Lake Mills Area School Recreation Department 2-3 (U8) Division - 4V4 Soccer Rules/Regulations

The Youth Soccer League, 2-3 (U8) Division, of the Lake Mills School Recreation Program is offered to provide young participants an opportunity to work extensively on basic soccer skills. The program objectives include participation, learning fundamentals, sportsmanship and most of all having fun rather than winning or losing. Participation in this program will reinforce and promote positive social skills, self-esteem and confidence. Leadership qualities will also be fostered. Players gaining experience at many positions are an important aspect of the program. The safety and enjoyment of the young participants is of the foremost concern.

Coaches, parents and players can help by promoting the following principles through both example and instruction:

- 1. Show Respect-Everyone is important.
- 2. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- 3. Speak for yourself. Not for anyone else.
- 4. Avoid put-downs. Who needs them?
- 5. Take charge of yourself. You are responsible for you.
- 6. Do not use profanity.
- 7. Applaud good plays made by both teams.
- 8. Honesty is still a virtue.
- 9. If you are unsatisfied with something, work to change it. Criticism seldom fixes anything.
- 10. Officials are hired to control a game, and to work with the coaches and players on the aspects of competition.
- 11. After the game, win or lose, always congratulate your opponent. Without him/her there would be no game.

The Youth Soccer Program, 2-3 (U8) Division, believes players; parents and coaches must take responsibility for their actions. To ensure the physical and emotional well being of the participants, consequences are part of a positive approach using the following guidelines.

- 1. Verbal Warning(s) to the player.
- 2. Verbal Warning(s) and inform parents
- 3. Parent attends entire practice/game with child.
- 4. Dismissal from the program.

SOCCER COMPETITION GUIDELINES

<u>Equipment:</u> All players must wear shin guards. Athletic shoes or soccer cleats must be worn. No football cleats will be allowed. No Earrings will be allowed.

<u>Object of the Game</u>: A team must move the ball down the field and through the opposing goal using their ballhandling, kicking, and passing skills, without using their hands. Players need to pass the ball while on their feet. No kicking the ball while lying on the ground. No slide tackling.

<u>The Field of Play</u>: A small rectangular box marked in front of the goal indicates the goal area. The side and end lines of the soccer field are a part of the field. A ball is not out of bounds until it has carried completely across the end of sidelines. On the other hand, if a ball flies outside the end of sideline and curves back in, it is considered out of bounds.

<u>Prior to the game</u>: Coaches will be asked to place 4 players on the field and report to the center circle. **The Home team will be chosen by the Referee**. The four-man team will move up and down the field in a diamond pattern. There is no goalie, so all players may move the entire length of the field.

<u>To Begin Play</u>: The official will place the ball on the centerline in the middle of the center circle. The official will then blow the whistle, signaling the beginning of play. At that time the center player that has possession of the ball may then kick the ball to any team mate (forward or sideways) to move the ball down the field.

<u>Time-outs</u>: Automatic substitution time outs will be called on the first stop of play following the halfway mark of each quarter. At that time all players on the sidelines may be substituted into the game. This needs to be done in a quick and orderly fashion to stay with the schedule of the day. Any time a coach or official deems necessary

an injury time-out will be called, which will be an automatic stoppage of play. If needed a team may sub at any time stoppage during the game.

<u>Length of Game</u>: Each game will consist of four quarters consisting of 12 minutes each. Possession will change at the beginning of each quarter, and teams will switch sides after the completion of the first half.

Substitutions: Substitutions of players will be every 6 minutes of each quarter. This will be called by the ref.

<u>Method of Scoring</u>: A goal is scored when the ball passes completely over the goal line. A player may score from anywhere on the field as long as both feet are in bounds at the time the shot is taken. Please remember that the officials and the Recreation Department do not keep score in U8 Division, and that win/loss records are also not kept.

Out of Bounds: The ball is out of bounds when it crosses over the goal line or sideline.

<u>Kick-in</u>: When the ball has crossed the sideline, it is put back into play by a kick-in from the opposite team that last touched it. The kick-in is taken from the point the ball went out of bounds, marked by the official. Please remember it is not the complete responsibility of the official to retrieve a ball that has been kicked out of bounds. A player from either team closest to the ball may retrieve it, and return it to the player kicking it in or the official. The clock will not stop for a Kick- in, and we ask that coaches assist in making this a swift transition.

<u>Goal kick</u>: When the ball has crossed the goal line after being last touched by an attacking player, it is put back into play by a kick from the goal area by the defending team. Any member of the defending team may inbound from anywhere within the goal area. All players are asked to be placed outside of the penalty area before the ball may be inbound on a goal kick.

<u>Corner Kick</u>: When the ball has crossed the goal line after last being touched by a defensive player, it is put back into play with a corner kick from the corner closest to the point the ball went out of bounds. The attacking team takes this corner kick. The player must pass the ball to another player to score a goal. If another player does not touch the ball and the ball goes into the goal, the goal will not count.

<u>Fouls</u>: Tripping an opponent Holding an opponent Pushing an opponent Illegal use of the hands-hand ball Kicking an opponent Slide Tackling

<u>Free Kick</u>: All fouls will result in an indirect free kick with the opponents 3 yards away. On an indirect free kick another player must touch the ball before a goal may be allowed.

<u>Penalty Kick</u>: No Penalty kicks are to be taken during the game. Any foul which would have resulted in a penalty kick will be taken as an indirect kick from the spot of the foul.

<u>Offside</u>: There shall be no offside called during these games.

<u>Goalie</u>: There will be no goalie during these games. Player must stay outside the marked goal area. The 4V4 game should be played with 4 players moving the ball and no goalie. On defense a defender may be used.