

MINI-SOCCER FRIENDSHIP INVITATIONAL



SAT 16th (Boys) & SUN 17th (Girls) MARCH 2024

**MATSQUI RECREATION COMPLEX
ABBOTSFORD**

WELCOME

Dear Sporting Colleagues,

Welcome to the ASA Mini-Soccer Friendship Invitational.

The event is inspired by the desire to offer the young players within the U9-U13 age groups a fun, relaxed and enjoyable festival-style experience that will either act as a fall 'wrap-up' or spring 'kick-off' event, depending in which part of the province you reside.

We are pleased to provide the following information by way of allowing all teams (coaches, players, parents) to gain an understanding of the rules, as it relates to the event and the respective game formats.

To confirm, all game formats and applicable rules will align with the guidance as offered in the BC Soccer Small-Sided Games Manual and the BC Soccer Small-Sided Referee Rules Handbook.

In closing, we wish to acknowledge the tremendous support of this event from the City of Abbotsford, Sport Abbotsford, Tourism Abbotsford and the many volunteers within the Abbotsford Soccer Association.

Enjoy your Games.

Cheers,

Greg Berry

Tournament Director

Director of Community Development

Mini-Soccer Friendship Invitational - Rules

Eligibility

All participating teams/players MUST be currently registered with their respective District & Provincial Association. Participating teams are required to complete the following **TEAM ROSTER SHEET**

Team Coaches/Manager must submit any applicable Short-Term Event Player Permit Request Forms, to the registration desk, located at the venue. The ASA (host club) will not be liable for any injuries to any participant in the Mini-Soccer Friendship Invitational on or off the fields.

Age requirements

U-9 is 2015 or later

U-10 is 2014 or later

U-11 is 2013 or later

U-12 is 2012 or later

U-13 is 2011 or later

1. Registration/Team Check-in

Teams are required to check-in at the registration/information desk, at least one (1) hour before the team's first game at Matsqui Recreational Complex. The desk will be located at the ASA Tent, located near to the changing room facility and Field #2.

2. Conduct

The Event Committee relies upon the coaches to set an example of conduct and sportsmanship and to exercise all the necessary control over their players and associated team parents and spectators. A zero-tolerance policy is in place, as it relates to Foul and abusive language. Also, please note that smoking will not be permitted in the area directly around the playing field. We respectfully request that smoking be confined to areas away from the athletes and outside the fencing around the playing area.

3. Position of Teams/Spectators

Team members (players and coaches) will take up positions on the same side of the field on opposite sides of the centre line. Spectators must watch the game from the opposite side of the field to the team bench

4. Scores / Standings

The Mini-Soccer Friendship Invitational is aligned with National & Provincial LTPD requirements and as such, No Scores are recorded, and No Standings are published.

5. Conduct

The decisions of the Organizing Committee regarding the conduct of the event shall be final. The referee's decisions shall be final, so far as the results of the game is concerned. The referee is the sole timekeeper of the game.

6. Cautions/Ejections (U11-U13)

a) Cautions/Yellow Cards – A player awarded two (2) cautions, in the same game, resulting in an ejection, will receive an automatic one (1) game suspension.

b) Ejections/Red Cards - all ejections/red cards will be reviewed by the Discipline Committee and the appropriate suspensions will be rendered in accordance with the mandatory minimums as established by BC Soccer.

In the U9-U10 divisions, it is anticipated that cautions/ejections will not be deemed necessary, and as

such, the game referee in consultation with team coaches will apply a common-sense approach to dealing with any issues. Players receiving an ejection resulting from deliberately handling the ball preventing a goal, shall sit out the remainder of the game but a substitution will be permitted. The player is not suspended for any subsequent games. Ejections for other reasons such as; serious foul play, violent conduct, or foul and abusive language directed at the game official shall result in the player's dismissal from the game, no substitutions will be permitted, and the player will face the normal BC Soccer sanction/suspension of one (1) game automatic suspension. Upon review of the referee report/comments, the Discipline Committee may choose to increase this suspension.

