

Rooball Referee Rules

Under 7s and Under 8s

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Based on the North Zone Carnival rules as adapted from
the Queensland Christian Soccer Association (QCSA) Rooball Rules

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Section 1 – General Rules

A maximum of six (6) players per team are permitted on the field at one time. One (1) of which must be a goal keeper. A minimum of four (4) players need to be on the park to constitute a match. Up to nine (9) players per team are allowed on the match card

A regulation size 3 match ball will be used for all matches

Players are not permitted to wear jewellery on the field. Only the goal keeper is permitted to wear a hat. Players are permitted to wear prescription glasses, provided that they are adequately secured. No player is permitted to take the park unless they are wearing shin pads.

Under 7 games consist of two (2) x 15 minute halves, with a five (5) minute half time break. Under 8 games consist of two (2) x 20 minute halves, with a five (5) minute half time break.

A match card must be filled out and viewed by the referee prior to the start of the match.

Section 2 – The Kick Off

The kick off will also be used as a method to restart play after a goal is scored and at the start of the second half. When a goal is scored, the team conceding the goal will take the kick off.

The team that wins the toss will choose which end they want to attack in the first half. The other team will take the kick off. In the second half the teams will change ends and the team that won the toss at the start of the game will take the kick off.

The kick off is taken from the centre of the field, within the centre circle. All opposition players must remain outside the circle until the kick has been taken. The ball does not need to be touched twice before leaving the circle. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick off.

When first kicked, the ball must move forward. If it does not, the kick is retaken.

The player who kicks the ball first cannot touch the ball again until it has been touched by another player. If they do touch it a second time, a free kick is awarded to other team

Section 3 – Ball In and Out of Play

The ball is out of play when it has wholly crossed the goal line or sideline

Section 4 – Drop Ball

Where play needs to be restarted and the ball is not out of play, a drop ball is used. One player from each side is involved in the drop ball. They stand facing each other. The referee drops the ball between them. The players are not permitted to play at the ball until it has touched the ground. If a player does play at the ball before it touches the ground, the drop ball is retaken.

Section 5 – Method of Scoring

A goal is scored when the ball has wholly crossed the goal line between the posts and under the crossbar. A goal can only be scored from outside the goal area

If the goal keeper steps back into the goal while holding the ball, no goal is awarded and play restarted with a goal kick.

Section 6 – Offside

There is no offside at this level of soccer. However, the camping of players on the opposing team's goal area is not considered fair play, and is therefore not tolerated. If this occurs, play will be stopped and restarted with a free kick to the opposing team.

Section 7 – Fouls and Misconduct

Players must not intentionally endanger other players on the field. Players are not permitted to use their hands or shoulders to manipulate players on the park, other prohibited behaviour includes

- Kicking and Tripping
- Grabbing and holding
- Striking
- Pushing
- Slide Tackling

Where these behaviours occur, a free kick will be awarded to the other team. Repeated breaches need to be reported to team officials.

Section 8 – Free Kicks

All kicks at this level of soccer are indirect. An indirect kick is one where a goal cannot be scored unless another player has touched the ball (other than the kicker) before it goes into the goal. If the ball goes into the goal from an indirect free kick without touching another player, the goal is not awarded and play is restarted with a goal kick. When a free kick is taken all opposition players need to be five (5) metres from the ball until the kick is taken.

Should an offence be committed within five (5) metres of the goal area by the defending team, the point from where the free kick will be taken needs to be moved back so it is five (5) metres away from the edge of the goal area. Opposition players must remain five (5) metres back (which is just outside the goal area) and cannot move forward until the kick has been taken.

A free kick awarded within the goal area can be taken from any point within the goal area.

Section 9 – Throw Ins

When the whole of the ball has crossed over the sideline a throw in is awarded. The throw in needs to occur from the spot where the ball left the field of play.

The player taking the throw must

- Face the field of play
- Point their feet the way they want to throw
- Keep both feet on the ground
- Keep both feet behind the line (not on the line)
- Throw the ball from behind their head
- Use both hands to deliver the ball into the field of play.

