

**Lemoore Recreation**  
**2019 Youth Indoor Soccer Rules**

**1. Field of Play**

All games will be played at the Lemoore Recreation Center located at 721 W. Cinnamon Dr.

**2. The Ball**

A soccer ball will be furnished by the Lemoore Recreation Department for all games played. This will be the only permitted game ball.

- A. Ages 3-4(U4) and 5-6(U6) Size 3 ball
- B. 7-9 boys and girls Size 4 ball
- C. 10-12 boys and girls Size 4 ball

**3. Players and Eligibility**

- A. Games shall be played with no more than 6 or less than 4 players (including the goal keeper) to a side at one time. **(NOTE: For 3/4 and 5/6 year olds are to play with no more than 7 or less than 5 players.)**
- B. All players must be properly registered with all of the official Lemoore Recreation forms and rosters.
- C. All players **MUST** play one full period in the first half (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> period), and one full period in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half (3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> period). The 5<sup>th</sup> period is open.
  - i. A player will **NOT** be allowed to play four (4) consecutive periods within the **FIRST** four periods. ***This rule will ONLY be postponed when there are seven (7) players or less present for the game.***
- D. Substitutions may only be made after each period. During the fifth period, substitutions are unlimited and can be made anytime.
- E. **PLAYER MUST MAKE 1 PRACTICE PER WEEK IN ORDER TO BE ALLOWED TO PLAY 2 FULL PERIODS DURING THE FIRST 4 PERIODS OF THE GAME.**
  - i. A player who misses practice for an **UNEXCUSED** reason shall **ONLY** play 1 full period during the first 4 quarters of the game (refer to new policy on practice).
- F. **NO OUTDOOR CLEATS ALLOWED.** Tennis shoes, indoor soccer shoes, or turf shoes are acceptable.
- G. Shin Guards **MUST** be worn during all games.
- H. No Jewelry (with the exception on a medical bracelet).
- I. Hard objects, such as bobby pins or hair clips are not allowed in athletes' hair. All hair ties must be made of soft material. Hard cast, braces with exposed metal are not allowed.

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J. No shorts with pockets allowed.

**4. Parents**

A. Parents are NOT allowed in the marked off “Players Only” area (Divisions U4 and below may have parents assisting in the Players area.

**5. The Game-Start and Duration**

A. The home team shall get first kick off and alternate each period after.

B. Games shall begin promptly at the listed starting time. 5-minute grace periods are allowed until enough players are present. The clock will start at the listed game time.

C. Duration of games will be as follows:

- i. U4, U6 (5) 5:00 min. periods
- ii. 7-9 Boys/Girls (5) 7:00 min. periods
- iii. 10-12 Boys/Girls (5) 8:00 min. periods

Halftime will be 2:00 minutes. Between each period is a 1:00 minute break.

D. Games may end in a tie.

**6. Indoor Soccer Rules**

This League will be played as outdoor soccer with the following exceptions:

A. Referee and Recreation Staff can issue yellow and/or red cards.

B. Two-minute to five-minute penalties may be given at the discretion of the referee for rough play or un-sportsmanlike conduct.

- i. A substitute may replace the yellow carded player only after penalty minutes have passed.
- ii. Red carded players will not be allowed to return to the game, but a substitute can enter at the end of the period in which the card was issued.
- iii. A player can be ejected without a previous penalty.

**C. The referee has the discretion to give 2 to 5 minute penalties, and / or red card a player for dangerous play (i.e. rough play along the walls, wild kicks with the potential to cause injury). Ejections from games may result in a player’s suspension for future games. Suspensions will be made by the Parks and Recreation Director with consultation from the game referee and / or Facility Supervisor.**

