allowed

Remember that this is youth league recreational play, instruction should focus on sport fundamentals – dribbling, passing, shooting, throw-ins, etc. – along with sport values such as teamwork, sportsmanship, and fair play.

Weather Policy and Rescheduling

All coaches/parents should call the weather hotline for cancellation information 919.245.2669.

Cancellations for games or practices that occur on weekdays will be posted at 4:00 p.m.

In the event of cancellation coaches will receive an e-mail notice by 4:00 p.m. After 4:00 p.m. any decision regarding cancellation is made at the field.

The Orange County Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation – Recreation Division will reschedule games when there is availability in scheduling. Cancelled practices may not be rescheduled.