In under 7s, where a player does a foul throw they are given a second chance to perform the throw correctly. In under 8s, for the first two weeks of the season, a player who does a foul throw is given a second chance to perform the throw correctly. After this two week period, they will only get one attempt. After the player has performed the throw incorrectly once or twice (depending on the age group and time of the season), a throw in will then be awarded to the other team.

Section 10 – Goal Kicks

A goal kick is awarded when the ball passes wholly over the goal line (except for when a goal is scored) and it was last touched by a member of the attacking team.

A goal kick can be taken from anywhere within the goal area by the goal keeper or a team mate of the goal keeper. All other players must stay behind the five (5) metre goal kick line until the kick has been taken. Should a player come in front of the line before the kick is taken the play is stopped and restarted with another goal kick.

The ball does not need to pass the goal kick line, players just have to stay behind this line until the kick has been taken. However, if the ball does not clear the goal area from the goal kick, the goal kick is retaken.

Section 11 – Corner Kicks

A corner kick is awarded when the ball passes wholly over the goal line (except for when a goal is scored) and it was last touched by a member of the defending team.

Under 7s take corner kicks from a point half way between the corner and the edge of the goal area. Under 8s take corner kicks from the corner of the field.

All opponents must be at least five (5) metres from the ball when the kick is taken.

Section 12 - The Goal Area

Only the goalkeeper is allowed in the goal area, except for when a team mate is taking a goal kick or a free kick. Should any other player enter the goal area during the match in a manner which affects the game, a free kick will be awarded to the other team.

If an attacking player kicks the ball into the goal, or interferes with the game, while they are in the goal area, no goal can be scored and a free kick is awarded to the defending team. If a defender interferes with the game while they are in the goal area, a free kick is awarded to the attacking team and taken at the spot five (5) metres back from the edge of the goal area where the offence occurred.

Section 13 – Interchange

Teams are allowed unlimited interchange during the match at the discretion of the referee. If interchange is being used to slow down the game, the referee can refuse a request for interchange.

There are two ways which interchange can be handled

1. The referee informs the team officials that they are allowed to interchange whenever they wish, provided that they never have more than six (6) players on the park at one time.
2. Team officials need to ask permission to make a change, and a change can only when the ball is out of play.

Section 14 – Dissent

Dissent towards referees from players, coaches, team officials or spectators is not tolerated.

Should a player show dissent towards a referee, the referee may ask the coach to preform an interchange, removing the offending player from the park.

Should the coach on the park show dissent towards a referee, the referee may ask the coach to remove him/herself from the park. If this happens, someone can come onto the park to take the place of the coach.

In extreme cases, a referee may need to ask a person to leave the vicinity of the field.

Should a person at the match engage in behaviour which prevents the match occurring in the right spirit and they refuse to leave the field, the referee has the right to abandon the match.

Never attempt to deal with an agitated coach, manager, or parent. Advise them to speak to the senior referee at the field, or put their issues in writing and address them to the club.

Section 15 – Spectators

No one is permitted to stand behind the goals while the match is in progress. All spectators must view the match from the sidelines. The coaching of players from behind the goals is not permitted.

All spectators, substitutes and team officials must be at least one (1) metre from the sideline. It is the job of the managers to enforce this rule. However, the referee has the right to ask those on the sideline to move back if they are getting too close.

Should play need to be stopped to move people back, extra time will not be added to the game.

Section 16 – Coaching

Only one coach per team is permitted on the field. Coaches on the field should keep the following things in mind

- They are there to support and encourage their team to understand the rules of the game
- They are not permitted to sledge players from their team or the opposition team
- Over coaching can detract from the quality of the game and enjoyment of the players
- Coaches are not to question the referees decisions. Clarification may be sought in an appropriate manner

Coaches must remain behind the play at all times. Coaches are not permitted in the goal area, except where assisting a player who is taking a goal kick. The referee has the right to ask a coach to keep behind play if he/she is interfering with the game and should do so as soon as he or she is aware that the coach is getting in the way. Constantly interfering may result in the referee asking the coach to remove themselves from the field.