



Buffalo Grove



Soccer

BUFFALO GROVE PARK DISTRICT

2008 SPRING SEASON SOCCER RULES

bgpd

All soccer rules are based upon FIFA laws and regulations (www.fifa.com). The exceptions to rules and emphasis of others are listed here. Rules are subject to change.

LAW #1 - THE FIELD OF PLAY

The field size varies to promote play based upon age group. Cones may be used to replace corner and mid-field flags.

LAW #2 - THE BALL

Kindergarten through 5th grade (except when 5th and 6th are in the same division) use a Size #4 ball. Sixth through eighth grade divisions use a Size #5 ball.

LAW #3 - THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS, COACHES RULES, & PLAYING TIME

1. All small field (yellow, black & green) games are played with 9 players per side. All large field games (blue, red, white) are played with 11 players per side. Players per side may change on small and large sided fields before a game if both head coaches and the head referee are all in agreement.
2. *Spring 2008 Boy's 4th & 5th Grade – Teams will be using the small fields (yellow, black & green) and will be playing an 8 v 8 format. 1 goalie and 7 position players. ***Teams will follow all large field rules.***
3. **PLAYER SUBSTITUTIONS (Revised Fall 2006):**
 - K – 3RD GRADE**
 - A. Substitutions may be made on all dead balls and made at any time during the game.
 - 4TH – 8TH GRADE**

Substitutions may be made by:

 - A. The team in possession of the ball during a throw-in or,
 - B. Either team during a goal kick. Substitutions ***may not*** be made prior to a corner kick by either team.
 - C. After a goal by either team.
 - D. After an injury where play is stopped to access the injury.

***** Girls 4th - 8th Grade Substitutions Spring 2008 Only** – Coaches may substitute on all dead balls.
4. Substitutes should enter/exit from the field at the mid-line closest to their player's bench area with the referee's permission.
5. **PARK DISTRICT RULE:** All players who regularly attend practice, must play at least 1/2 of each league game. **Kindergarten – 3rd grade coaches should do their best at having every player on the team play every position during the season.**
6. Coaches (K – 1st grade) will be allowed on the game field up to 7 ft. from the sideline to speak/coach their team/players. If the referee feels you have interfered while the game is being played (Example: Kicking the ball, touching a player, interfering with the referee and interfering with the other team, etc...) the referee reserves the right to have you moved back to the official sideline for the remainder of the game. Coaches (2nd – 8th grade) are not allowed on the field during play and must maintain a position within a reasonable distance near the mid-field line. Coaches and spectators are not allowed on the end lines during the game.

7. **Playing Down:** Teams with insufficient players to begin a game can request the opposing team to reduce the number of active players by 2 players. No team should ever "Forfeit" a game and all coaches and referees should take whatever steps required to play each game. Consult Field Supervisor for more information.

LAW #4 - PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

1. **Players must wear a Park District-issued uniform during games.** Cold or wet weather clothes may be worn under the uniform. Gloves and knit hats are permitted. No baseball hats are allowed.
2. Jewelry is not permitted. Pierced earrings must be removed.
3. Players with glasses must wear snug-fitting eyeglass straps.
4. Shin guards must be worn at all times. Socks must entirely cover shin guards.
5. Soccer shoes or gym shoes are required. Baseball cleats are not permitted.
6. Plaster of paris or similar casting material is allowed only if it is fully covered by foam or bubble wrap and per the referee's judgment is not dangerous to themselves or another player. The referee's judgment is **FINAL** on game day.

LAW #5 – REFEREES

Referees have the discretionary power to caution any coach, player, spectator if s/he shows, by word or actions, dissent from any decision given by the referee or any of the aforementioned is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct.

LAW #6 – THREATENING WEATHER – *(Revised Fall 2006)*

Lightning's behavior is random and unpredictable. ***Preparedness*** and ***quick response*** are the best defenses towards the lightning hazard. As such, it is the policy of the Buffalo Grove Park District that all athletic events and contests are immediately suspended when lightning is spotted or thunder is heard. All participants and spectators are to be cleared from the field and find safe shelter. In all cases, the following procedure will be followed:

At the first signs of lightning or thunder, leave the ball field. Go to your vehicle and take shelter there with the windows rolled up. ("If you can hear it (thunder), Clear It (suspend activities).")

AVOID the rain. **AVOID** shelters and dugout areas. These are not safe from lightning.
AVOID going underneath trees. Trees "attract" lightning.
AVOID metal fences, gates, and tall light poles and power poles.

Wait 30 minutes after the last observed lightning or thunder before you leave shelter. Game officials will signal a resumption of activities.

(For more information, please refer to the National Lightning Safety Institute.)

LAW #7 - DURATION OF THE GAME

1. All small field games (yellow, black & green) will be played in four equal periods of 10 minutes each (running clock).
2. All large field games (blue, red & white) will be played in 2 equal halves of 30 minutes each (running clock).
3. The referee will determine reasonable time between periods or halves. The referee may shorten the periods or halves in order to keep the games running on schedule.

LAW #8 - START OF PLAY

Players must line up on their own side of the field. The opposing team must remain 10 yards from the ball until it is kicked. The ball must travel its own circumference forward to begin play. The kicker may not play the ball until another player has touched it.

LAW # 9 - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

The ball is out of play: (a) when it has wholly crossed the goal line or touchline, whether on the ground or in the air; (b) when the game has been stopped by the referee. The ball is in play at all other times including, rebounds from the goal posts, or rebounds off referees or linesmen when they are in the field of play.

LAW #10 – SCORING

A goal is scored when the ball wholly crosses the goal-line between the goal posts, provided it has not been thrown, carried or intentionally propelled by hand or arm by an attacking player.

LAW #11 - OFFSIDE

A player is in an offside position if he is nearer to the opponents' goal line than the ball, unless (a) he is in his own half of the field of play, or (b) he is not nearer to his opponents goal-line than at least two of his opponents. A player shall be declared offside at the moment the ball touches, or is played by one of his teammates and he is, in the opinion of the referee, interfering with the play, or seeking to gain advantage by being in that position. A player shall not be declared offside (a) merely because of his being in an offside position or (b) if he receives a ball directly from a goal kick, corner kick or throw-in.

LAW # 12 - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

- * All players should conduct themselves within the laws and rules of the game.
- * It is prohibited to charge into the goalkeeper anywhere within the penalty area (unless he is obstructing an opponent) once he gains possession of the ball.
- * **The play will be stopped for all small field games when the goalie has touched the ball and there is danger from other players coming into contact with the goalie.** If no players are close to the goalie, the play will be allowed to continue.
- * **Goalies are allowed 6 seconds with the ball to return the ball to play,** and once he has released the ball, may not touch it with his hands again until another player has touched it.
- * Referees will enforce all Rules and Laws as granted him by these Laws and Buffalo Grove Park District Rules.

Buffalo Grove Park District Website

www.bgparkdistrict.org

Federation Internationale de Football Association Website

www.fifa.com

Illinois Youth Soccer Organization Website

www.illinoisyouthsoccer.org

National Youth Sports Coaching Association (N.Y.S.C.A.) Website

www.nays.org

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