



## Small-sided Games Initiative for Under 12 Age Group 8 vs 8 Play for Spring 2008 CDYSL Season

### Background and Current Status:

- CDYSL will offer both 8v8 and 11v11 play for U12 next year. The 8v8 play will be done as a one year trial, but based on USYS, Region1, and ENY initiatives, we expect it to continue, perhaps replacing 11v11 play.
- Multiple U12 8V8 divisions have been created for both boys and girls for the Spring 2008 League Season
- CDYSL will consider offering 8v8 U12 play for the Fall league, if there is demand.

### State Cup:

- Eastern New York has agreed to offer 8v8 U12 State Cup play (open cup) for 2008, with the winners advancing to the Region 1 tournament. 11v11 U12 State Cup play will also continue. Teams will enter either one or the other, not both.
- The open cup competition will run in the spring, most likely finishing with the finals on the first weekend in June along with the other Open Cup finals.
- There may be one other league in the state that will also field teams in 8v8 State Cup play, but based on our sense of the situation, it may be that only CDYSL teams will enter 8v8 U12 State Cup play.

### Rostering:

- Many clubs requested an expanded roster size over the USYS recommendation of 13 players.
- Those teams that enter **8v8 State Cup are limited to a roster size of 14**, the Region 1 limit.
- *CDYSL will permit roster sizes of 16 for league play.*
- CDYSL recommends that clubs set a roster size of 13 or 14, maximizing play time for all players.
- **Note that teams entered in State Cup cannot have a roster size larger than 14, but could expand to the size of 16 for CDYSL league play, once their State Cup/Region 1 competition is over.**
- Roster Minimum: 11

### Core Rules of the Small-Sided U12 Game:

- Play is 8v8, including GK; Ball Size: 4
- All standard CDYSL/FIFA rules of play apply
- Fields are recommended to be 75+/- 5 yds by 50+/- 5 yds, according to USYS and Region 1 rules. However, for this trial, we suggest that clubs use the same fields that U10 teams use or modify full-size fields in a manner that makes lining simple (this latter option is preferred – perhaps play between the 18's)
- For the 1 year trial, CDYSL will permit clubs to use whatever goal sizes work best for their fields. USYS recommends 6x18. CDYSL recommends using the same goals as for U10 (probably 7x21), but will permit full size goals if necessary. Note that teams that host State Cup games may be bound to an explicit size, once the ENY rules for 8v8 U12 State Cup play come out.
- Region 1 Cup competition rules (containing the U12 8v8 rules) are online:  
<http://www.region1.com/NatlChamp/Rules.pdf>

### Related U11 issues:

- ENY will still offer a U11 State Cup competition that is 9v9. U11 CDYSL teams will have to make a choice of which league play and which State Cup competition to enter, following the respective rules based on that choice. This apparent inconsistency exists because both CDYSL and ENY are looking at the 8v8 State Cup competition next year as a trial. CDYSL would not expect to offer U11 league play. U11 teams would play in U12 divisions as has been the case in the past.