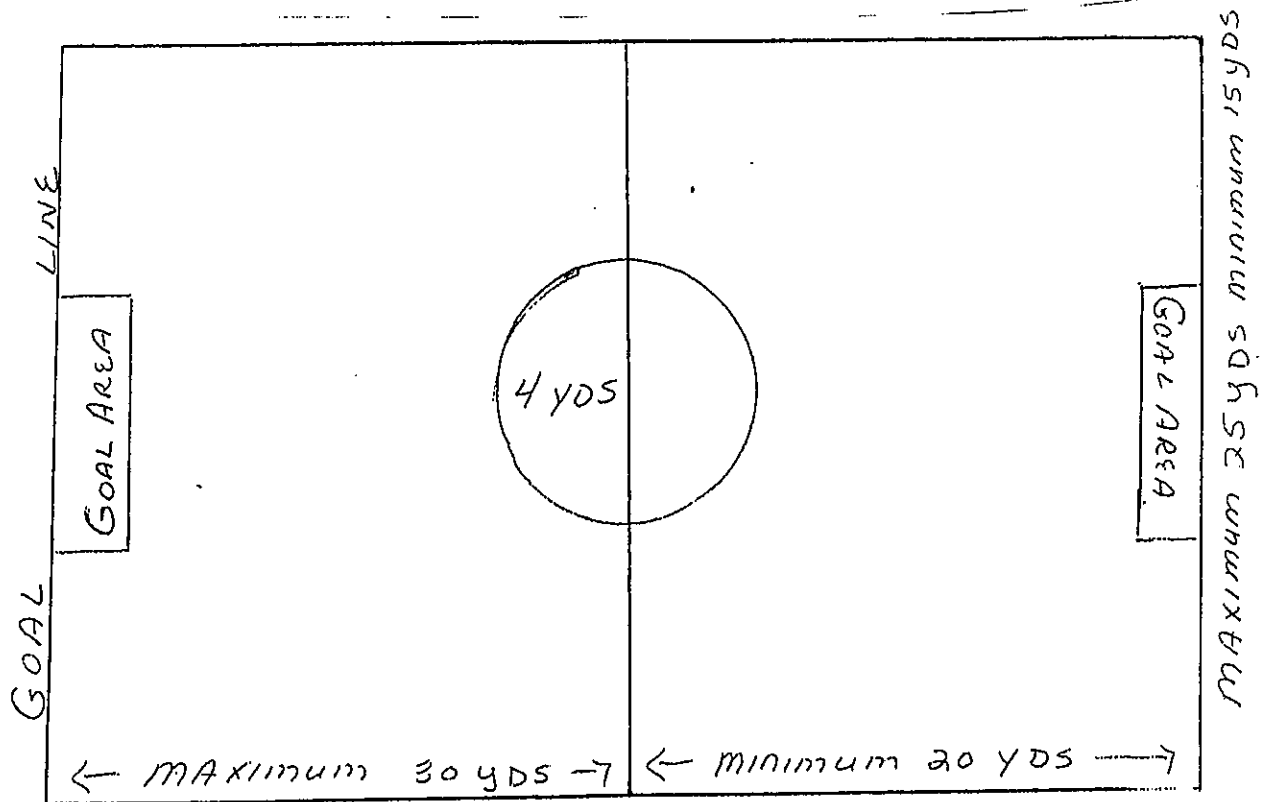


**ORION/OXFORD SOCCER LEAGUE
MODIFIED LAWS FOR U4 SOCCER PLAYERS**

1. FIELD



A. DIMENSION

The field of play shall be rectangular. The length shall exceed the width.

B. MARKINGS

Distinctive lines from two to five inches wide, halfway line, center circle, four corner arcs, goal area, player/coaches area, spectator view line.

C. THE GOALS

The goals shall be rectangular in shape, and equal distance from each corner flag.

2. THE BALL

Size three

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3. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- * Four, one of which is the goal keeper
- The maximum number of players on the roster should not exceed eight.
- Playing time: Each player must participate a minimum of fifty percent of the total playing time.
- Substitution: Substitution may take place upon permission of the referee on your throw in, either teams goal kick, either teams goals scored, or at quarter or half time.
- Teams shall be coed, unless identified as "all girls".

4. PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

Orion/Oxford Jersey, shorts and socks. Shin guards are mandatory. Statistics indicate turf shoes are better than cleats at the younger age level. Either may be worn.

5. REFEREE

- * Shall be encouraged to explain an infraction to the offending player, without undue delay of the game or showing favoritism to either team. Referee should address both teams not an individual player.
- * Referee may mention to a coach during quarter and half time if infraction continues
- Center referee calls over ride linesmen calls.

6. LINESMEN

Club linesmen, one volunteer from each team, will assist center referee when the ball is out of play and follow instructions given by the Referee.

7. DURATION OF GAME

The game is divided into four quarters of eight minutes, each with a two minute break between quarters. A half time break will not exceed five minutes.

8. THE START OF PLAY

- Opponents must be six yards from the center mark when kick off is being taken.
- The ball is not in play until it travels it's own circumference and cannot be touched by the kicker a second time until it has been touched by another player.

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9. BALL IN AND OUT

The ball is out of play when it has wholly crossed the goal or touch lines.

10. METHOD OF SCORING

- **The whole ball must cross the goal line between the goal posts and under the cross bar.**
- **The ball cannot be thrown, carried or intentionally propelled by hand or arm over the goal line.**

11. OFF SIDE

No offside will be called in U-4. Players need to be aware of offsides. Offside is defined as an attacking player on the goal side of the last defender (not including the goalie) and the ball is played toward that offensive players area.

12. FOUL AND MISCONDUCT

- **A foul is any play which could result in an injury.**
- **The referee should explain all infractions to the offending player**
- **If further explanation is needed, the referee will approach the coaches during the quarter breaks.**

13. FREE KICKS

- **Indirect kicks: A goal may not be scored until the ball has been played by a second player.**
- **No free kicks will be taken by the attacking team in the defending teams' goal area. If an infraction occurs within the goal box by the attacking team, the defending team takes a free kick from that point. If the infraction occurs by the defending team in their own goal box, the referee awards an indirect free kick to the offensive team.**

14. PENALTY KICKS are not allowed in U4's

15. THROW-IN

- **One re-throw will be allowed if the throw is done incorrectly.**
- **The referee shall explain the fault before the next free throw is taken**
- **A proper throw-in is both feet on the ground with both hands over the head in a smooth motion.**

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16. GOAL KICK

- A goal kick may be taken from any point inside the goal area.
- A goal kick is taken by the defending team.
- Opponents must be six yards away from the ball.
- The ball must cross the line of the penalty area before it is played by another player.

17. CORNER KICK

- A corner kick will be awarded to the attacking team if the ball is kicked over the goal line by the defending team.
- Opponents must be six yards away from corner kick area.

18. LEAGUE ENCOURAGEMENTS

Soccer is for all children. Let us help them learn the game of soccer in a fun filled way. No league standings will be kept. Patches are awarded to every player at the end of each season.