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General safety rules:

- REFEREES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT THE PLAYING FIELD AND ENVIRONMENT IS SAFE BEFORE THE GAME STARTS. IF THIS RESULTS IN A DELAY OF THE START OF THE GAME, THE TIME REQUIRED TO ENSURE THE SAFETY IS DEDUCTED FROM THE PLAYING TIME.
- The goals may be portable but they must be anchored securely to the ground during play.
- The sand bags must be properly tied to the goal
- Spectators must stay in the bleachers during the games
- Spectators may sit on the bleachers that are pulled out; any bleachers that are in the stacked (closed) position are not to be used
- Players, spectators are not to climb on top of the bleachers to sit and view the game
- Nets must be secure.
- NO DRINKS (OTHER THAN FOR THE PLAYERS) ARE ALLOWED IN THE GYM !!

The field:**The penalty area:**

The penalty area shall be marked out at each end of the field as follows:

- The three point lines on the court extending all the way to the end line which will be the outer edge of the dark blue line surrounding the basketball court.
- The penalty spot will be the center of the free through line.

The substitution zone:

is situated on the same side of the playing court as the teams' benches and directly in front of them and is where the players enter and leave the playing court for substitutions.

The Ball:

- 1 Felt balls are not permitted for international matches.
- 2 The ball may not bounce less than 50 cm or more than 65 cm on the first rebound when dropped from a height of 2 m.

PLAYERS:**Number of players:**

- A match shall be played by two teams, each consisting of no more than five players, and no less than three players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. (except U-6 No goalies still 5v5)

Substitutions:

- Substitutes may be used at any time during the run of play
- The number of substitutions made during a game is unlimited.
- A player who has been replaced may return to the playing court as a substitute for another player.

A Substitution can be made when the ball is in or out of play and for which the following conditions are observed:

- the player leaving the playing court must do so at his own substitution zone.
- the player entering the playing court must also do so at his own substitution zone but not until the player leaving the playing court has passed completely over the touchline.
- A goalkeeper may change places with any other player with approval from the referee

THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT:

Safety:

- A player shall not use equipment or wear anything (including any kind of jewelry) that could be dangerous to himself or another player.
- All jewelry must be removed

The rules for safe equipment are...

In addition to the authority granted to the referee under FIFA Law V to determine the safety of a player's equipment as defined in FIFA Law IV, the following **shall not** be permitted:

- 1) Hair control devices with any hard parts;
- 2) Earrings or any other jewelry, regardless of covering

In addition to the authority granted to the referee under FIFA Law V, the following shall be permitted:

- 1) A soft splint or a soft cast, provided that the match referee has determined that it is not a danger to himself or another player;
- 2) A brace, joint or prosthetic device, provided that the match referee has determined that it is not a danger to himself or another player;

If the Referee finds that a player is wearing articles not permitted by the Laws or this Rule, the Referee shall order the player to remove them. If a player fails to carry out the Referee's instruction, the player shall not take part in the match.

Basic equipment:

- a jersey or shirt
- socks
- shin guards - shall be entirely covered by the socks (All players including the goalie must wear full length shin guards which must completely cover the bone)
- footwear - the only types of footwear permitted are canvas or soft-leather training or gymnastic shoes with non marking soles.

The goalkeeper: is permitted to wear long trousers

- each goalkeeper shall wear colors that easily distinguish him from the other players and the referees
- if an outfield player replaces a goalkeeper, he shall wear a goalkeeper's jersey with his number marked on the back

Decisions of the referee:

The decisions of the referees regarding facts connected with play are final.

THE DURATION OF THE MATCH

U-6 – 14 minute halves

U-8 – 15 minute halves

U-10 – 18 minutes halves

U-12 – 20 minute halves

Open division - 24 minute halves

Stars and restarts:**START OF PLAY:****Kick off:**

-A kick-off may be played backwards to a team mate. Opposing team must stay behind the first yellow line outside the kick off circle. All players must be in their own half of the field before the kick-off is taken.

A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-off .

The player taking the kick-off may not touch the ball again until it has been touched by another player.

A kick-off shall be taken by the team conceding a goal after each score.

Change of ends shall occur at the beginning of the second half.

TIME OUTS:

There are no time-outs. The game clock continues to run.

OFFSIDE:

There is no "OFFSIDE"

Ball in and out of Play :

The ball is in play at all times including when :

-it rebounds from a goal post or the crossbar onto the playing court

-it rebounds from the referee when he is on the playing court

-There are no goal kicks only goal clearance..... (see goal clearance below)

-There are no throw-ins only kick ins.

-A goal can not be scored directly from a kick in.

-When a game is being played on an indoor playing court and the ball accidentally hits the ceiling, the game is restarted by a kick-in, awarded to the opposing team to the one which last touched the ball. If the spot would be inside the penalty area for the attaching team the ball will be moved to the nearest spot on the penalty arc line.

Fouls and misconduct are penalized as follows:

Direct Free Kick:

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following six offenses in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent*
- trips or attempts to trip an*
- jumps at an opponent*
- charges an opponent, even with the shoulder*
- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent*
- pushes an opponent*

A direct free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following offenses

- holds an opponent*
- spits at an opponent*
- slides in an attempt to play the ball when it is being played or attempted to be played by an opponent (including the goalkeeper in his own penalty area) (sliding tackle) THERE IS NO SLIDING OR SLIDING TACKLES ALLOWED BY ANY PLAYERS EVEN IF THERE ARE NO OTHER PLAYERS NEAR THE BALL -*
- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper in his own penalty area)*

A direct free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred.

