



## West Chester United Soccer Club Fall 2017 – Coach/Referee Briefing Sheet

Rule #1: **Have Fun.** Players, families, coaches and referees are to enjoy a fun environment that is safe and supports fair play and good sportsmanship.

Age Group	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U12	U14	U18
Format	4v4	4v4	5v5	7v7	7v7	9v9	11v11	11v11
Game Time	4x10m	4x10m	4x10m	2x25m	2x25m	2x30m	2x30m	2x35m
Ball Size	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	5
Goalie	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
GK Punts	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Goal Kick	Retreat to Half Line			Retreat to Build-Out Line		Standard	Standard	Standard
Offside	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Throw Ins	Pass	Pass	Pass	Throw	Throw	Throw	Throw	Throw
Field Size (yd)	20 x 30	25 x 35	30 x 40	50 x 70	50 x 70	50 x 70	70 x 110	70 x 110
Goal Size (ft)	4' x 6'	4' x 6'	6' x 10'	6' x 18'	6' x 18'	6' x 18'	8' x 24'	8' x 24'

### Rules of the Game

- **Offsides** – Offsides rule will be enforced for U9-U18
  - U10 and Below – Use Build Out for Offsides
  - U12 and Above – Use Half Line (standard rule) for Offsides
- **Throw-ins** - Refs are to call illegal throw-ins. Communicate with both Coaches **Pre-Game** to notify them if re-throws will be allowed for younger ages.
- **Substitutions**
  - U6-U8 – Sub freely when ball is out of play
  - U9-U18 - Referee must call on field; subs to enter from center of field on side line
- **Heading** – Per recent USSF Rule change, heading the ball is not allowed for ages U12 and below (game or training). During a game, a Header will result in an Indirect Kick for the opposing team.
- **Build-Out Line** – For U8-U10, fields will be marked with a Build-Out line in the attacking third. The intent is to develop confidence for players to build possession from the back rather than 'kick and run' play. ***IF NO BUILD OUT LINE is marked, teams should use the Half Line for Offside and Goal Kicks.***





- **GK Possession** – GK may roll or throw ball to begin possession, or place the ball at his/her feet and pass/play out. No Punting Allowed. Punt will result in an Indirect kick from the spot of the foul.
- **Goal Kicks** - Attacking teams must retreat behind this line on Goal Kicks and GK possession, allowing GK to distribute the ball to a teammate before pursuing.
- **EPYSA Link** - [EPYSA Video - Coaching With the Build-Out Line](#)

**Mercy Rule:** Coaches should do their best to avoid outscoring opponents by a wide margin. Referees are to help Coaches with reminders. Upon reaching 4 goal differential, coaches are to employ **some or all** of the following tactics:

- Play players in different positions than normal
- Tell your players they must complete 5 (or more) consecutive passes before shooting
- Tell the other coach to add an extra player on the field
- Take a player off the field and play short

**Field & Goal Safety:** Inspect the field prior to your scheduled game. During the inspection, check corner flags (as available) and Goals. This is just a friendly reminder on some best practices regarding goal safety (the coaches & referees responsibility):

- Ensure that all goals have appropriate anchors (weight/sand bags).
  - *some goals have permanent anchors*
- If no adequate anchors are available, the goals should NOT be used.
- If you see a goal on a facility with no anchors, with assistance carefully drop the goal on its front so that it cannot be used.
- Be vigilant and educate players to not climb or swing on goalposts, frames, or nets.
- Players should not move goals unsupervised, coaches must always take the lead when goals need to be moved. If parents are available at games/training sessions please utilize the parents versus players.

