

WVSA Cup
4 v 4 Rules of Competition
Updated: 5/12/2023

The current IFAB Laws of the Game, combined with the U.S. Soccer Player Development Initiatives and WVSA Cup Rules will be in effect, with the following modifications:

Law 1 – The Field of Play

- Corner flags are not required.
- There are no goalkeepers and no penalty kicks, so there is no penalty area marked on the field.
- There are no corner areas, but corner kicks should be taken in the general vicinity of the respective corner.
- There are no build-out lines, but opponents should be 10 feet away from the ball at all restarts.
- A goal box is marked directly in front of each goal. It is 3yds out from the goalpost and 3yds into the field. No player from either team is allowed in the box until the ball enters the box. This means that any defender must stay outside the line until the ball enters the box. (An infraction by the defending team is an indirect free kick 5 yards out from the goal box for the attacking team. An infraction by the attacking team is a goal kick.)

Law 2 – The Ball

- Size 3

Law 3 – The Players

- 4 v 4 with no goalkeepers.
- Substitutions may be made at any stoppage of play.
- A minimum of 3 players is required on the field for each team.
- Maximum roster size is 8 players.

Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

- Per IFAB, U.S. Soccer and WVSA:
 - Shin guards are required.
 - Long pants are permitted for players if the weather is cold.
 - No hard casts or braces with exposed metal parts are permitted per WVSA Rule 3.16.4.6.

Law 5 – The Referee

- While a referee may be assigned to the match, registered and certified referees are not required.
- If no referee is present, coaches are expected to manage the game environment from the touchline using their best judgment.

- Together, coaches and parents are expected to create and promote a fun and safe environment for the players.

Law 6 – The Other Match Officials

- Assistant Referees will not be assigned.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match

- Each match will consist of four, 10-minute quarters. There will be 2-minute breaks between the 1st and 2nd and between the 3rd and 4th quarters and a 5-minute half-time break between the 2nd and 3rd quarters. Substitutions may be made during and of these three breaks.
- The team taking the kick-off to start the match will also kick-off to start the 3rd quarter. The opposing team will then kick-off to start of both the 2nd and 4th quarters.
- Teams will change ends and attack the opposite goals only between the 2nd and 3rd quarter.
- Each rostered player should play at least 50% of the game.

Law 8 – The Start and Re-start of Play

- A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-off without the ball first touching at least one other player from either team. If the ball goes directly into the opponent's goal from a kick-off, play will be restarted with a goal kick by the defending team.

Law 9 – Ball In and Out of Play

- Per IFAB with no modifications.

Law 10 – Determining the Outcome of a Match

- Per IFAB, but if a Championship game ends regular time in a tie, co-champions will be crowned. There will be neither extra time nor Kicks from the Mark.

Law 11 – Offside

- Offside will not be enforced.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

- Per IFAB with U.S. Soccer prohibition against deliberate heading. If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- All free kicks are indirect.
- Opponents must be 10 feet away from the ball at the taking of a free kick.

Law 14 – Penalty Kicks

- No penalty kicks will be awarded. All free kicks will be taken from the spot of the infraction unless within the goal box. If infraction is within goal box it is 10 yards from the goal box.

Law 15 – The Throw-In

- A player making an illegal throw will be allowed one retake per throw-in.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick

- Goal kicks should be taken from the line of the goal box.
- All opponents must be at least 10 feet away from the ball at the taking of a goal kick.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick

- Corner kicks should be taken within 1 yard of the corner.
- All opponents must be at least 10 feet away from the ball at the taking of a corner kick.
- All players will need to be outside the goal box at the taking of the corner kick.