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- D. Yellow-carded players will be sidelined for 5 minutes. No substitution is allowed: the team must play short for five minutes, or until the end of the period.
- E. Red-carded player must leave the field. The team must play short for the remainder of the periods the card was issued. Red-carded players may also be ejected from the building at the discretion of the Referee, and/or the Facility Supervisor. At the discretion of the referee, the red carded player must have a meeting with the Recreation Director before playing another game.
- F. **The referee's authority will govern the game!** Only the team head coach may converse with the referees.
- G. Players play off the walls. If the ball hits the net, it is dead at the point of contact, and the ball will go to the opposing team.
- H. There are no off sides. Three-line violation: If the ball is played, in the air, over all 3 white lines, without touching another player or a wall, a free-kick will be awarded from the white dot on the defensive (third) line.
- I. Direct free kicks are given for balls going out of bounds instead of throw-ins.
- J. The referee has the discretion to allow a goal for blatant fouls, which may have resulted in a goal if the foul was not committed.
- K. No jewelry, piercings, or hard braces/casts will be allowed to be worn by any player.
- L. All players on a team must wear approved uniforms with non-duplicate visible numbers on the back. Goalkeepers must wear a different color, and be easily identifiable from all other players on the field.
- M. The clock will only be stopped for injuries that exceed 3 min, or at the referee's discretion.
- N. The ball is out of play when the ball leaves the field. If the ball leaves the field it will be returned to play by the opposite team kicking the ball on the ground within six feet of where the ball went out of play.
- O. A goal is scored when the ball completely passes the goal line.
- P. At the start of each half, a two-touch is required before a goal may be scored, except for ages 6 and under.
- Q. The goalkeeper can return the ball back into play from his/her marked-off area by placing the ball on the ground and kicking it, throwing it, or dribbling the ball back into play. Goalkeeper has five-seconds to get rid of the ball or the opposing team receives a direct kick at the penalty mark. After the goal keeper has received the ball in the marked off "goalie area", the goal keeper can then dribble the ball into the playing field and **CANNOT** re-enter the goalie area to pick it up without it being touched by an opposing player.

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- R. A free kick will be given at the point where an infraction occurred, unless the infraction was in the goalie area and a penalty kick was awarded.
- S. All free kicks will be direct kicks. The “two-step” rule will be used.
- T. All free kicks, kick-offs, or kick-ins require a clearance of six feet from the opposing team if asked for by the **player ONLY!**
- U. No slide tackling will be permitted. This will be very liberal with U6 and U4 divisions.
- V. No headers will be permitted in all divisions.
- W. No more than one hand on the wall at any time, unless referees interpretation of using two hands is for self-protection.
- X. If any team does not show by five-minutes after game time that team will forfeit the game. The forfeited game will be scored as 5-1.

**7. Mercy Rule**

- A. After a team is behind by seven goals or more in the first half (1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> period), they will add one player until team is within 6 goals that player comes off the field
- B. If the game is in the mercy rule during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, the team that is behind will be allowed to remove a player from the opposing team until the team is within 6 goals. If the player removed has not played 5 minutes, they must play the next period and CANNOT be removed from that next period. If the game is still in the mercy rule in the 4<sup>th</sup> period and the player removed has not played 5 minutes they must play the next period and CANNOT be removed from that period.
- C. The coach of the team that is behind will choose a player to be taken off the field ONLY during the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> period. Should the opposing coach forfeit the mercy rule, the game will adhere to the regular rules. There is NO opportunity for implementing the mercy rule later in the game.

**8. Fouls and Misconduct**

- A. No player or fan shall at any time:
  - i. Lay a hand upon, strike or threaten a referee, staff person, spectator or another player.
  - ii. Use verbal abusive attack upon a player, referee, staff person, or spectator.
  - iii. Be under the influence of drugs or alcoholic beverages.
- B. No alcohol is permitted on the premises, including the parking lot. The first violation may result in expulsion from the league with NO Refunds.

If any of the above has been violated, the player/parent will be suspended from the league and/or assault charges will be filed. The Parks and Recreation Director will determine duration of the suspension.

- C. Red carded players and ejections.

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- i. Verbal abuse and/or foul language towards a referee or staff person will result in a red card.
- ii. Fighting will result in an automatic ejection from the game, and a suspension for AT LEAST the next 2 games.
- iii. At the referee's discretion, ejected players must complete an incident report, and have a meeting with the Parks and Recreation Director before being allowed to play another game.
- iv. A player's 1<sup>st</sup> red card will result in a penalty to be determined by the Parks and Recreation Director, with consultation from the game referee, depending on the severity of the offense.
- v. A player's 2<sup>nd</sup> red card will result in an automatic removal from the league.