

Dublin Soccer League

MSSA Program



Middle School Soccer Assn. / U-15 Age Group Description

TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PROGRAM HANDBOOK

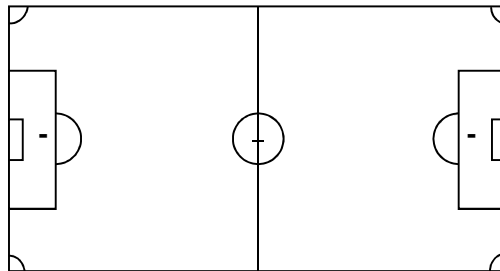
Players on field (x 2):	11
Minimum # on field:	7
Total Players on Team:	16 – 22
Referees:	2
Ball Size:	5
Minimum playing time:	50% of each game (minimum), except when injured

Substitutions: At normal FIFA times (at half, at kickoffs, goal kicks, your throw-in*) and in cases of injury

*If a player for the opposing team is at the mid-field point waiting to be a substitute when the team that is awarded a throw-in has a substitute to enter the game, the substitute for the opposing team may also enter the game. If the team that has been awarded a throw-in does not have a substitute, then neither team may substitute a player.

Duration of game: 30 minute halves
5 minutes half-time
 65 minutes total time

Travel: Teams travel approximately 30% of their schedule



65 x 100 yards recommended up to 75 x 115 yards
 Goals: 24 ft. wide x 8 ft. high
 10 yard radius center circle 1 yard radius corner arcs
 Goal area: 20' x 6' Penalty area: 44' x 18'
 Penalty spot 12 yds. from goal line

- Rules: All FIFA rules apply
- Special Rules: MSSA may implement special rules on an annual basis which are provided to coaches prior to each season.
- A **Mercy Rule** currently applies:
If one team gains an advantage of 4 goals, the losing team may place an additional player on the field. If the advantage goes below 4 goals, the losing team must remove a player from the field.
- Concept: At this age, the objective is to continue to develop foot skills using both feet, follow the formal rules of the game (throw-ins, offside, positions) and engage in team play. Players compete with teammates for time in specific positions. Rotation is still encouraged. Strategies should be taught such as set plays on kickoffs, throw-ins and corner kicks.
- Coaches: Coaches are to instruct and encourage participants. Instruction should be given during practice and while players are on the sidelines. Players on the field should be encouraged rather than instructed so that they are free to make their own decisions during play. Having fun should be emphasized. Give opportunities to play various positions. Coaching must be constructive.
- No one may enter the field of play without permission of the referee.
- Do not argue with the referee. You may talk to the referee at half-time or after the game.
- Coaches should confirm time and location of game with opposing coach at least three days ahead of scheduled game date. If a home weekday game, referees should be confirmed 72 hours ahead of scheduled game time.
- Problems: Contact the DSL office first

- **The MSSA league administrator creates master schedules. DSL modifies home schedules based on field and referee availability.**
- **Game scores reported to MSSA league office are used to seed teams for spring and for end-of-season tournaments.**

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