



**Special Olympics**

Be a fan™

**2012 Rule Change Summary  
Football (Soccer)**

Change From	Change To
<p><b>SECTION C – RULES OF COMPETITION</b> <b>1. 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>a. The Field of Play: 4) The goal area shall be 8 meters by 12 meters.</p>	<p><b>SECTION C – RULES OF COMPETITION</b> <b>1. 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>a. The Field of Play 4) The goal area shall be 8 meters by 12 meters. The penalty mark must be at 7 meters for goal size of 4 meters x 2 meters. The penalty mark must be at 6 meters for goal size of 3 meters x 2 meters.</p>
<p><b>SECTION C – RULES OF COMPETITION</b> <b>1. 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>h. Start of play 1) A ball must be kicked forward from the center spot before being touched by another player.</p>	<p><b>SECTION C – RULES OF COMPETITION</b> <b>1. 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>h. Start of play 1) A ball must be kicked forward from the center spot before being touched by another player. A goal can be scored directly from a kickoff.</p>
<p><b>SECTION C—RULES OF COMPETITION</b> <b>1. 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>t. Overtime/ Penalty kick 1) In regular play, ties are considered final 2) In tournament play, overtime periods shall be five minutes each. 3) If the game is still tied after the overtime periods, penalty kicks shall be used to decide the game. a) Five players are selected from</p>	<p><b>SECTION C—RULES OF COMPETITION</b> <b>1. 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>t. Overtime/ Penalty kick 1) In regular play, ties are considered final 2) In tournament play, overtime periods shall be five minutes each. 3) If the game is still tied after the overtime periods, penalty kicks shall be used to decide the game. a) The <b>referee chooses the goal</b> at which the kicks will be taken</p>

each team  
b) each player takes a penalty kick, alternating teams with each shot  
c) the highest score after five penalty kicks is declared the winner  
d) after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order using the same five players in the same order until remainder of the teams players (including goal keepers) until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks.

- b) The **referee tosses** a coin and the team whose captain wins the toss decides whether to take the first or the second kick
- c) Each team is responsible for **selecting 5 players from those on the field of play at the end of the match and the order in which they will take the kicks.**
- d) **The highest score after five penalty kicks is declared the winner.** The referee keeps a record of the kicks being taken.
- e) Subject to the conditions explained below, **both teams take five kicks**
- f) The **kicks are taken alternately** by the teams
- g) If, before teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete five kicks, no more kicks are taken
- h) If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, **kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more** than the other from the same number of kicks
- i) **A goalkeeper who is injured** while kicks are being taken from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as a goalkeeper **may be replaced** by a named substitute
- j) With the exception of foregoing case, **only players who are on the field of play at the end of the match**, which includes extra time where appropriate, are eligible to take penalty kicks.
- k) **If at the end of the match one team has a greater number of players than its opponents, it must reduce its numbers to equate with that of its opponents.** The team captain must inform the referee of the name and number of the excluded player.  
The referee must ensure that an equal number of players from each team remains within the

	<p>centre circle and they shall take the kicks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>l) <b>Each kick is taken by a different player</b> and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick</li><li>m) Once all eligible players have taken a penalty kick, <b>the same sequence does not have to be followed as in the first round of kicks</b></li><li>n) An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken</li><li>o) <b>In Unified Sports penalty kicks</b>, alternate kicks by athletes and partners must be taken, with the athlete taking the first penalty kick for each team</li></ul>
--	--

**NOTE:** For full detail of Proposed Rule Changes (Accepted and Denied) please contact your Regional Sport Director. This list does not indicate those proposed changes that were not adopted by the Sports Rules Advisory Committee in 2012.

