

# UNDER 12 9V9

## PLAYING FORMAT & RULES

### INTRODUCTION

In 2021 Football South Australia will be implementing a 9v9 format in the Under 12's Junior Premier and State League competitions. This format has been introduced in most Member Federations and is recommended by Football Federation Australia (FFA)

A 9 v 9 format will provide the best learning environment for young players and to ensure players transition properly from MiniRoos to the 11-a-side game. This format enables players to be challenged technically as well as physically through multiple repeated actions in smaller areas. It also aims to set realistic expectations that meet the needs of young footballers, rather than senior players.

### PLAYING FORMAT

The playing format for Under 12 leagues is as follows:

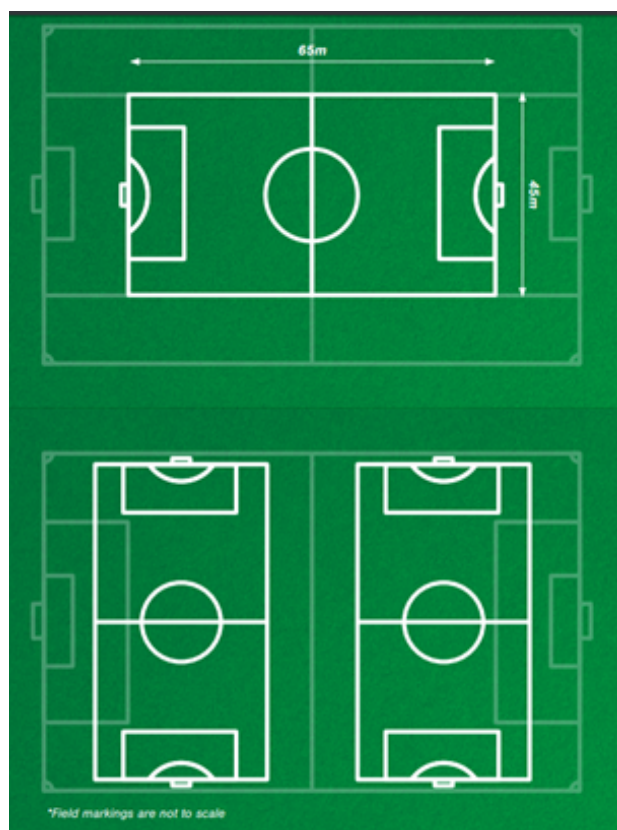
Numbers	9 v 9 Including Goalkeeper. Max of 5 substitutes
Field Size	Length: 60 - 70m Width: 40 - 50m
Goal Size and Type	Height: 2m Width: 5m Permanent or portable goal must be compliant with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's Consumer Notice No.28 of 2010
Field Marking	Cones, Markers or Painted Lines are allowed
Penalty Area	Depth: 10m Width: 20m Penalty Spot 7m from goal line
Duration of Game	2 x 30-minute halves
Half Time	5 minutes
Referee	Football SA Appointed
Assistant Referees	Club appointed Assistant Referees
Interchange	Maximum 5 Players
Ball Size	4
Results	Yes

### COMPETITION RULES

Under 12 Competition is played under FIFA Laws of the Game with modified rules to assist players in their development as well as refine the transition to 11 v 11 football, these include:

**Pitch Markings:** All pitch markings as required for a full-size pitch, including the penalty area, are required for all Under 12 matches.

Pitch markings can be marked with paint, or flat markers. Painted lines must be a different colour to any existing line markings used for the full-size pitch.



**Offside:** The offside rule will be included in the Under 12 Competition as it is an integral rule to the game of football. The 9 v 9 format will assist players to understand and learn the rule as there is less space between the halfway line and the opposition goals.

**Goal kick:** Goal kicks can be taken from anywhere within the penalty area. Opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.



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## COMPETITION RULES

**Throw ins:** When taking a throw-in, the player is to face the field of play, have part of each foot on the ground either on or behind the touch line, use both hands and delivers the ball from behind and over their head. The thrower must not touch the ball again until it has been touched by another player. The ball is in play once it enters the field of play. A goal cannot be scored from a throw-in.

**Corner kicks:** 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.

**Discipline:** Red or Yellow cards will be issued to players in Under 12 Competitions. Red and yellow cards will be issued in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Sanctions will be issued in accordance with the Football SA Table of Offences.

## LEAGUE STRUCTURES

All JPL and JSL Divisions shall be formulated by Football SA on an annual basis following receipt of team nominations. In addition to clubs nominating teams, Football SA Development Squads may also be included in the competition structure at the discretion of Football SA.

The number of teams placed into any one league will be at the discretion of Football SA. Where possible, no less than 7 teams and no more than 12 teams will be placed into any one league.

The promotion and relegation of teams from season to season will be at the discretion of Football SA. Where possible, 2 teams will be promoted, and 2 teams will be relegated.

Teams that nominate for the JSL will be accommodated where possible in a JSL division. If there are an insufficient number of teams to conduct a viable JSL division, the nominated JSL teams will be placed in the lowest JPL division.

The formulation of all JPL and JSL divisions is at the discretion of the Football SA.

Football SA will continue to implement a grading process in the Under 12 JPL and JSL in 2021.

## MATCH OFFICIALS

Where possible, Football SA will continue to appoint match officials to Under 12 matches. Similar to the concept of the players learning the game through small sided football, Football SA will also be utilising the Under 12 League to introduce and develop new referees to the game.

Clubs will be required to supply a club Assistant Referee for all games.

## COACH ACCREDITATION

All coaches must have a minimum of a Skill Training Certificate. It is recommended that each Head Coach of an Under 12 Team has an AFC C Youth Coaching Accreditation.

## MATCH RESULTS

The recording of match results will be conducted in all Under 12 competitions. Points tables will be used and results published.

## OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS

Other than the rules specified in this document, all other rules will be in accordance to the FIFA Laws of the Game and the Football SA Rules and Regulations.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on coaching and player development contact Football SA Technical Department. For information on competitions contact Football SA Competitions Department.