

Edmonton West Zone Soccer Association

Summary of ASA “Rules of Indoor Soccer” (updated for 2009/10 season)

Check for latest copy of rule book on website www.edmontonrefs.com for further information.

Rule	Description or Application	Adaptations-Age Groups	Notes
#1	The Field of Play - standard indoor fields of play L (150-210 feet) x W (75-100 feet) - field markings (goal crease, penalty area, corners, lines, restarts)	U6 & U8 use half field playing with portable nets. U4 use school gyms.	
#2	The Ball - must be spherical and approved by the Referee - made of leather or other suitable material - pressure set between 0.6 to 1.1 atmospheres at start of match	Size of ball #3 – U4/U6/U8 #4 – U10/U12 #5 – U14/U16/U18	Supply two game balls to the Referee.
#3	The Number of Players - two teams of up to six players each, one must be a goalkeeper - minimum 4 eligible players each team to start or continue with game - all players must be named on game sheet - substitution on the fly or at guaranteed substitution opportunities - goalkeepers may only be substituted upon referee’s approval during a guaranteed substitution opportunity	Maximum team rosters 12 players – U4 14 players – U6/U8 16 players – U10/U12 20 players – U14 & older	Guaranteed substitutions after 1-a goal been scored, 2-a time penalty called, or 3-serious injury to player
#4	The Players’ Equipment - NO JEWELLERY of any kind allowed to be worn by players - basic uniform (numbered jersey tucked into shorts, stockings covering SHIN GUARDS, suitable footwear) checked by Referee - each teams goalkeeper in separate colours from all players & refs	Some U4 & U6 teams may have keeper wearing same colour player jerseys or no keepers at all. OK by coaches.	
#5	The Referee (Field Referee) - each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Rules of Indoor Soccer in connection with the match to which he/she has been appointed. - the decisions of the Referee regarding facts connected with the play are final. - Referee may only change a decision on realizing that it is incorrect or, at his/her discretion, on the advice of the assistant referee, provided that he/she has NOT RESTARTED PLAY or TERMINATED THE MATCH.	No referees are assigned to U4/U6/U8 games. The two coaches on the field act as joint referees for their match. In all U10 to U18 matches, the assigned referee has the final decisions.	
#6	The Assistant Referee (Box Referee) - the Box Referee acts as the timekeeper, keeps a record of the match and helps with the Field Referee to control the match. - primary calls include ball out of play, 3-line violations, substitutions, misconducts or incidents out of view of the Field Referee.		If there is no Box Referee, match may continue with only the Field Referee in place.
#7	The Duration of the Match - two equal periods of 25 minutes unless otherwise advised by Referee - half time interval must not exceed 3 minutes - clock will NOT BE STOPPED during the game for any reason except during the LAST TWO MINUTES when the clock shall be stopped whenever the ball is out of play	For EMSA matches at U10 to U18 levels, a one minute timeout may be called by either teams coach only in the last (second) period.	
#8	The Start and Restart of Play - HOME team decides on which goal to attack in first period - VISITOR team takes kick-off to start game, HOME team starts the second period kick-off - teams switch ends to start second period - opponents are to be 15 feet away from the ball on any start or restart		
#9	The Ball In and Out of Play - the ball is out of play when (1) play has been stopped by the Referee (2) it has wholly crossed the perimeter wall (or has touched the side netting) or (3) it strikes the netting or any structure above or overhanging the playing surface - the ball is in play at all other times including rebounds off the walls, the referee or any players leaving the field while inside the restart line and bench gates who does not interfere with the play.		

#10	The Method of Scoring - a goal is scored when the WHOLE BALL passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, provided no infringement of the Rules has been committed previously by the team scoring the goal.	For U6/U8 games using net wall & goal, ball may bounce off goal netting and be counted as a goal.	
#11	Three Line Violation - a three line violation occurs -when the ball touched or is played by a player <u>in his own defensive zone</u> AND - the ball completely crosses ALL THREE lines in the air without touching another player, the referee, the field or the boards. - when a team has 2 fewer players eligible to be on the field than the opposing team, any player on that team may propel the ball over three lines without being in violation of this rule. - for a 3-line violation, the Referee awards a free kick to the opposing team to be taken from the place where the ball crossed the first defensive line.	No 3-line rule for U6/U8 matches. Rarely done at U10 (need a strong kicker)	
#12	Fouls and Misconducts 1. Penal offenses (when careless, reckless or excessive force used) - kicks or attempts to kick an opponent - trips or attempts to trip an opponent - jumps at an opponent - charges an opponent - strikes or attempts to strike an opponent - pushes an opponent - tackles an opponent - boards an opponent and when a player - holds an opponent - spits at an opponent - handles the ball deliberately (except goalkeeper within his own penalty area) 2. Technical offenses - keeper controls ball with hands for longer than 5 seconds - keeper touches ball again after being released and before it has touched another player - keeper touches ball with his hands deliberately kicked to him from a teammate - keeper touches ball with his hands after controlling ball unchallenged for more than five seconds - plays in a dangerous manner - impedes the progress of an opponent without the ball - prevents goalkeeper from releasing the ball - commits any other offenses for which the referee stops play Then a FREE KICK is awarded to the opposing team. <u>Misconducts</u> issued by Referee (in his/her judgment) Blue Card – minor misconduct – 2 minute time penalty Yellow Card – cautionable offenses – two 2 minute time penalties (a double minor misconduct) Red Card – send off offenses – a 5 minute major time penalty except for a second Yellow Card issued (two 2 minute penalty)	It is the referee’s judgement which counts. They will call fouls which are seen by the Refs (not by coaches nor player nor fans)! DO NOT ARGUE with the Referees if they have made the final call. See summary of cardable offences.	Relief of balance of a minor time penalty: - if a team playing short one or more players because of minor time penalties gets scored on, then the earliest unexpired minor time penalty is cancelled. There is no relief for a major time penalty. Co-incident penalties: - both team may replace both players sent off to serve penalties (you do not play short one player). Any minor time penalties assessed against a goalkeeper may be served by any player on that team.
#13	Free Kicks ALL free kicks are direct (you can score a goal on the kick) - all opponents shall be at least 15 feet away from ball (some exceptions may apply at the goal line) - the ball must be stationary when the kick is taken and the kicker does not touch the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player. - for all free kicks, the Referee will give the signal for the taking of the kick - the kicker shall have five (5) seconds to put the ball into play		

