



YOUTH PROGRAMS

PRESENTED BY:  Statoil

Houston Dynamo 8v8 Champions League Rules

The HDCL is designed to be a “player first” environment that protects players from unrealistic demands and challenges, that places players into developmentally appropriate competitive environments, that will encourage and reward skillful players, and that will condition players to play the game with the level of technical quality, tactical problem solving, and psychological drive that define the “Dynamo Way.”

Rosters and Registration

- Rosters are limited to 15 players. Coaches may bring any 15 age appropriate players to a match (it does not need to be the same 15 each week) but each team will only be allowed a roster of 15 at each match.
- Eligible age groups:
 - U12: August 1, 2000 to July 31, 2001
 - U11: August 1, 2001 to July 31, 2002
 - U10: August 1, 2002 to July 31, 2003
- “Playing up” as individuals or as teams is not allowed unless approved by Dynamo Staff.
- Players are not allowed to play two games in one night without Dynamo Staff approval.

Laws of the Game

1. (Field) 60 yards x 50 yards Lined appropriately.
2. (Ball) Size 4
3. (Number of Players) Games are 7 + GK vs. 7 + GK.
 - a. Substitutions
 - i. Allowed at any stoppage.
 - ii. Each team is allowed a maximum of 7 substitutions per half.
4. (Player equipment) According to FIFA
5. Referees will be provided.
6. Linesman will not be provided.
7. (Duration of the match) 25 minute half with a 7 minute half time.
8. (Start and Restart of Play) According to FIFA
9. (Ball in and out of Play) According to FIFA
10. (Method of Scoring) According to FIFA
11. (Offside). Each field will be divided into thirds. This “restraining line” acts as an offside line: Attacking players cannot be positioned in front of the ball and behind this line at the time that the ball is played to them. Offenses result in a direct free kick.
12. (Fouls and misconduct) According to FIFA with exceptions:
 - a. The “no punt rule” (see below).
 - b. The 6 second rule: All restarts must be taken within 6 seconds of the player/ team gaining possession. Infractions result in a direct free kick.
 - c. Offenses that warrant a yellow card will result in the offending player being suspended for the half of play in which he acts inappropriately.
 - d. Offenses that warrant a red card will result in the offending team forfeiting the remainder of the current match.
- e. Dynamo Staff retain the right to over-rule or act in spite of referee decisions on misconduct when it is appropriate and necessary.
13. (Free Kicks) According to FIFA with three exceptions:
 - a. All free kicks are direct free kicks
 - b. Opponents must be at least 5 yards away from every restart
 - c. Goalkeeper distribution
 - i. A goalkeeper may not punt the ball from his defensive half into the attacking half without the ball first
 1. bouncing in the defensive half before crossing the midfield line
 2. being touched by a player on either team before it crosses the midfield line.
 - ii. Punts that fail to meet this standard will result in a direct free kick for the opposition from the midfield line
 - iii. The GK may play the ball from his defensive half directly into the attacking half if he throws the ball, rolls the ball, or he heads, punches, or otherwise deflects the ball, or if he puts the ball down on the ground and passes it with his feet,.
14. (Penalties) According to FIFA
15. (Throw-in) According to FIFA.
16. (Goal kicks) According to FIFA
17. (Corners) According to FIFA