



Development Grade U8 / Auskick Rules

1.Philosophy	<p>To provide children a fun, safe and positive experience through an Auskick program. Emphasis on development of basic game specific skills (kicking, handballing, marking, teamwork and keeping ones feet). The U8 Program provides an introduction to basic match play in preparation for U9's football.</p> <p>Coaches and officials are to adhere to the rules and not vary from them throughout the duration of the season.</p>
2. Playing Field	<p>70 x 50 meters (Cones or Lines to Mark Zones) Increased by Agreement</p>
3. Ball Size	<p>Size 1 Standard Auskick Ball</p>
4. The Coach	<p>Responsible for creating a positive environment where all participants learn new skills and have fun.</p> <p>The coach of the host club will umpire the program, or an alternate parent.</p> <p>Coaches are allowed on the field but no closer than 10m from the play.</p>
5. The Team	<p>Recommended on field playing number of six (6), in accordance with national guidelines.</p> <p>Nine (9) players per team on field at any time is the ultimate maximum allowed on field.</p> <p>It is compulsory to lend/borrow players so that the number on the ground is equal for each team.</p> <p>Team consists of forwards, backs and centres. Players remain in their zone for the entire quarter before switching zones.</p>
6. Zones / Positions	<p>Four distinguishable markers will be used to identify each zone. Players will be instructed by the Coach / Parent helpers to stay in their correct position.</p> <p>Marking of zones is to understand where the players should be. It is not a taboo marker but an indication that a player is close to the end of their area. A 'grey area' should be implemented for those players who may dispose of the ball over the line.</p>
7. Scoring	<p>Forwards are the only players who can score. If a centre kicks the ball through the goal posts, there is no score recorded and its treated like an out of bounds</p> <p>No scores or scoreboards are to be used for scoring</p> <p>At the end of a match, no reference to scores are to be published – e.g. club newsletters / social media.</p>
8. Playing Time	<p>4 x 10 Minute Quarters (2-minute intervals)</p>

9. Starting and Restarting Play	<p>Ball up conducted between 2 centre players of similar height. Coach should nominate different players for each subsequent ball up</p> <p>A player must not grab the ball and play on. The player must knock, palm or punch the ball to a teammate or open ground and may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player or hit the ground.</p>
10. Out of Bounds	<p>From a Kick – a free kick is awarded to the closest opponent. A player cannot kick for goal from this kick, If in doubt – ball up 5m from boundary</p> <p>Off hands or Body – Ball up 5m from boundary</p>
11. Gaining Possession	<p>Prime objective should be to gain possession of the ball. Restrained side (shoulder to shoulder) contact is permitted when contesting a loose ball.</p> <p>Front contact of contact from behind is strictly prohibited.</p> <p>Players should be encouraged to keep their feet at all times. The ball is considered possessed by controlling it, catching it, grabbing it or laying 2 hands on it when its on the ground.</p>
12. Tackling	<p>There is no contact or spoiling, except for light shoulder to shoulder contact.</p> <p>A player should be given a reasonable chance to dispose of the ball by kick or handball or by attempting to kick or handball.</p> <p>Players Cannot Knock the ball out of opponents hands, push in the side, deliberately bump, steal the ball, smother a kick or shepherd an opponent</p>
13. Smothering	Not Permitted
14. Barging	Not Permitted
15. Shepherding	Not Permitted
16. Marking	A mark is awarded irrespective of the distance the ball has travelled
17. Distance Run	A Player running with the ball must dispose after 10m or if the coach instructs to dispose of the ball.
18. Penalties	10m penalty can be applied at the umpires discretion if they feel a player has been hindered in any way
19. Kicking off the Ground	Not Permitted, unless accidental
20. Order off Rule	As per Sydney Juniors By Law 9
21. Runners	Not permitted
22. Spirit of the Game	Players, Coaches and Officials and Umpires to shake hands before and after the game.