Indirect Free Kick:

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper commits one of the following offenses:

- touches or controls the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately*
- kicked to him by a team-mate*
- touches or controls the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a kick-in taken by a team-mate*
- touches or controls the ball with his hands or feet, on any part of the playing court, for more than four seconds, except when he touches or controls the ball on the opponent's half of the playing court*

An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred, if in the opinion of the referee, a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner - sliding without challenging a player*
- deliberately impedes the progress of an opponent when the ball is not being played*
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands*
- hand checks an opponent*
- commits any other offence, not previously mentioned in Law XII, for which play is stopped to caution or dismiss a player*

The indirect free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred, unless this was in the penalty area, in which case the indirect free kick is taken from the penalty area line at the place closest to where the infringement occurred.

Cautionable Offenses:

A player is cautioned and shown a yellow card if the commits any of the following offenses

1. is guilty of unsporting conduct
2. shows dissent by word or action
3. persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
4. delays the restart of play
5. fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick or free kick
6. enters or re-enters the playing court without the referee's permission
7. deliberately leaves the playing court without the referee's permission
8. a player slide tackles another player

Sending-off offences:

A player or a substitute shall be sent off and shown the red card if he commits any of the following offences:

- serious foul play
- violent conduct
- 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 (with the exception of a goalkeeper inside his own penalty area)
- denying an opponent moving towards the player's goal an obvious goal scoring opportunity by committing an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures
- receiving a second caution in the same match

Decisions: (Send off)

1. A player who has been sent off may not re-enter the play, nor may he sit on the substitutes' bench, as he is obliged to leave the vicinity of the pitch.

A substitute player may enter the pitch two full minutes after a team-mate has been sent off, unless a goal is scored before the two minutes have elapsed, and provided he has the authorization of the timekeeper. In this case the following conditions apply:

- if there are 5 players against 4 and the team with the greater number of players scores a goal, the team with only 4 players may be completed with a fifth player
- if both teams are playing with 4 players and a goal is scored, both teams shall remain with the same number of players
- if there are 5 players playing against 3, or 4 against 3, and the team with the greater number of players scores a goal, the team with 3 players may be increased by one player only
- if both teams are playing with 3 players and a goal is scored, both teams shall remain with the same number of players
- if the team scoring the goal is the one with fewer players, the game shall continue without any change to the number of players

LAW XVI – THE KICK-IN

A kick-in is a method of restarting play.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in.

A kick-in is awarded:

- when the whole of the ball passes over a touch line, either on the ground or in the air, or hits the ceiling
- from the place where it crossed the touch line
- to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball

Position of the Ball and the Players

The ball:

- has to be stationary on the touch line
- is kicked back into play in any direction

The player taking the kick-in:

- has part of each foot either on the touch line or on the ground outside the touch line at the moment of kicking the ball

The players of the defending team:

- are at least 10 feet from the place where the kick-in is taken

Procedure

- the player taking the kick-in must do so within 4 seconds of taking possession of the ball
- the player taking the kick-in may not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player
- the ball is in play immediately after it is kicked or touched

If the ball does not enter the field of play, possession is given to the other team.

Infringements/Sanctions

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if:

- the player taking the kick-in plays the ball a second time before it has touched another player. The indirect free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred, unless it was committed in the penalty area, in which case the indirect free kick is taken from the penalty area line at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

The kick-in is retaken by a player of the opposing team if:

- the kick-in is taken incorrectly or does not enter the field of play
- the kick-in is taken from a position other than the place where the ball passed over the touch line
- the kick-in is not carried out within 4 seconds of the player taking it being in possession of the ball
- any other infringement of the Law occurs

LAW XVII – THE GOAL CLEARANCE

A goal clearance is a method of restarting play.

A goal may not be scored directly from a goal clearance.

The goal clearance is awarded when:

- the whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the attacking team, passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law XI.

Drop Kicks and/or Punts by the goalie are NOT allowed. An indirect foul will be awarded to the opposing team, and the ball will be placed at the center midfield line.

Procedure

- the ball is thrown from any point within the penalty area by the goalkeeper of the defending team

The ball must not be thrown into the opponents penalty area on a fly. If the ball crosses into the opponents penalty area on a fly, an indirect kick at midfield is awarded to the opposing team.

- opponents remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play
- the goalkeeper does not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player
- the ball is in play when it is thrown directly beyond the penalty area

Infringements /Sanctions

If the ball is not thrown directly beyond the penalty area:

- the goal clearance is retaken

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper touches the ball a second time, before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, unless it was committed in the penalty area, in which case the indirect free kick is taken from the penalty area line from the place nearest to where the infringement occurred

If the goal clearance is not taken within 4 seconds from the time that the goalkeeper takes possession of the ball: An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, to be taken from the penalty area line at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

GOALKEEPERS:

Opposing players may not encroach within 6 feet of the goalkeeper in possession (i.e. until he/she has released the ball).

The goalkeeper must release the ball within 6 seconds of gaining possession.

If the goalkeeper leaves the goal area, he/she becomes a field player and is not allowed to touch the ball with his/her hands.

After the goalkeeper puts the ball into play, he/she is not allowed to use his/her hands to receive the ball back from a team mate unless the ball is played with the thigh or head (as in the outdoor game).

If the goalkeeper uses his/her hands incorrectly in the situation outlined above, the offensive team will re-start play with the ball on the 25 foot mark. The defending team must be at least 6 feet away when the re-start is taken, but may defend their goal. A goal may be scored direct from the re-start.

The goalkeeper is not allowed to throw the ball into the opponents penalty area at any time. If he/she does, the opponents re-start play with a dead ball on the center court mark. A goal may not be scored direct from the re-start.

SLIDE TACKLES ARE ILLEGAL

A goal CANNOT be scored directly from a kick-in.

In conclusion - The purpose of this competition is to provide players with an opportunity to play with and against different players. It is expected that the games will be competitive but played in a friendly manner, providing a fun environment and an enjoyable, rewarding experience for all concerned.