

## **SUPPLEMENTAL RULES FOR THE DEVELOPMENTAL SOCCER LEAGUE (GRADE 1 & 2) PRIMARY SOCCER LEAGUE (GRADES 3 & 4) ELEMENTARY SOCCER LEAGUE (GRADES 5 & 6)**

### **HEADERS**

Players in Grade 6 and below shall not engage in heading, either in practices or in games. When a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. Any player suspected of suffering a head injury must be substituted for evaluation.

### **SLIDE TACKLES**

Slide tackling will be prohibited during all practices and games. Slide tackle will be immediately whistled as a foul, and for these specific age groups, result in an indirect free kick. Continuous slide tackling will result in a yellow or red card, respectively. Coach should instruct their players that slide tackling is dangerous and not allowed.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL RULES FOR THE INTERMEDIATE SOCCER LEAGUE (GRADES 7 & 8)**

### **HEADERS**

Limited heading in practice for players in Grades 7 & 8. More specifically, these players shall be limited to no more than 15-20 headers per player, per week. Any player suspected of suffering a head injury must be substituted for evaluation. There are no heading restrictions in games.

### **SLIDE TACKLES**

Slide tackles from behind should be actively discouraged by coaches for all players regardless of age group. Referees officiating all games are instructed to issue a yellow card to players attempting slide tackles from behind (regardless of whether the player attempting the slide tackle "gets the ball first"). Please keep in mind that such tackles from behind may also result in an immediate red card, depending on the degree of recklessness and seriousness of the foul. While slide tackles from the side/front are permitted, referees are nonetheless instructed to consider the safety of the players first. Therefore, even a successful slide tackle that includes excessive physical or reckless contact shall merit either a yellow or red card. 'Getting the ball first' does not equate to a successful slide tackle.