

Ottawa Recreation Commission
Tiny Tot Soccer – 4 vs 4 “New Ball Method”

Player Eligibility/Roster

1. Tiny Tot Soccer is an instructional league designed to introduce children to the game of soccer.
2. Players must be 3 or 4 years old ONLY by the age cut-off date set by Ottawa Recreation Commission. 5 year olds will not be allowed to participate in Tiny Tot Soccer.

By-Laws of the Game

3. FIFA laws of the game will be used.
4. Players must have a team shirt to play. All jewelry must to be removed for safety. Earrings must be removed prior to the contest. NO EXCEPTIONS!
5. Game Play
 - a. Each team will have half of the field for 45 minutes. The first 20 minutes, each team will practice followed by two teams scrimmaging for the final 25 minutes.
 - b. There are no quarters or halftime.
 - c. Games will take place on a designated soccer field.
6. The game will start with a coin flip to determine who gets the ball first.
7. Maximum number of players on the field for each team will be 4, minimum of 2.
8. All players must play half of the time.
9. A size 3 ball will be used.
10. All players must wear shin guards and they must be covered with socks.
11. No metal cleats will be allowed! Baseball cleats can only be used if the toe cleat is smoothed down or removed.
12. **There are NO GOAL KEEPERS ALLOWED in Tiny Tot soccer!**

New Ball Method

13. Whenever a ball goes OUT OF PLAY or a GOAL IS SCORED, a coach announces "New Ball!" and rolls another ball into play.
 - a. NO KICK OFFS after a Goal!
 - b. NO KICK-INS!
 - c. NO GOAL KICKS!
 - d. NO CORNER KICKS!
14. There is no referee. The coaches are responsible for controlling the game
15. Substitutions are done "on the fly" like hockey. When a player gets tired or the coach wants to make a substitution, the player runs off the field and a new player runs on. No stoppage.

Tips for Success

16. Several balls are required for this method. Use a regular "kick-off" to start each half.
17. The two coaches assign themselves each to half of the field and carry one or two balls in their arms.
18. If the ball goes slightly out of play, but the player dribbles the ball back in, that's ok - let them play on!
19. The 'new ball' should be rolled to neutral space or toward the disadvantaged team.
20. Coaches control the pace of the game. You may need to pause for a few seconds before distributing a new ball, especially after a goal. Give the players several seconds to re-set and rest after a goal. Roll the new ball in near the center of the field toward the team that was scored against.
21. DO NOT bounce the 'new ball' as it is difficult for these players to judge a bouncing ball at this age
22. Favor the team on the wrong end of a one sided game
23. Favor individual players who are not becoming involved in the game
24. Have parents retrieve lost balls and return them to the coach who just rolled the new ball in so he/she now has 2 balls once more!

Conduct

25. Coaches and spectators who conduct themselves in an unsportsmanlike manner will result in a yellow card for their team. If a second yellow card is received, he or she will be ejected from the facility immediately and face possible suspension from the program.
26. Any player who receives a yellow card will be required to sit out for two minutes before returning to the game.
27. As a coach, you are responsible for your team's crowd and their actions. If a problem occurs in your team's crowd, you will be given a warning to take care of the situation. If the problem persists, the coach will once again be notified and the referee will issue a technical foul against the offending crowd's team. Further problems will result in forfeit of the game and possible suspensions of team, coaches or fans.

Miscellaneous

28. The program supervisor will make final determination on any rules or interpretation that may arise throughout the season.