

# 2021 CYC SOCCER RULE CHANGES

## LAW 3 – NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Grades K - 4: 8 v 8 (*recommended number of players-decision up to the individual district*)

## LAW 7 – DURATION OF THE MATCH

### **Lightning/Thunder Policy**

Officials will remove all participants from the field of play at the first sign of a lightning flash or thunder. They will instruct the participants that the game is suspended and that they should move to a place of safety. A waiting period of 30 minutes will take place after the first flash seen and an additional 30 minutes from the last flash seen before play is resumed. After a maximum of 45 minutes of wait time, the game will be postponed and rescheduled as a rainout. Games played earlier in the day/night will have no effect on the later games unless there is still lightning in the area. Electronic equipment cannot overrule the mandatory waiting period. If lightning is seen or thunder is heard, the game will be suspended.

## LAW 16 – THE GOAL KICK

A goal kick is a method of restarting play.

### **A goal kick is awarded to the defending team when:**

- the entire ball crosses the goal line, excluding that portion between the goal posts and under the crossbar, either in the air or on the ground, having last been touched or played by the attacking team.
- A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team.

### **Procedure**

- Players opposing the kicker shall remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play
- Once spotted, the ball shall be kicked from the ground from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.
- After the goal kick is properly taken, the ball may be played by any player except the one who executes the goal kick. The kicker may not play the ball until it has been touched by another player.
- The goalkeeper shall not pick up the ball to put it into play

### **Infringements/Sanctions**

On a goal kick, an opponent who remains inside the penalty area when the ball was put into play deliberately touches or challenges for the ball

- the goal kick is retaken.

On a goal kick, an opponent enters the penalty area before the ball was put into play and touches or challenges for the ball

- the goal kick is retaken.

**Example:** *On a goal kick, an opponent was inside the penalty area when the ball was put into play and does not interfere with a goal kick-this is legal*

**Example:** *On a goal kick, an opponent while leaving the penalty area but still inside when the ball was put into play receives the ball directly-this is legal*