7. Discipline Committee

All reports submitted by game officials for cautions and dismissals will be reviewed by the Discipline Committee, who will then render a decision in accordance with the Judicial Code/Discipline Policy of BC Soccer.

8. Protests

All protests must be in writing and submitted to the event Headquarters together with a cash fee of \$50.00 within one hour of the game to which the protest relates. No protest on the referee's decisions shall be entertained. One representative from each team will appear before the Discipline Committee. The fee will be refunded only where the protest is upheld.

10. Cancellations

After the entry deadline teams will not be allowed to withdraw without forfeiting all payments. If the event is cancelled, the Abbotsford Soccer Association will refund your entry fees. However, we will not take responsibility for any other expenses accrued.

11. Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee will be responsible for all matters pertaining to the organizing and running of this event. With respect to any question relating to the interpretation of these Rules and Procedures (other than matters that fall exclusively within the coverage of the Discipline Committee) or, for any matter not specifically addressed by these Rules and Procedures, the Organizing Committee will, upon hearing a representation from each of the teams that is affected by the issue at hand, make a final and binding decision. There will be no appeals from this decision.

STRUCTURE OF THE GAMES

LTPD Stage 3: Learn to Train

Age Group	Game Format	Max Game Duration	Field Dimensions	Goal Dimensions	Ball Size
U9 (2015 born)	7v7 (GK + 6 Outfield)	40 Mins (2 x 20mins)	35ydsx50yds	6ft x 12ft	4
U10 (2014 born)	7v7 (GK + 6 Outfield)	40 Mins (2 x 20mins)	35ydsx50yds	6ft x 12ft	4

Age Group	Game Format	Max Game Duration	Field Dimensions	Goal Dimensions	Ball Size
U11 (2013 born)	8v8 (GK + 7 Outfield)	50 Mins (2 x 25mins)	45ydsx65yds	6ft x 18ft	4
U12 (2012 born)	8v8 (GK + 7 Outfield)	50 Mins (2 x 25mins)	45ydsx65yds	6ft x 18ft	4
U13 (2011 born)	9v9 (GK + 8 Outfield)	50 Mins (2 x 25mins)	45ydsx65yds	6ft x 18ft	4

LAWS OF THE GAME (FIFA – AMENDED)

LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

- In some age groups the field will be marked using cones
- A Penalty mark is only used in U11 to U13 age groups - 9m from the goal line
- A line parallel to the center line at the attacking third mark for the U11 to U13 age groups is to be marked to indicate the Retreat/Offside line
- This may be done by placing Cones 1 meter off the touch line
- Corner Flags will be used for U11 to U13 games. U9 & U10 games will utilize large domed cones.

Goal Area/Penalty Area:

- All goal areas will be marked by the placing of white flat markers on the field of play, with two regular cones placed on the goal line to create imaginary lines, forming the width of the goal area.

LAW 2 – THE BALL

All games will be played with a Size 4 ball.

LAW 3 – NUMBER OF PLAYERS

See above - Structure of the Game

Substitutions:

Unlimited substitution shall be allowed. Substitutions shall be allowed at stoppages with permission of the referee.

LAW 4 – PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

- Players shall not wear anything which endangers themselves or other players.
- Basic compulsory equipment shall consist of jersey, shorts, socks, shin guards and suitable footwear.
- Goalkeepers must wear colors which are distinguishable from all outfield players and the referee. Pinnies/bibs will be permitted.
- A player who is asked to leave the field of play because of defective or dangerous equipment may not re-enter the field of play until the referee has checked and is satisfied that the equipment safe.
- Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.
- Jewelry is not permitted but religious items such as Headscarves or Turbans are permitted, as long as they are fastened safely i.e. Velcro.

LAW 5 – THE REFEREE

The referee's role is to enforce the Laws of the Game as they pertain to Small-Sided Game and help to keep players safe.

