

# New Jersey Youth Soccer Americas Festival

## Rules of Play

The **Americas Festival** is a celebration of the recreation level player. It represents an opportunity for these players and teams from various NJYS recreation programs to come together in a festival atmosphere for a day of fun and soccer. The America's Festival is organized for players under the age of ten.

You can bring either your team or a group of players from your club. They don't have to be an existing team. Are you scheduled to play a scheduled game in your recreation program on the day of the Festival? Well, bring both teams, let us know and we'll schedule you to play each other.

The teams will play two small sided games on a small sided field in a non competitive environment; one game in the morning and one game in the afternoon. NJYS will email a schedule to each team contact just before the event. The object of the day is to have fun while enjoying a new level of play. No prizes or trophies are given for winning.

The entry fee for the Americas Festival is \$20.00 per team. Each team will receive a soccer ball and goodie bag. Each player will receive an America's Festival tee shirt to recognize their participation in the Festival. During the lunch break, NJYS will provide each player with lunch, a hot dog and drink.

During the day, there will be prize drawings for the players. Other activities, such as clinics and games, will be scheduled for the players. There will be mini clinics for coaches and parents and the opportunity to obtain more information on the game of soccer.

There are a few simple guidelines for the games

1. There will be no coaching on the field; players and Refs only ones allowed on field
2. Every child will play at least 50% of the game unless they don't want to play that much
3. Have Fun
4. Respect the referees. The objective is to have fun; the referees have a lot of latitude to keep the game moving and the kids having fun

### **5 and 6 year olds and younger**

- Team will play 5 V 5 and no keeper; **roster size:** 8 players; **field size:** 35 x 50 yards
- No offside
- Ball put back in play via any method: i.e. throw in, kick in, roll in, drop in, by the "players" on the field only, unless it is a goal, then it is the traditional restart. **(No coaches, parents or anyone else on the outside of the playing field allowed to put the ball back into play)**

### **7 and 8 year olds**

- Team will play 6 V 6 including a keeper; **roster size:** 10 players; **field size:** 40 x 60 yards
- Offside at the top of the penalty area, not half way line
- Throw or kick back into play via "players" on the field only unless it is a goal, then the traditional restart is used

### **9 and 10 year olds**

- Team will play 8 V 8 including a keeper; **roster size:** 12; **field size:** 50 x 80 yards
- Normal game rules apply; throw-ins with do-over