

## 8 v 8 Modified Rules for Soccer (updated 2-20-2024)

### Playing Field:

- Dimensions shall be a minimum of 40 x 60 yards; and, no larger than 50 x 70 yards.
- Halfway line with optional center circle.
- Goals shall be 18 feet by 6 feet.
- Goal area shall be 6 yards x 19 yards.
- Penalty spot is 8 yards from the goal.
- All players are to be checked in utilizing MSFA Rosters prior to game start.
- Only captains are to speak to referees regarding anything game related. And/or if a referee addresses a player directly, that player shall converse with a referee.
- Any spectator(s) causing issues can be removed from the sidelines; and, must leave the park premises.

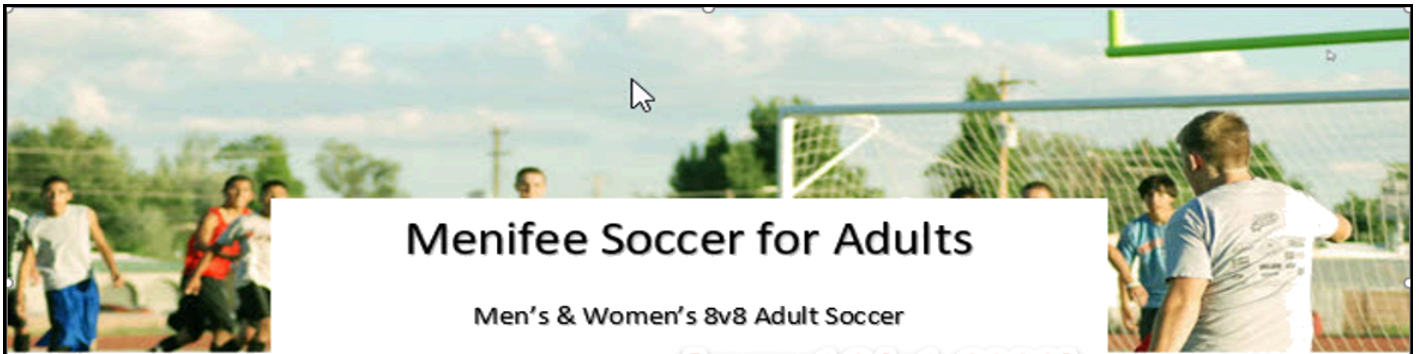
### Ball Size: size 5

### Players must be geared properly at all practices and games:

- Cleats, shin guards, and soccer socks (completely covering the shin guards).
- No Jewelry of any kind (earrings, necklaces, bracelets, etc.). Referees will check before each game.
- No hard plastic or metal hair accessories (bows, clips, head bands, etc.).
- No hard casts.
- Sunglasses at players' own risk.
- Keepers may wear a hat to block the sun. Field players cannot wear hats; only beanies are allowed.

### Number of Players:

- Format is 8 v 8 with a goalkeeper
- Minimum on field is 5.
  - Teams have until 10 minutes after game start time to have a minimum of 5 players on the field. If a team is unable to provide the minimum number of players that team will forfeit the match. The forfeit match results in a 3 - 0 score.
- Maximum rostered players is 18.



- Substitutions may be made with the permission of the referee during stoppage of play for:
  - Injury - either team
  - Goal kick - either team
  - After a goal - either team
  - **THROW-INS** - either team. (Throw-ins are replacing Kick-ins)
- Players must enter the field at the halfway line and exit the field at the nearest line.
- Players to be substituted should be at halfway to the ball leaving the field.