The referee shall:

- Enforce the Laws of the Game.
- Refrain from penalizing when the offending team may gain an advantage.
- Control who may enter or leave the field of play.
- Stop the game immediately if a player appears to be injured, bleeding, or appear to be concussed.
- Signal to start the game, and to restart it after a stoppage.
- Decide if the field of play and all applicable equipment is suitable.
- Report in writing to the Club or appropriate authority, any misconduct by players, parents, spectators or other persons which takes place on the field of play or its vicinity at any time during the game.

LAW 6 – THE ASSISTANT REFEREE

- Assistant Referee are not required in matches U-13 and below.
- Club Linespersons (Parents or Coach) can be used and will assist the referee in controlling the match but the final decision is made by the Referee

They indicate when:

- When the ball leaves the field and can assist which team is to take a corner kick, thrown-in or goal kick.

LAW 7 – DURATION OF GAME

See above - Structure of the Game

LAW 8 – START AND RESTART OF PLAY

Kick-Off

- The kick-off shall be decided by the toss of a coin OR...Rock, Paper, Scissors!
- The team which wins the toss shall decide which goal to attack in the first half their opponents will take the kick-off.
- At a kick-off, all players shall be in their own half of the field of play.
- All players opposing the team taking the kick-off shall be not less than;
 - o U9-U10 – 8 meters from the ball until it is kicked and moves.
 - o U11-U13 – 9 meters from the ball until it is kicked and moves.
- The referee gives a signal by blowing their whistle.
- The ball will be in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.
- For any infringement of this rule, the kick-off shall be retaken.
- For matches U11-U13 should the player taking the kick-off touch the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player, an indirect free-kick shall be awarded to the opposing team.
- After a goal has been scored, the game shall be restarted by a kick-off taken by the team against which the goal was scored.
- After the first half of play, the teams shall change halves and the kick-off shall be taken by the team that did not take the kick-off to start the game.

Drop-Ball

- A drop ball will be awarded if there is an injury, interference by an outside agent, or any other reason that the referee stops play which is not a foul.

LAW 9 – BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

The ball is OUT of play:

- if the whole of the ball has crossed the goal-line, or touchline, whether on the ground or in the air.
- play has been stopped by the referee.

The ball is IN play:

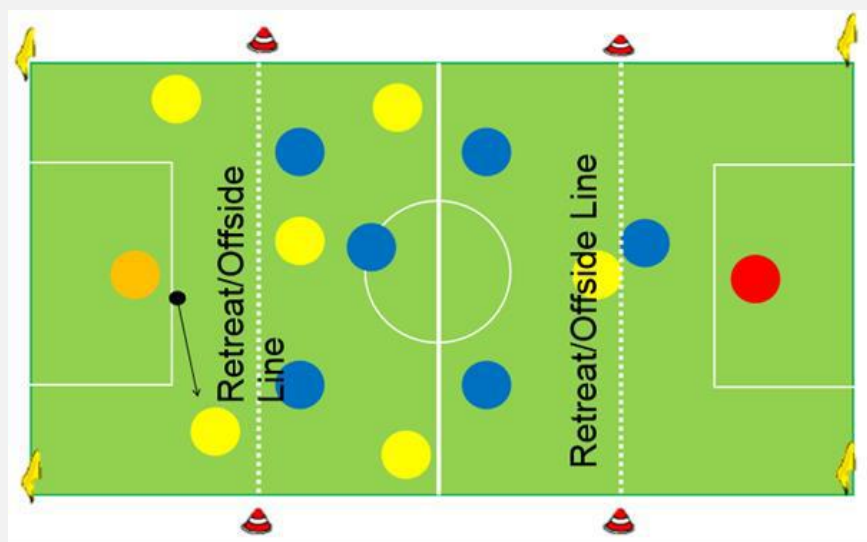
- At all other times including when it rebounds into play from a goalpost, a crossbar, or a corner flag post, or referee and remains in the field of play.

