



NORTHBRIDGE FC

Summer5 U8-U18 – Competition Rules 2021/22

The following FIFA playing rule is to be observed:

1. **The referee's decision is final.**

The Competition Manager will assist the referees with any clarification required regarding the Competition Rules.

Playing Rules:

2. Game duration is 2x 13 minutes, 2 minutes drinks break and 2 minutes change-over between games.
3. Each team will field one [1] goal keeper and four [4] field players. Minimum number of players to play is four [4]
4. Roll on, roll off **substitution [interchange]** from halfway line
5. **Kick-off** – a goal cannot be scored directly from kick-off
6. **Ball out of play:**
 - a. Goal kick – goal keeper kicks the ball from the ground. The opposing team must move into own half behind the halfway line. **The ball is live and the opposing team may attack once it has been received by an outfield player or goes over half-way, whichever happens first.**
 - b. Corner kicks – the ball is kicked into play per standard rules.
 - c. Ball is over the sideline – the ball is **kicked** back into play from the ground (position ball on the line where it went out). A goal cannot be scored directly off a kick-in.
7. **GOAL KEEPERS:**
 - a. Goal keepers may only handle the ball in the marked out goal box. If the goal keeper handles the ball outside of the box, an indirect freekick will be awarded (ref. Rule 8). *If there are no lines outlining the goal box, then the goal box dimensions will be marked by cones on the sidelines. Within reason, referees will show leniency on goal keeper handball calls where there are no lines.*
 - b. Goal keepers may not handle (pick up) a **back pass** from a team mate. An infringement will result an **indirect freekick** to the opposition where the infringement occurred.
 - c. Goal keepers may not punt (kick from hands) the ball into play after a save or after picking up the ball. The ball must be rolled or thrown back into play, or kicked from the ground [the ball is live as soon as the goal keeper releases it on the ground].
8. **Fouls:**
 - a. All **free kicks are indirect** (*cannot be a straight shot on goal, the ball has to touch any other player on the way*). The opposing team must be at least three [3] steps (*measured by referee*) away.
 - b. A **penalty kick** may be awarded at the referee's discretion if an attacking player is denied a clear goal scoring opportunity through a foul by a defending player (*e.g. deliberate hand ball by a field player, tackle from behind, slide tackle*) in the goal box immediately in front of goal. Penalty kicks are taken straight in front of goal, from a penalty "spot" seven [7] steps infield from the goal line (*measured by referee*). All players, except the defending goal keeper, must be behind the ball and cannot interfere with the taking of the penalty. Players may follow in and attack/defend a rebound.
 - c. Slide tackles (including on one knee) are not permitted and will result in a three [3] minutes sin bin for the offending player as well as an indirect free kick or penalty, depending on where the foul took place.

Other Rules/Guidelines:

- Teams to arrive 10mins before kick off to sign in (*sign in sheet & field map will be provided on the field near the canteen*).
- Teams must be ready to take to the field at the advertised kick-off time.
- A team can take to the field with just four players and may borrow from another team in its own age group or the age group below to get to a full team of five [5] players plus one [1] sub.
- Players are not permitted to play down an age group, except for female players in a male comp, where they may play down one [1] year.