

Laws of the game primer – Western Nebraska Football Club

For specific questions, call/text 435-820-0017 or email greg.d.dart@gmail.com

	Ball size	Duration	Offside	# of players	Goalies	Referees
U6 and U8	3	5 Minute quarters for U6, 8 minute quarters for U8	No	3-4	No	No referees. Coaches coach from the field
U10	4	25 minute halves	Yes, with build out line	7v7	Yes	Yes, with or without assistant referees
U12	4	30 minute halves	Yes	9v9	Yes	Yes, with assistant referees
U15	5	35 minute halves	Yes	11v11	Yes	Yes, with assistant referees

1. **The field of play:** Field size is determined by WNFC – All games will be assigned an appropriate field by WNFC.
2. **The ball:** Refer to the chart above.
3. **Number of players:** refer to the chart above – reduce number if necessary. Unlimited substitutions.
4. **Player's equipment:** Cleats and shin guards required. No front cleat (at center of the shoe). Socks must cover shin guards. No jewelry during play.
5. **The referee:** What the referee says goes. No dissent will be tolerated. Send concerns to greg.d.dart@gmail.com.
6. **Assistant referees:** To call throw ins, offside and signal other calls. Optional at U10.
7. Duration of the match – refer to chart above.
8. **Start and restart of play:** Coin toss for kickoff. Kickoff at each half and after a goal. No one in the center circle from defending team.
9. **Ball in and out of play:** Ball must fully cross goal line or touch line.
10. **Method of scoring:** entire ball crosses the goal line.
11. **Offside:** When an attacking player receives the ball while on his opponent's half, he must be level or behind the second to last defender (the last typically being the goalkeeper). U10, offside only occurs beyond the established build-out line.

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12. **Fouls and misconduct:** Please see the full laws of the game. Understand that the referee will call what he/she sees and dissent is not tolerated. Yellow/Red cards are reserved for U12 and up (and should be used sparingly in U12).
13. **Free kicks:** Direct and indirect – Direct can be shot directly into the opponent's goal; indirect must be touched by another player before going in the goal. The referee will raise the arm to signal an indirect kick.
14. **Penalty kick** – U12 and above for a foul/handball within a penalty area. All players outside the box beside the kicker and the keeper. Keeper must not come off their line before a shot is taken.
15. **Throw in:** on or behind the sideline/touchline, the player must release the ball with both hands simultaneously and keep both feet planted on the ground.
16. **Goal Kick:** When the offensive team kicks the ball over the goal line/endline a goal kick is awarded. Ball can be placed anywhere on the line.
17. **Corner Kick:** When the defensive team kicks the ball over their own goal line. Ball placed on the nearest corner. Corner kicks are direct kicks.
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