



# Wellington Recreation Official Age 13-15 Youth Soccer Manual

**Wellington Recreation modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game.**  
**FIFA Laws of The Game can be found at [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com)**

## **Purpose of League Play**

The purpose of the league to be sponsored by Wellington Recreation is to provide kids with the opportunity for learning and fun in a safe environment. Friendly competition and clean sportsmanship will be emphasized. Our main goal is for ALL participants to have FUN while building athletic, team, and social skills.

## **Law I-The Field:**

- A. Dimensions:** The field of play shall be rectangular, its length not more than 80 yards nor less than 40 yards, its width not more than 40 yards nor less than 30 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width.
- B. Markings:** Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide.  
A halfway line shall be marked out across the field.  
A center circle with an eight (6) yard radius.  
Four corner arcs each with a three (3) foot radius.  
Goal area: Six (6) yards from each goal post and six (6) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line.
- C. Goals:** Four (4) feet high and eight (8) feet wide.
- D. Spectators** are to be on the opposite sideline from coaches and players.

**Law II-The Ball:** Size four (4). Each team required to provide a game ball.

## **Law III-Number of Players:**

- A.** Maximum number of players on the field at any one time is five (5 v 5) including the goal keeper.
- B.** Maximum number of players on the roster should not exceed seven (7).
- C.** One goal keeper will be used. No player shall spend more than one segment (ten minutes) of the game at keeper. Keepers shall wear pinnie provided by Wellington Recreation.
- D. Substitutions:** Allowed anytime ball is out of play- with the permission of the referee or game official.
- E. Playing time:** Each player, who had attended regular practices, may play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.
- F.** Teams and games may be coed.
- G.** If a team has less than five players they may use players from the opposing team if any are available.

**Law IV-Players Equipment:** Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:

- A.** Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes
- B.** Shin-guards are **MANDATORY**.
- C.** Each player should bring a water bottle with water to each game.

**Law V-The Referee:** Wellington Recreation will provide The Referee. The Referee may be a volunteer.

**Law VI-Assistant Referee:** One linesman provided by each team. Linesman will switch sides at the half.

**Law VII-Duration of the Game:** The game shall be divided into two (2) equal halves of thirty (30) minutes each. There shall be a half-time break of five (5) minutes.

**Law VIII-The Start of Play:** Conform to FIFA, with the following exception:

- A.** Opponent must be outside the center circle on their half of the field while kick-off is in progress.

**Law IX-Ball in and Out of Play:** Conform to FIFA. Ball must completely cross line to be out of play.

**Law X-Method of Scoring:** Conform to FIFA. Ball must completely cross goal line between posts and beneath crossbar to count.

**Law XI-Off-Side:** There will be no off-sides for small sided play.

**Law XII-Fouls and Misconduct:** Conform to FIFA with the following exception:

- A. All fouls shall result in a free kick with opponent eight (8) yards away.
- B. Slide tackling is illegal and shall result in a free kick at the point of the foul.

**Law XIII-Free Kicks:** Conform to FIFA with the following exception:

- A. Opponents must be eight (8) yards away.

**Law XIV-Penalty Kicks:** Conform to FIFA with the following exception:

- A. Opponents must be eight (8) yards away.

**Law XV-Throw-In:** Conform to FIFA.

**Law XVI-Goal Kick:** Conform to FIFA.

**Law XVII-Corner Kick:** Conform to FIFA with the following exception:

- A. Opponents must be eight (8) yards away from the ball.

**Miscellaneous:**

- All players have a right to play every game and an equal amount of time if they have attended regular practices.
- Playing Conditions: Field supervisor will determine if games will or will not be played. Games will be called if safety is a concern.
- In order to maintain player focus all spectators are to be on the opposite sideline from players and coaches.
- Opposing parents/coaches and players should shake hands after each game.
- Wellington Recreation recommends that this age group should have practices limited to one or two 45-60 minute sessions per week.
- Games called due to inclement weather will not be rescheduled. It will be up to the coaches to set up a time, if any to make up a missed game.
- Participation awards will be given to ALL participants.
- Parent/coaches, non-playing players and spectators should be there to enjoy and encourage the activity of the youngsters.
- All coaches are volunteers and as such are not employees of the Town of Wellington.
- All coaches will be required to attend a training seminar and will be subject to a background check.
- No alcoholic beverages or tobacco products will be allowed or used in the parks during youth games or practices.
- Swearing will not be tolerated by fans, participants, or coaches. All adults need to remember that they are role models and need to be positive in their words and actions.
- A parent or fan that is loud, obnoxious, or disrupts the event will be asked to leave the premises and will be expected to comply immediately.
- Elastic Clause: The league director shall have complete charge of the Youth Sports League. Any and all situations not specifically covered by these rules shall be acted upon by the League Director and all actions by the league director will be final.
- The league director reserves the right to change or amend any of the rules or regulations contained in this manual. Any questions concerning Youth Sports should be directed to:

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