

Wayne Finger Lakes Youth Soccer League

U9 Game Play Regulations

1. **GENERAL RULES:** the FIFA “Laws of the Game” apply to all competitions sponsored by NYSW.
2. **LENGTH OF GAMES, OVERTIME PERIODS, BALL SPECIFICATIONS, FIELD SIZES, GOAL SIZES, OFFSIDES, AND BUILD OUT LINES**

a. The length of games, overtime periods, ball size, ball circumference, and ball weight for each age group is as follows:

Game Length	Overtime Periods	Ball Size	Players	Max Field Size (yards)	Maximum Goal Size (feet)	Offside
2- 25' halves	NONE	#4 25-26 in. 11-13 ozs.	7 v 7	55-65 Length 35-45 Width	Height 6.5 Width 18.5 (Recommended Height 6.5 x Width 12)	Yes

- b. In 9U games 7v7 games a build-out line will be used.
1. When the goalkeeper has the ball in his or her hands during play from the opponent, the opposing team must move behind the build out line (mid-field) until the ball is put into play.
 2. Once the opposing team is behind the build out line, the goalkeeper can pass, throw or roll the ball into play (punts and drops kicks are not allowed).
 3. After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes as normal.
 4. The opposing team must also move behind the build out line during goal kick until the ball is put into play.
 5. If a goalkeeper punts or drop kicks the ball, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.
 6. If the punt or drop kick occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

3. **HEADING**

- a) This rule is mandatory for all US Soccer conducted events, including Regional and National competitions for the National Championship Series, and National Presidents Cup series. This rule is also mandatory for the US Youth Soccer National League, US Youth Soccer Regional Leagues, and the US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program.
- b) All Players age 10 and younger shall not head the ball directly from the air in any match or competition, nor shall these players practice heading the ball in any organized team setting. If a player age 10 or younger deliberately heads the ball in a match, the referee shall award an indirect free kick to the opposing team 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.

4. REFEREES

- a. The team designated as the home team shall supply the officials for each game.
- b. Referees do not need to be certified officials, but must have an understanding of the game and enforce rules specific to the U9 age group.
- c. Referees should be paid at the rate of a U11 Official's game fee per WFLYSL rules.

5. SUBSTITUTIONS

- a. Except as provided by USYSA or its State Associations, substitutions shall be unlimited except where specified otherwise in the rules and regulations for a special competition.
- b. Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, at any stoppage in play.