Change From	Change To
<p><b>SECTION C – RULES OF COMPETITION</b></p> <p><b>2. 7-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>t. Overtime/ Penalty kick</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) In regular play, ties are considered final</li> <li>2) In tournament play, overtime periods shall be five minutes each.</li> <li>3) If the game is still tied after the overtime periods, penalty kicks shall be used to decide the game. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Five players are selected from each team</li> <li>b) each player takes a penalty kick, alternating teams with each shot</li> <li>c) the highest score after five penalty kicks is declared the winner</li> <li>d) after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order using the same five players in the same order until remainder of the teams players (including goal keepers) until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>SECTION C – RULES OF COMPETITION</b></p> <p><b>2. 7-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>t. Overtime/ Penalty kick</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) In regular play, ties are considered final</li> <li>2) In tournament play, overtime periods shall be five minutes each.</li> <li>3) If the game is still tied after the overtime periods, penalty kicks shall be used to decide the game. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>The referee chooses the goal</b> at which the kicks will be taken</li> <li>b) The <b>referee tosses a coin</b> and the team whose captain wins the toss decides whether to take the first or the second kick</li> <li>c) Each team is responsible for <b>selecting 5 players from those on the field of play at the end of the match and the order in which they will take the kicks</b></li> <li>d) <b>The highest score after five penalty kicks is declared the winner.</b> The referee keeps a record of the kicks being taken.</li> <li>e) Subject to the conditions explained below, <b>both teams take five kicks</b></li> <li>f) The <b>kicks are taken alternately</b> by the teams</li> <li>g) If, before teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete five kicks, no more kicks are taken</li> <li>h) If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, <b>kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more</b> than the other from the same number of kicks</li> <li>i) <b>A goalkeeper who is injured</b> while kicks are being taken from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as a goalkeeper <b>may be replaced</b> by a named substitute</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>j) With the exception of foregoing case, <b>only players who are on the field of play at the end of the match</b>, which includes extra time where appropriate, are eligible to take penalty kicks.</li> <li>k) <b>If at the end of the match one team has a greater number of players than its opponents, it must reduce its numbers to equate with that of its opponents.</b> The team captain must inform the referee of the name and number of the excluded player. The referee must ensure that an equal number of players from each team remains within the centre circle and they shall take the kicks</li> <li>l) <b>Each kick is taken by a different player</b> and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick</li> <li>m) Once all eligible players have taken a penalty kick, <b>the same sequence does not have to be followed as in the first round of kicks</b></li> <li>n) An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken</li> <li>o) <b>In Unified Sports penalty kicks</b>, alternate kicks by athletes and partners must be taken, with the athlete taking the first penalty kick for each team</li> </ul>
<p><b>SECTION C – RULES OF COMPETITION</b>  <b>3. 11-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>q. Overtime/ Penalty kick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) In regular play, ties are considered final</li> <li>2) In tournament play, overtime periods shall be seven and one-half minutes each.</li> <li>3) If the game is still tied after the overtime periods, penalty kicks shall be used to decide the game.</li> </ul>	<p><b>SECTION C – RULES OF COMPETITION</b>  <b>3. 11-A-SIDE FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>q. Overtime/ Penalty kick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) In regular play, ties are considered final</li> <li>2) In tournament play, overtime periods shall be seven and one-half minutes each.</li> <li>3) If the game is still tied after the overtime periods, penalty kicks shall be used to decide the game. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>The referee chooses the goal</b> at which the kicks will be taken</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- b) The **referee tosses a coin** and the team whose captain wins the toss decides whether to take the first or the second kick
- c) Each team is responsible for **selecting 5 players from those on the field of play at the end of the match and the order in which they will take the kicks**
- d) **The highest score after five penalty kicks is declared the winner.** The referee keeps a record of the kicks being taken.
- e) Subject to the conditions explained below, **both teams take five kicks**
- f) The **kicks are taken alternately** by the teams
- g) If, before teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete five kicks, no more kicks are taken
- h) If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, **kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more** than the other from the same number of kicks
- i) **A goalkeeper who is injured** while kicks are being taken from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as a goalkeeper **may be replaced by a named substitute provided his team has not used the maximum number of substitutes permitted under the competition rules**
- j) With the exception of foregoing case, **only players who are on the field of play at the end of the match**, which includes extra time where appropriate, are eligible to take penalty kicks.
- k) **If at the end of the match one team has a greater number of players than its opponents, it must reduce its numbers to equate with that of its opponents.** The team captain must inform the referee of the

	<p>name and number of the excluded player. The referee must ensure that an equal number of players from each team remains within the centre circle and they shall take the kicks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>l) <b>Each kick is taken by a different player</b> and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick</li><li>m) Once all eligible players have taken a penalty kick, <b>the same sequence does not have to be followed as in the first round of kicks</b></li><li>n) An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken</li><li>o) <b>In Unified Sports penalty kicks</b>, alternate kicks by athletes and partners must be taken, with the athlete taking the first penalty kick for each team</li></ul>
--	--