

Calvary Chapel Youth Soccer League 2024

A League (4-5s): 5 players, no keeper; 16 min halves; 4 min halftime; ball size 3

B League (6-7s): 6 + keeper; 21 min halves; 4 min halftime; ball size 3

C League (8-9s): 7 + keeper; 23 min halves; 4 min halftime; ball size 4

D League (10-12s): 8 + keeper; 25 min halves; 4 min halftime; ball size 4

E League (13-17s): 10 + keeper; 32 min halves; 4 min halftime; ball size 5

In or Out of Play:

- All lines extend vertically. Ball must completely cross line to be a goal/out of play.

Throw-In (Leniency for younger ages):

- Hands over and behind head, both feet remain in contact with ground
- Stepping on the touch line is okay
- Redo a throw-in if the ball does not enter field of play

Goal Kick and Corner Kick:

- Ball out over the goal line off of offense (goal kick) or defense (corner kick)
- Ball is placed on or inside goal area line (goal kick) or corner area arc (corner kick)
- On a goal kick, the offense cannot enter the goal area until the ball leaves the area or another player on the defense touches the ball. Defense is allowed in own box.

Other Restarts:

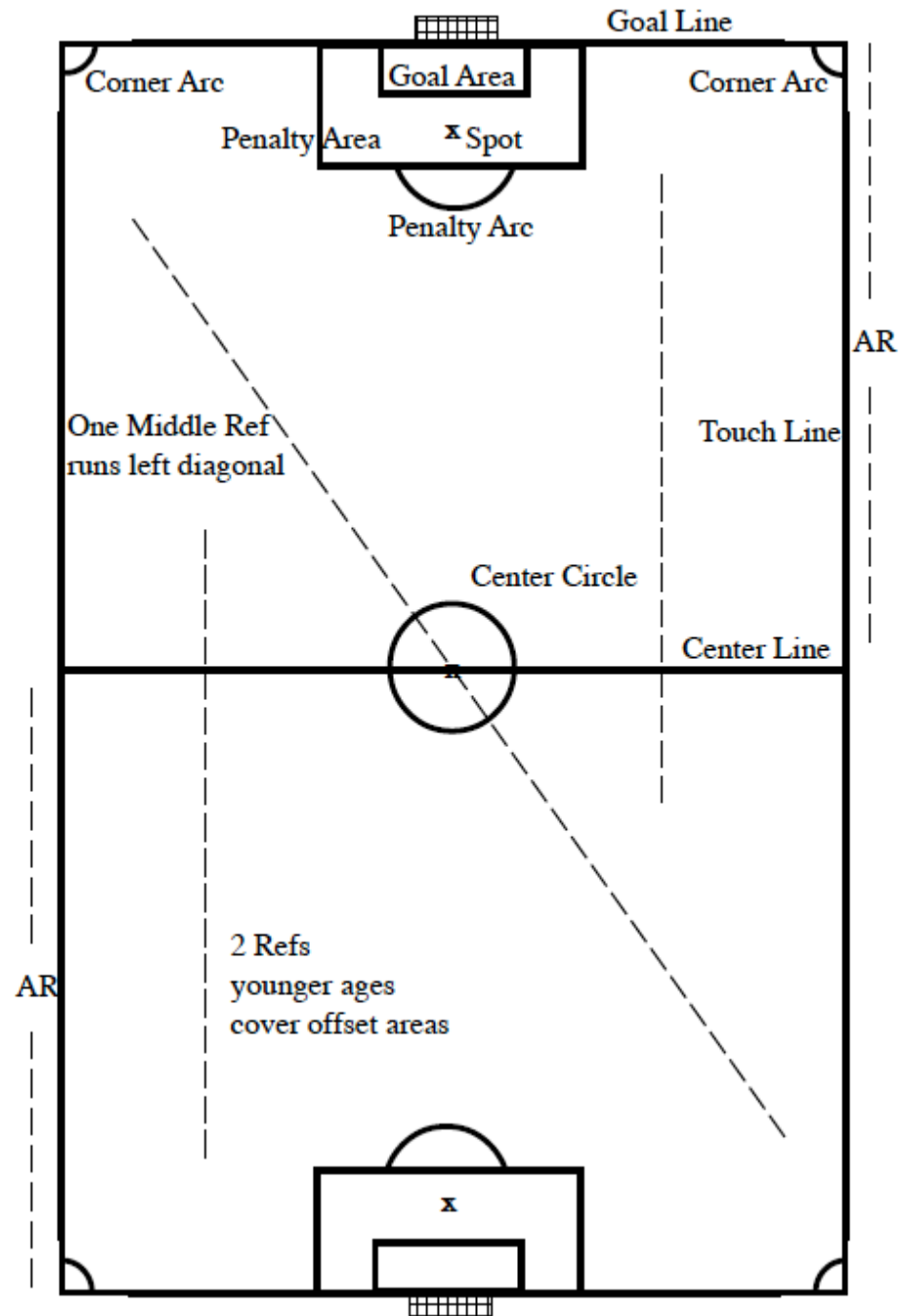
- Kick-Off (Start of a game/half or after a goal)
 - Defenders outside circle, ball must be touched by another player
- Direct Free Kicks (Ref points direction): Usually contact/misconduct
 - Handball (see back), trip, push, hold, jump at player, kick, any slide tackle
 - No handball in leagues A-D when trying to protect the head/face
- Indirect Free Kick (Ref raises hand): Minor misplay/dangerous play
 - Offside, pass to keeper, dangerous play
- All Free Kicks: Defense must be 10 yards off ball, but quick kicks are allowed
- Dropped Ball (uncontested): On stoppage, non-possession, or injury
 - Given to last team with possession, or keeper if inside the penalty area
- Penalty Kick: Administer if a direct kick foul is inside the penalty area
 - Players line up outside area and behind ball. Ball is live on rebound/catch.

