



Clayton County Parks and Recreation

Clayton County Soccer Rules

U4 and U6 Team play

(Revised 3/3/2023)

Clayton County Soccer in an endeavor to introduce and develop soccer players in our community has decided to adopt the following set of rules:

1. All U4 and U6 teams will adopt the new ball rule.
 - a. Coaches will roll a new ball into the playing field at the point of which the old ball exited.
 - b. Parents can help by retrieving the exited ball and returning it to the coaches, but in order to limit confusion, only coaches will be allowed to roll in a “new” ball.
 - c. **Only the coaches of the two playing teams are allowed on the field, unless unexpected circumstances (i.e. player injury).**
2. U4 will play with a size 2 ball and U6 will play with a size 3.
3. All parents will stay on one side of the field, players and coaches will stay on the other side and absolutely no one is allowed behind the goal lines during the games.
 - a. This will apply to all age groups.
4. All U4 and U6 games will be officiated by the coaches on the field.
 - a. The opening kick off will also be determined by the two coaches (a coin toss unless a coach chooses to concede possession).
 - b. Their main purpose is to ensure the safety of the children and encourage proper play from them.
 - c. No fouls or handballs will be called to stop the progress of the game, instead the coaches will advise the children the proper thing to do (i.e. saying, “don’t use your hands”) while play continues.
 - d. If the play does need to be stopped, it is up to the coaches’ discretion to determine where to restart and which team starts with possession.
5. Games will be 3 versus 3 (coaches can choose to do 4 versus 4 but BOTH parties must agree).
6. There are no goalkeepers.
 - a. To promote soccer skills and maximum involvement and for the safety of the child, coaches must refrain from having players standing in the goal and encourage them against it.



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7. The games are played in two halves with a halftime break.
 - a. U4 will have two 15 minute halves
 - b. U6 has 20 minute halves.
 - c. The halftime break will be 5 minutes.
 - d. It's a running clock throughout the entire game.
 - e. No extra time will be added for stoppages.
8. The teams will change sides after the half-time break (Coaches can choose to stay on the same side as long as BOTH parties agree).
9. Players cannot be barred from playing, and must be given the opportunity to play for at least a half, even if they do not show up for practice.
 - a. However, players will NOT be allowed to participate without proper equipment (i.e. shin-guards).
10. **Disrespectful/belligerent behavior of any kind towards the coaches, players, or even parents will not be tolerated and the offender is subject to being EXPELLED from the premises, depending on the severity of the offense** (Up to the discretion of the coordinator).
 - a. This includes but is not limited to: jeering, heckling, or any other kind of abuse.
 - b. Problems, complaints, or issues can be brought up to the coordinator for review and will be handled accordingly
11. **Scoring is not recorded, nor is the final result of the game. The children's SAFETY and PARTICIPATION takes precedence over all.**

Clayton County Soccer is a Recreational League and ALL age groups will recognize a Mandatory Play Rule that ensures that ALL participants will have equal opportunity to play.

The rescheduling of games will be the responsibility of the Program Coordinator so that all parties involved are aware of any and all changes to the schedule. This includes informing Coaches for both teams and referees when they are required so that the Program does not have any undo cost.