

TOPHAT SOCCER CLUB

Four-a-side (Red and Gold Shorts)

- Play four-a-side with eight players per team. Four field players and no goalkeeper.
- 20 minute halves.
- Players will be changed every five minutes. Substitutions should be made quickly because the clock continues to run. Coaches are not allowed on the field of play.
- Referee will roll the ball out to start. Play includes corner kicks, goal kicks and modified throw-ins. Special throw-in rule – Any player (either team) can retrieve the ball for a throw-in except for the player who last touched the ball as it crossed the touchline.
- *We are adding a “Build Out Line” (dotted line). On goal kicks, all opponents must retreat beyond the build out line. Once goal kick is received from the kicker, game is on.*
- Coaches and players must remain in designated areas on the opposite side from the spectators. **No one is allowed to stand behind the end lines or around the goal.** When coaching from the touchline, try to help only the players who are not actively involved with the ball.
- **Coaches are not allowed to interfere with the referee in any way, and are not allowed on the field.**
- Keeping score should not be encouraged, try to concentrate only on how the players perform. Remember that the major objective is that all players are having FUN!
- POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT by coaches and parents is highly recommended.
- Players must be at the field 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of play, and on time for practice. Please note that due to the players’ age, this is a parent responsibility.
- The REFEREE is in charge of the game. Coaches may confer with the referee at halftime or after the game, but not during the game. Any complaints should be taken to the referee coordinator or the program director.