Offside Position/Offside (Conditions 1&2):

- “Offside position” is when an offensive player(s) are past the ball and 2nd-to-last defender.
- “Offside” is only called when the player in the offside position *at the time of the strike* becomes involved in play or gains an advantage.
- There is no offside on throw-ins, corner kicks, or goal kicks
- Offside is called in all age groups except 4-5s

Substitutions:

- (8-9s and up) Both teams can sub on a goal kick or after a goal. On throw-ins, the team in possession must initiate a sub, then the other team is allowed to sub.
- The 4-5s/6-7s may freely substitute on any stopped play.
- Injured/cautioned players can be subbed.



Handball Guidelines

One of the trickiest rules in soccer is the handball. FIFA's official rule for handball is as follows:

For the purposes of determining handball offences, the upper boundary of the arm is in line with the bottom of the armpit.

Not every touch of a player's hand/ arm with the ball is an offence. It is an offence if a player:

- Deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm, for example moving the hand/arm towards the ball
- Touches the ball with their hand/arm when it has made their body unnaturally bigger. A player is considered to have made their body unnaturally bigger when the position of their hand/arm is not a consequence of, or justifiable by, the player's body movement for that specific situation. By having their hand/ arm in such a position, the player takes a risk of their hand/arm being hit by the ball and being penalized
- Scores in the opponents' goal:
 - * Directly from their hand/arm, even if accidental, including by the goalkeeper
 - * Immediately after the ball has touched their hand/arm, even if accidental

The following should be considered when the ball touches a player's hand/arm:

- Was their hand/arm moving toward the ball?
- Was the hand/arm in a "unnatural" position (making the body bigger/not in a normal place for someone's hands/arms to be)?
- Did the player have time to react and avoid touching the ball with their hand/arm?

If the answer to any of these questions is, "yes," then you probably have a handball. Of course, grace should be shown. Handballs should not be called as strictly in younger age groups (4-5s, 6-7s), and allowances should be made for players who are trying to protect themselves, particularly their head/face. We do not call handballs on players trying to protect their face, unless it is in the 13-17s and the other considerations for handball apply.