The Under 12 competitions in 2024 will play according to all standard FIFA rules for 11 v11 football with the exception of the two scenarios below.

1. The distance for the opposition to stand at all set pieces will be reduced to 5 m due to the reduction of field size.
2. The opposition must be 10 m back from the penalty area before the ball is in play after a goal kick or the goalkeeper has possession of the ball in their hands. The goalkeeper is not allowed to kick or dropkick the ball from their hands due to the reduction of field size.

For clarity, all other rules are outlined below.

## U12 Field of Play Diagram:



Offside: The offside law will be included in the Under 12 competition as it is an integral law to the game of football.

Free-Kicks: Opponents must be at least 5 meters away from the ball when a free kick is taken. Direct free kicks will apply.

Kick Offs: Opponents must be at least 5 meters away until the kick is taken.
Penalties: In accordance with FIFA LOTG, a penalty kick will be awarded if a player commits a direct free kick offence inside their penalty area.

Goal kick: All opponents must remain at least 10 m from the edge of the penalty area until the ball is in play. Goal kicks can be taken from anywhere within the penalty area.

Goalkeeper: The goalkeeper is allowed to handle the ball anywhere in the penalty area. To restart play after a save or gathering the ball with their hands, the ball must be thrown or rolled from the hands or played from the ground with their feet, within 6 seconds. The goalkeeper is not allowed to kick or dropkick the ball from their hands.

Corner kicks: Will be taken from the corner of the pitch. Opponents must be at least 5 meters away from the ball until it is in play. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves. A goal can be scored directly from a corner kick.

Throw-ins: Player faces the field of play, has part of each foot on the ground either on or behind the touch line, uses both hands and delivers the ball from behind and over their head. The thrower must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player. The ball is in play once it enters the field of play. A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw in.

## U12 Modified Laws

| Number of Players | 9 players on a team, one of which must be a goalkeeper. Maximum of 5 substitutes. Games must not commence or continue with fewer than 7 players. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Duration of Match | 25-minute halves |
| Ball Size | Size 4 |
| Field Dimensions | Length: min. 60m-max. 70 m Width: min. 40 m - max. 50 m |
| Goal Size | Height: 2 m - Width: 5 m <br> Permanent or portable goal must be compliant and secured. |
| Field Markings | Painted Lines. Cones/Markers are acceptable. |
| Penalty Area | Depth: 10m - Width: 20m <br> Penalty spot: 7 m from goal line |
| Sanctions | Yellow and Red cards are applicable in U12. |
| Temporary Dismissals (Sin-Bin) | Any player who is guilty of dissent towards a match official should be sent to the sin-bin. The sin-bin period for U12 is 5 minutes. |
| Half Time | 5 minutes minimum 10 minutes maximum |
| Referee | MWFRA Appointed |
| Interchange | Unlimited Interchange is permitted in U12. <br> An interchange can only be made when the ball is not in play. |
| Points Table and Finals | Yes |
| FIFA Laws Of The Game | Yes |
| Corner Kicks | All opponents must remain at least 5 m from the ball until the ball is in play. |