LAW 10 – THE METHOD OF SCORING

- A goal is scored when the whole of the ball has crossed over the goal-line, between the goal-posts and under the cross-bar, provided it has not been thrown, carried or intentionally propelled by hand or arm, by a player of the attacking team, except by a goalkeeper from within their own penalty-area.
- The referee shall be the sole judge as to whether a goal has been scored.

LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

- U9 and U10 – NO Offside.
- U11 - U13 – is in effect in the attacking 3rd of the field. This line may be marked by single cones on the touch line. (i.e. The same as utilized to indicate the Retreat Line)



- When an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick to be taken from the position of the offending player when the ball was last played to him by one of their team-mates.

A player in an offside position (A) may be penalized before playing or touching the ball, if, in the opinion of the referee, no other team-mate in an onside position has an opportunity to play the ball.

LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

The referee or nominated person are to communicate with the offending player. Direct and Indirect Direct Free Kicks can only be awarded with the ball in play.

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following seven offences:

1. kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
2. trips or attempts to trip an opponent
3. jumps at an opponent
4. charges an opponent
5. strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
6. pushes an opponent
7. tackles an opponent unfairly

A free kick is also awarded if a player commits any of the following three offences:

1. holds an opponent
2. spits at an opponent
3. handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within their own penalty area)

An indirect free kick is awarded if, in the opinion of the referee, a player:

1. plays in a dangerous manner (No Contact)
2. impedes the progress of an opponent (No Contact)
3. prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from their hands
4. commits any other offence, not previously mentioned in Law 12

UNDER 9 & UNDER 10

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the centre spot on the halfway line if the goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball in the air from his/her goal area into the opponent's goal area.

Misconduct: NO cards shown for these age groups.

UNDER 11 - UNDER 13

- An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the centre spot on the halfway line if the goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball in the air from his/her goal area into the opponent's goal area.
- Misconduct: Caution (yellow) and Ejection (red) cards are used.

LAW 13- FREE KICKS

All free kicks for U9 and U10 are INDIRECT free kicks.

Direct and Indirect free-kicks apply for the U11 - U13 age groups.

If taken inside the Defending Player's Penalty area the ball must leave the area to be in play, if it does not or is touched the kick will be retaken.

Ball enters the net

- If a direct free kick is kicked directly into the opponent's goal - it's a goal
- If a direct or indirect free kick is kicked directly into a team's own goal - it's a corner kick
- If an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponent's goal - it's a goal kick
- During a free-kick the ball shall be stationary
- All opponents shall be not less than (U9-U10 – 8 meters, U11-U13 – 9 meters) from the ball until it has been kicked.
- If the kick is inside the Goal Area all opponents must be outside the area.
- The ball is in play when it has been kicked and moved and if the kick is inside the Goal area it must leave the goal area before being played by anyone.
 - If it does not leave the Penalty Area, it is a retake.
 - For any infringement of this rule, the free-kick shall be retaken where the foul occurred.
- A player taking a free kick shall not touch the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player, if this happens an indirect free-kick shall be awarded to the opposing team.

Indirect free kick:

- A goal may NOT be scored directly from an indirect free-kick.
- The player taking the free kick cannot touch it until it touches another player.
- An indirect free kick is indicated by the Referee raising his/her arm.
- The indirect free-kick shall be taken from the place where the infringement occurred, unless the free-kick is awarded to the attacking team within its opponents' penalty-area. In this case, the free kick shall be taken from the outside edge of the penalty area in line where the offense took place.

LAW 14 – PENALTY KICKS

- U9 & U10 - There are NO PENALTY KICKS.
- U11 - U13 – Position of the ball and the players.
 - The ball must be placed on the penalty mark. (9 meters from the goal line, centrally).
 - The player taking the penalty kick: must be properly identified.
- The defending goalkeeper:
 - Must remain on their goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked.
- The players other than the kicker must be located:
 - Inside the field of play.
 - Outside the Goal area.
 - Behind the penalty mark at least 9 meters from the penalty mark.

