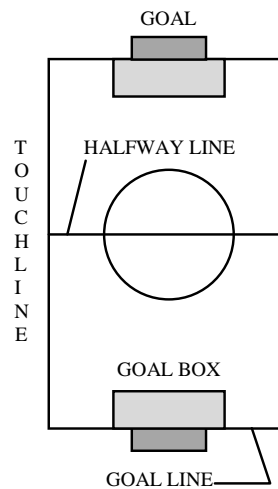


# COLORADO STORM SOCCER ASSOCIATION - LAWS OF THE GAME FOR 5v5 U8 FOR FALL & SPRING SEASON

Revised November 26, 2007

## 1. FIELD OF PLAY

Field size	Length = 45 yards Width = 30 yards
Center Circle	Radius = 5 yards
Goal size:	Height = 6 feet Width = 12 feet
Goal box:	24 feet wide x 12 feet long



## 2. BALL SIZE

Size 3 - use hand stitched ball

## 3. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- Two teams of 5 players.
- One player must act as goalkeeper.
- Any player or number of players can be substituted at the start of the period, after a goal is scored, before throw ins, goal-kicks, corner kicks or on an injury by either team. No substitutions are allowed before a free-kick. Coaches are encouraged to rotate their players every 2 to 3 minutes.
- **Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.**

## 4. PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

- All players must wear shin guards and the regular Colorado Storm uniform.
- No metal cleats may be worn. Tennis shoes are acceptable to wear.
- Home teams (listed first on the schedule) are to wear blue. Away teams (listed second on the schedule) are to wear white.
- Socks **MUST** cover the shin guards completely.
- **Goalkeepers** - each goalkeeper must wear colors that distinguish him from the other players
- *Players may not wear any kind of metal or plastic hair restraint, hair beads, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, or other jewelry during practices or games.*

## 5. GAME COORDINATORS

- Each game will have only one Game Coordinator (referee) on the field.
- The Game Coordinator is provided by the team listed as home on the schedule. The Coordinator must be certified at a Colorado Storm Coordinator's clinic.
- Responsibilities: player safety, enforcement of the game laws and time keeping.
- Explain the rules to the players.
- Use the whistle as little as possible.
- **NO COACHING BY THE GAME COORDINATOR IS PERMITTED.**

## 6. LINESMAN

There are no linesman in 5v5.

## 7. GAME DURATION

2 - 20 minute periods.

There will be a 5 minute break at half-time. Teams

change sides at half-time.

## **8. THE START OF PLAY**

- Start each period or restart the game after a goal is scored with a kickoff at the center of the halfway line.
- All players must remain on their own side of the halfway line until the ball is kicked.
- All opposing players must be at least 5 yards from the ball prior to the kick.
- The player taking the kick may not touch the ball a second time until it has been played by ANY other player. (Double touch - see law 13).

## **9. BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY**

When the ball goes out of play, the game is restarted as follows:

- The ball is out of play when the **whole** ball crosses the entire touchline or goal line, whether on the ground or in the air. The ball is in play at all other times.
- Restart with a throw-in if the ball goes out of play over the touchline (sideline). When play is stopped due to an injury, bad weather or other reason not covered elsewhere in these rules, the game is restarted with a dropped ball at the place where the ball was located when play was stopped.

## **10. METHOD OF SCORING**

A team is awarded a goal each time the **whole** ball crosses the portion of the goal line under the cross bar and between the posts in the goal that they are attacking. If a defending player unintentionally scores a goal in his own goal, the goal is awarded to the attacking team.

- Goals can be scored from anywhere on the attacking half of the field.
- Goals can not be scored directly by a team from their half of the field.
- Goals can not be scored directly from kick-offs, free kicks, throw ins, goal kicks or corner kicks. Once the kick is taken, if any player (attacker or defender) touches the ball and the ball goes in the goal, a goal is awarded to the attacking team.

## **11. OFF-SIDE**

There is NO off-side in 5v5 soccer.

## **12. FOULS & MISCONDUCT**

The game coordinator may award a team a Free Kick for **intentional** tripping, pushing, hitting, holding or ball handling by an opponent. Free kicks are all indirect (goals cannot be scored directly from a free kick). Game Coordinators should explain all infractions to the offending player.

**Whistle only on intentional fouls or to ensure the safety of the players.**

**Goalkeepers** - Outside his own penalty area, the goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as does any other player. Inside his own penalty area, the goalkeeper cannot be guilty of a handling offense, incurring a direct free kick or any misconduct related to handling the ball. He can, however, be guilty of several offenses that incur an indirect free kick.

### **Offenses by goalkeepers**

Goalkeepers are not permitted to keep possession of the ball in their hands for more than six seconds. The goalkeeper is considered to be in possession of the ball:

- while the ball is between his hands or between his hand and any surface (e.g., ground, own body)
- while holding the ball in his outstretched open hand.
- while in the act of bouncing it on the ground or tossing it into the air

When a goalkeeper has gained possession of the ball with his hands, he cannot be challenged by an opponent.

A goalkeeper is not permitted to touch the ball with his hand inside his own penalty area in the following circumstances:

- If he handles the ball again after it has been released from his possession and has not touched any other player.
  - The goalkeeper is considered to be in control of the ball by touching it with any part of his hands or arms except if the ball rebounds accidentally from the goalkeeper, for example after he has made a save
  - Possession of the ball includes the goalkeeper deliberately parrying the ball,
- If he touches the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate.
- If he touches the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a thrown-in taken by a team-mate.

### **13. FREE-KICK**

- The kick is taken where the foul was committed or 5 yards from the goal line of the defending team, whichever is greater. All opposing players must be situated at least 5 yards away from the ball. The kicker can not touch the ball twice in a row - the ball needs to be touched by another player.
- Double Touch - If the player taking the free kick (throw in, goal kick, corner kick or kick-off) touches the ball twice in a row prior to being played by any other player, a free kick is awarded to the opposing team.
- The team taking the free kick may take a "quick" kick prior to the opponents being 5 yards from the ball. If 5 yards is requested by the kicking team, they must wait until the defensive team is ready before taking the kick.
- **Special Circumstances** - A free kick awarded to the defending team inside its own goal area is taken from any point within the goal area.

An indirect free kick awarded to the attacking team in its opponents' goal area is taken from the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred.

### **14. PENALTY KICK**

There are no penalty kicks in 5v5 soccer.

### **15. THROW-IN**

The throw-in will be taken by a member of the opposing team from the team which last touched the ball. The throw-in shall be taken from the point where the ball crossed the touchline. At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower faces the field of play, has part of each foot either on the touch line or on the ground outside the touch line, uses both hands and delivers the ball from behind and over his head. The thrower may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player. The ball is in play immediately it enters the field of play.

### **16. GOAL KICK**

Restart with a goal kick if the ball goes out of play over the goal line, last touched by a member of the attacking team. The ball is placed anywhere on the goal line or inside the goal area. Opponents must be positioned at least five yards from the ball.

### **17. CORNER KICKS**

Restart with a corner kick if the ball goes out of play over the goal line, last touched by a member of the defending team. The ball is placed on the corner of the field closest to the place where the ball went out or inside the field within a yard from that corner. Opponents must be positioned at least five yards from the ball.

**18. FRIENDSHIP LINE**

Opposing coaches and players should meet in the center of the field and shake hands after each game. Coordinators should monitor this event to ensure good sportsmanship prevails.