

West Islip Soccer Club – U5 Rules of Play

1. Games are played with a size 3 ball.
2. Games consist of 2 – 20 min. halves; 5 min half time; Teams switch sides for the 2nd half.
3. Teams play 6vs6 with a minimum of 4 kids needed to play. When playing a team that is short players, please look to balance both teams to maximize the children's playing time.
4. No Goalies used at this level. Children should not hang on or near their own goal. The idea is to promote scoring and involve the children in the game.
5. Shin Guards are mandatory for practice and games.
6. Coaches and Parents are encouraged to keep the ball inbounds (tap back into play). Do not allow the children to play outside of the field of play for an extended time period. When necessary call for a throw-in or goal kick.
7. There is absolutely no slide tackling, pushing or tripping.
8. No penalty shots. In the case of a flagrant foul, award the fouled player an indirect kick.
9. Do not run up the score. Try to adhere to our 5-goal rule. If your team is up by 5 goals, be creative to allow the other team an opportunity to score. Play shorthanded, have your best goal scorer switch teams at halftime,
10. There are no standings; we do not track game results. Please emphasize player development during all games and practices.

Game Day Needs:

1. First game of the day has set-up (paint the field lines if faded, move nets to field).
2. Last game of the day has take-down (Bring the nets back to their locked location next to the club's storage trailer.
3. No referees, coaches should be on the field instructing and educating the players.
4. Juice Snacks: try to save sweet stuff for after the game. Pretzels/fruit at halftime is ok, save candy for after the game. Water is best, no soda during games.
5. If you must cancel a game, notify your coordinator and the opposing coach.
6. **Most Important:** Keep it fun for kids and coaches. The more fun you have the more the kids will want to learn about the game.