Procedure

- After the players, have taken positions in accordance with this Law, the referee signals for the penalty kick to be taken
 1. The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forward.
 2. Must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.
 3. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward.
- When a penalty kick is taken during the normal course of play, or time has been extended at half-time or full time to allow a penalty kick to be taken or retaken, a goal is awarded if, before passing between the goalposts and under the crossbar: the ball touches either or both goalposts and/or the crossbar and/or the goalkeeper.
- The referee decides when a penalty kick has been completed.

OUTCOME OF THE PENALTY KICK		
ACTION	GOAL IS SCORED	NO GOAL
Attacking Team Player Enters Goal Area before kick is taken	Retake	Indirect where it happened
Defending Team Player Enters Goal Area before kick is taken	Goal	Retake
Offence by Goalie	Goal	Retake
Ball Kicked Backwards, Illegal Feinting, or Wrong kicker	Indirect where it happened	Indirect where it happened

LAW 15 – THE THROW-IN/KICK-IN:

Are methods of restarting the game after it has crossed the touch line either on the ground or in the air. These restarts are given to the opposing team who last touched the ball before it went out of play.

Procedure: U9 and U10 are KICK-IN, U11 to U13 are THROW-INS.

A kick-in/throw-in shall be taken from the point where the ball left the field of play, by a member of the opposing team who did not touch it before it went out of play.

The player taking a kick-in (U9 and U10) shall:

- a) Face the field of play.
- b) The players feet must be outside the touch line when playing the ball.
- c) A player cannot pass the ball to themselves.
 - If the player taking the kick-in touches the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player, a retake will be given.
 - At the taking of a kick-in, all opponents must be at least 2 meters from the ball.
 - A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-in.

The player taking the throw-in (U11 to U13) shall:

- a) Face the field of play,
- b) Have part of each foot on the touch line or on the ground outside the touch line,
- c) Throw the ball using both hands
- d) Deliver the ball from behind and over their head.
 - For U11 - U13 FIFA Rules apply.
 - The ball will be in play immediately after it enters the field of play.
 - If the player taking the throw-in touches the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player, an indirect free-kick shall be awarded to the opposing team.
 - At the taking of a throw-in, all opponents must be at least 2 meters from the ball.
 - A goal may not be scored directly from a throw-in.

LAW 16 – THE GOAL KICK

A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball has passed the goal line either on the ground or in the air and was last touched by the attacking team and a goal has not been scored.

- The goal kick shall be taken anywhere within the goal area.
- Opposing players must be on their side of the Retreat line.
 - The ball is received by a teammate
 - The ball travels over the line
 - The ball leaves the field of play

All opposing players cannot pursue the ball until:

- The ball is received by a teammate
- The ball travels over the line
- The ball leaves the field of play

- U9 & U10 - A goal cannot be scored directly from a goal kick.
- U11 - U13 - A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team.

Encroachment of retreat line:

If the defending team encroaches across the retreat line before an opposition player touches the ball, then the referee blows the play stopped and issues a re-take of the goal kick.

If the opposing team repeatedly infringes the retreat line, an indirect free kick shall be awarded from the place where the offence occurred for not respecting the restart.

LAW 17 – THE CORNER KICK

A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball has crossed the goal-line, either on the ground or in the air, having last been touched by a defending player, and a goal has not been scored.

- The corner-kick shall be taken from the corner-arc nearest to where the ball crossed the goal-line.
- All opponents shall be not less than the following from the ball, until it has been kicked.
 - U9 /U10 – 8 meters
 - U11-U13 – 9 meters
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.
- If the player taking the corner-kick touches the ball a second time before it has been played or touched by another player, an indirect free-kick shall be awarded to the opposing team.
- U9 & U10 - A goal cannot be scored directly from a corner kick.
- U11 - U13 - A goal may be scored directly from a corner-kick.

