

U5  
Micro Size Field

The CVSA Little Tykes Soccer Program is for all children (boys & girls) who are of Pre-Kindergarten age (generally 4 years old). Teams will have a minimum number of players to ensure the kids get the most number of touches on the ball as possible.

The philosophy for this division is that practices are games and games are practices focusing on the fun aspects of soccer while learning valuable skills in running, dribbling and, ball control. There will be (2) practices per week, ~30-45 minute duration. One practice day will consist of learning new skills while the following practice will be a game, against another team at the same practice field, or against each other if there is only one team, where the children can demonstrate the skill they learned. See below for special rules for this age group.

At the end of the season we will organize a soccer festival (all for fun, no trophies or prizes) where all teams will play small-sided mini games (10-15 minutes each) against the other teams in the league.

The special rules of this age group are intended to DE-EMPHASIZE THE COMPETITIVE ASPECT of the game, and promote the fun element. Parents and coaches should keep in mind that these youngsters are very sensitive and need to be ENCOURAGED to learn the basics.

## Special Rules:

1. BALL – Size 3.
2. FIELD SIZE – 20 x 15 yards
3. GOAL SIZE – 4' Pugg style goal.
4. PLAYERS – 3 or 4 per side, no goalkeeper. This number will depend on the size of each team playing.
5. GAMES – There will not be any official games at this age group. Games will be played during one of the practice times during the week. Players will be given pinnies and scrimmage against each other or against another team practicing in the same area.
6. Referees – Coaches will referee games
7. DURATION – Scrimmages will be held during the practice time and length will be determined by the coaches, with a maximum time of 45 minutes.
8. SUBSTITUTIONS – UNLIMITED – ANY TIME, provided substitution is not done to delay the game. Sub must TAG (touch) player he/she is replacing before he/she can play the ball.
9. KICK OFF – There are no kick offs at this level the ball will start with one team performing a throw-in from mid-field.
10. FOULS – All fouls result in an indirect free kick from the place of foul. NO PENALTY KICKS / NO DIRECT KICKS in this age group.
11. GOAL KICKS – Will be taken from the goal line. On indirect free kicks and goal kicks, opponents must be at a MINIMUM of 3 yards away from the ball.
12. CORNER KICKS – There will be no corner kicks, the other team will kick it in from the end line near the corner where the ball went out of play.
13. IMPROPER THROW-IN – Shall be REPEATED at maximum (3) times. Referee (coach) may instruct players after each improper attempt. Fourth incorrect throw-in results in a throw-in AWARDED TO THE OTHER TEAM. *Note: FIFA Laws of the Game pg. 39-18 states that players are forbidden from standing directly in front of the footballer who is taking the throw-in so as to harass him.*
14. DANGEROUS PLAYS AND SLIDING TACKLES – This play WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. The first violation results in a warning. The second violation will result in removal from the game for the duration of the remaining half.

15. HEADING - Player at this level SHALL NOT head the ball directly from the air during any match. If a player deliberately heads the ball during a match, the referee will award an indirect free kick at the spot of the infraction. If the heading occurs within the penalty area, the referee shall move the ball outside the penalty area and award an indirect free kick to the opposing team. Players are also strongly discouraged from heading the ball during practices.
16. GOALKEEPER – There are no goalkeepers at this age.
17. COACHES ARE ALLOWED TO BE ON THE FIELD during the play of the game. Coaches should try and stay out of the way of the kids while playing to allow them to learn the game.
18. NO PLAY-OFFS OR STANDINGS with this age group.
19. ALL PLAYERS are required to wear SHIN GUARDS FOR SAFETY REASONS.
20. FOOTWEAR - Shoes with rubber cleats are not required but are strongly encouraged, especially for U7 division and above. The following types of cleats are prohibited:
  - Metal cleats of any kind will not be permitted.
  - Shoes with toe cleats (i.e. baseball, football, lacrosse cleats), the toe cleat is in a prime position to cause injury to the feet, shins and knees of another player.

The referee (coach) has the final say on whether the footwear is safe for play.

21. No player may wear any equipment that, in the opinion of the referee (coach), could be hazardous to another player or himself. This includes non-orthodontic braces, watches, barrettes, rings, earrings, etc. This also includes improper shin guards. (Only the sock-type or socks over shin guards are allowed.)