

**Attachment 08****Modified Laws of the Game  
St. Mary's Youth Soccer  
U14, U15G and U18\* Playing Recommendations**

\* - When U18 is played 8v8, the Laws of the Game presented below shall apply.

**Law 1 – The Field of Play**

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 70 yards (210 ft) maximum 80 yards (240 ft)

Width: minimum 45 yards (135 ft) maximum 55 yards (165 ft)

Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of eight (8) yards is marked around it.

The Goal Area: Conform to FIFA.

The Penalty Area: A penalty area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, fourteen (14) yards (42 ft) from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of fourteen (14) yards (42 ft) and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the penalty area. Within each penalty area a penalty mark is made ten (10) yards (30 ft) from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of eight (8) yards (24 ft) from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

Flag Posts: Conform to FIFA.

The Corner Arc: Conform to FIFA.

Goals: Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corner flag posts and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The minimum distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the maximum distance is twenty one (21) feet. The minimum distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet and the maximum distance is seven (7) feet.

**Law 2 – The Ball:** Size five (5).

**Law 3 – The Number of Players:** A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eight players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven players.

Substitutions: Unlimited substitutions are allowed: after a goal; before a goal kick; before a throw-in (if the team in possession makes a substitution, the other team may substitute as also); after an injury or disciplinary action (in case of an injury, the other team may substitute player(s) in a number equal to those substituted due to injury)

**Law 4 – The Players Equipment:** Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

**Law 5 – The Referee:** Registered referee.

**Law 6 – The Assistant Referee:** Use U.S.S.F. registered referees or club linesmen/women.

**Law 7 – The Duration of the Match:** Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) halves of thirty (35) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of ten (10) minutes.

**Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play:** Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least eight (8) yards (24 ft) from the ball until it is in play.

**Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play:** Conform to FIFA.

**Law 10 – The Method of Scoring:** Conform to FIFA.

**Law 11 – Offside:** Conform to FIFA.

**Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct:** Conform to FIFA with the exception that an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the center spot on the halfway line if a goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball in the air from his/her penalty area into the opponents penalty area.

**Law 13 – Free Kicks:** Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents are at least eight (8) yards (24 ft) from the ball.

**Law 14 – The Penalty Kick:** Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that the penalty mark is at ten yards and that players other than the kicker and defending goalkeeper are at least eight (8) yards (24 ft) from the penalty mark.

**Law 15 – The Throw-In:** Conform to FIFA.

**Law 16 – The Goal Kick:** U14 and U15G Conform to FIFA. U18 goal kicks must not go past halfway line without touching the ground or being played (touched) by a player from either team.

**Law 17 – The Corner Kick:** Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least eight (8) yards (24ft) away from the ball until it is in play.