

Crested Butte Youth Soccer Rules

Based on Pages 13-23 in USA Soccer Player Development Initiatives

The purpose of U8 gameplay is to focus on an introductory experience to playing in a proper soccer environment. The priority is to develop skills, understanding, confidence and passion for the game.

- 1. Number of Players:** 5v5, 1 goalkeeper is appropriate.
 - 6-7 players per team allows for effective breaks and playing time.
- 2. Length of Game:**
 - **2 Halves** 15 Minutes Halves
 - **Halftime** 5 minutes
- 3. Required Equipment**
 - Shin guards with socks or pants that cover them.
 - Full water bottle
 - Footwear that covers toes
 - i. No metal spikes.
 - Athletic clothing
 - Size 3 soccer balls (provided by Parks & Rec)
- 4. Officiating**
 - Coaches and parents will create a fun and safe environment for the kids to play in.
- 5. Player Safety**
 - No heading of the ball is allowed.
 - Prescription glasses allowed. It is strongly encouraged for participants to wear sport safe eyewear.
 - Rain jackets, layers, and hats are appropriate for comfort and warmth during play.
- 6. Returning the Ball to Play**
 - Throw the ball in if the ball is kicked out of play along a sideline.
 - Goal and Corner Kicks will be utilized along goal lines.
- 7. The Offside rule is not enforced.**
- 8. Goals**
 - May only be scored by a team while they are in their attacking half of the field.
 - Goals may be scored on Corner Kicks.
- 9. Kick Offs** will take place at the beginning of a game, the beginning of a new half, and following all goals. All kick-offs are indirect.
 - The initial touch player may not touch the ball again until another player touches the ball.
- 10. Free Kicks** will be indirect.
 - Players from the team committing the foul are required to start play at least 5 yards from the site of the restart.
- 11. Penalty Kicks** –there are no penalty kicks.
- 12. Substitutions**
 - Allowed during any play stoppage.
 - Unlimited number allowed.