#14	<p>The Penalty Kick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a penalty kick is awarded against a team which commits one of the eleven penal offenses, inside its own penalty area and while the ball is in play anywhere on the field of play - the ball is placed on the penalty mark with player taking the penalty kick properly identified - the defending goalkeeper remains on his goal line, facing the kicker, between the goal post until the ball has been kicked - all other players on field must be 15 feet away from penalty mark and no closer to the goal than the penalty mark - the kicker must wait for the Referee's signal to take the kick 		
#15	<p>Ball out of play: (sides or ceiling)</p> <p>A free kick is awarded when the ball:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - has wholly crossed the side perimeter wall or has touched the side netting (play shall be restarted by a free kick to be taken by an opponent of the team that touched or played the ball last, on the restart line, or between the restart line and the boards, CLOSEST to the point where the ball crossed the perimeter wall) - strikes the netting or any structure above the playing field (play shall be restarted by a free kick to be taken by an opponent of the team that touched or played the ball last, at the CENTER of the DEFENSIVE LINE closest to where the ball was last touched or played) 		
#16	<p>The Goal Kick</p> <p>A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball, having last touched by a player of the attacking team, passes over the perimeter wall between the corner marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ball is kicked from any point within the goal area (box) by a player of the defending team - opponents remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play - the ball is in play WHEN IT IS KICKED DIRECTLY BEYOND THE PENALTY AREA (BOX) 		<p>Note: A player other than the goalkeeper may take the goal kick if the team chooses to do so.</p>
#17	<p>The Corner Kick</p> <p>A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball, having last touched by a player of the defending team, passes over the perimeter wall between the corner marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ball is placed at the nearest corner mark - opponents remain at least 15 feet from the ball until it is in play - the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves <p>A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team.</p>		
	<p>This summary provided as a guideline for coaches & referees.</p> <p>If a protest or conflict arises during a match, the official full rulebook shall be referenced as the official rules to be followed.</p> <p>Presented at Coaching & Referee Clinics hosted by EWZSA</p>	<p>For further inquiries Contact:</p> <p>Peter C. Wong, Referee Director EWZSA</p>	<p>Tel: (780) 487-7099 E-mail: petercwong@shaw.ca</p>
	<p>Game sheets provided have four (4) copies in colour for each match.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> White – copy for league turn in by the Referee (two per match) Yellow – copy for visiting team Pink – copy for home team Gold – copy for Referee (two referees split visitor/home copies) <p>Complete each game sheets in full before providing to Referee at start of match listing all your team officials and players.</p>	<p>No game statistics or match report for mini-soccer game at U4/U6/U8</p>	

Summary of Cardable Offences

Minor Misconduct Offences

A player is shown the **blue card** if he commits any of following offences:

- delaying the restart of play
- failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a kick
- for any action that warrants a time penalty not otherwise covered in the Rules

For the above offences play continues with the original restart prior to the time penalty being assessed.

- spits on the field of play
- any action, which in the opinion of the referee, warrants greater punishment than a free kick or penalty kick

For these two offences the restart is a free kick to the opposing team at the place where the offence occurred (see Rule 13 – Position of Free Kick).

Cautionable Offences

A player is cautioned and shown the **yellow card** if he commits any of the following six offences:

- unsporting behaviour
- dissent by word or action
- persistent infringement of the Rules of Indoor Soccer
- entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
- deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission
- assessed a 3rd minor misconduct time penalty in the same match

Sending-off Offences

A player is sent off (shown the **red card**) if he commits any of the following eight offences:

- serious foul play
- violent conduct
- boarding
- spitting at an opponent or any other person
- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area)
- denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- receiving a second caution in the same match