#### Game Durations:

- (2) 25-minute halves
- 5-minute break at half time

**One Referee** shall be allocated to every match.

#### Start of Play:

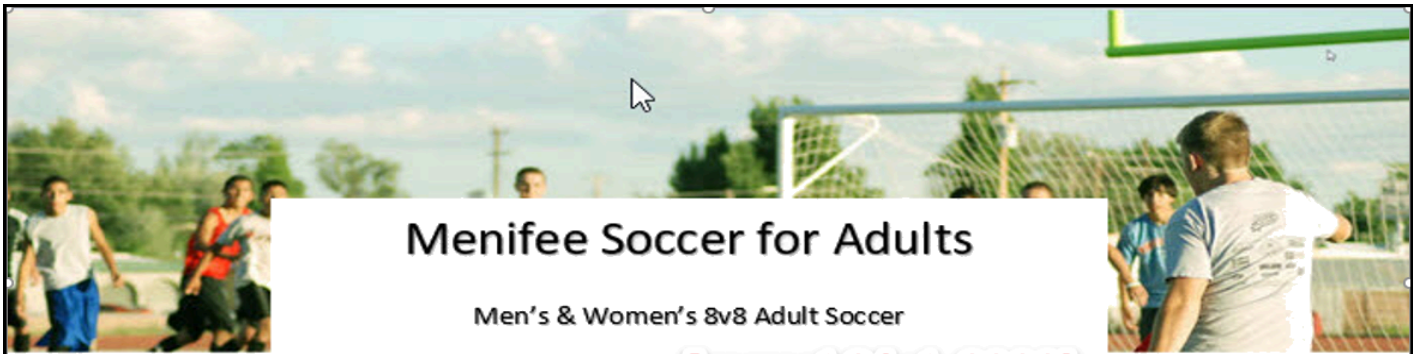
- Winner of the coin toss decides which end to attack.
- Ball can move in any direction at kick off.
- Kicker may not kick the ball a second time until another player touches the ball.
- Opponents must be 8 yards from the center mark.
- Goals may not be scored at the kick-off.

**Method of Scoring Conform to FIFA.**

**There is no offside.**

#### Fouls and Misconducts, exceptions:

- Free Kicks: Opponent shall remain 8 yards from the ball. Kicker does not have to ask for 8 yards to speed up play. **Ball must move forward from the first touch before the second touch occurs.**
- Penalty Kicks: Opponent shall remain 8 yards behind the ball.
- Any form of harassment towards another player, spectator(s), or league officials will result in a yellow card or a red if the issue persists.
- Three (3) cumulative yellow cards by a player will result in a one game suspension the following game.



- Red Cards (non-fighting):
- Red Card (Fighting):
- Any violence will result in a two game suspension or suspension from the league if issue persists.
- No Slide Tackling and or sliding. *More specifically, no slide tackling/sliding within a close proximity of another player. One exception (but still at the discretion of the referee), sliding toward a sideline to save the ball when no other player is within 10 feet of sliding.*
  - *Keepers can slide for the ball but not feet first towards any player.*
- Any threats towards anyone will result in send-off from the game; and, possible full suspension from the league upon review.

**Ball In and out of Play:** Ball must be 100% over the out-of-bounds line to be out.

**Throw-Ins:** Balls out of bounds are put into play by the last touch at the point on the touchline where the ball was kicked out of bounds. Referees have considerable discretion, keeping in mind the flow of the game, and the instructional aspects of the game.

**Goal Kicks:** Goal kick is taken by the defending team from any point on the goal line. And, opponents must be 8 yards away from the goal area. **Both goal kicks, drop-kicks and keeper punts may not go over the halfway line in the air!**

**DIRECT Corner Kick:** If a team defending goal touches the ball last before it crosses the goal line, the attacking team puts it back into play with a corner kick. You can score directly off a corner kick. Opponents must be 8 yards away from the ball.

**Opposing coaches and players should line up and shake hands before and after the game.** A player may choose not to shake hands based on current concerns of COVID.

**Play-Off Awards:** All teams that qualify for the finals during play-offs must participate in these games to receive the rewards outlined below:

1. **1st Place:** 50% off of following season team registration fees; plus, banner of achievement.
2. **2nd Place:** 25% off of following season team registration fees; plus banner of achievement
3. **3rd Place:** 15% off of following season team registration fees.; plus banner of achievement