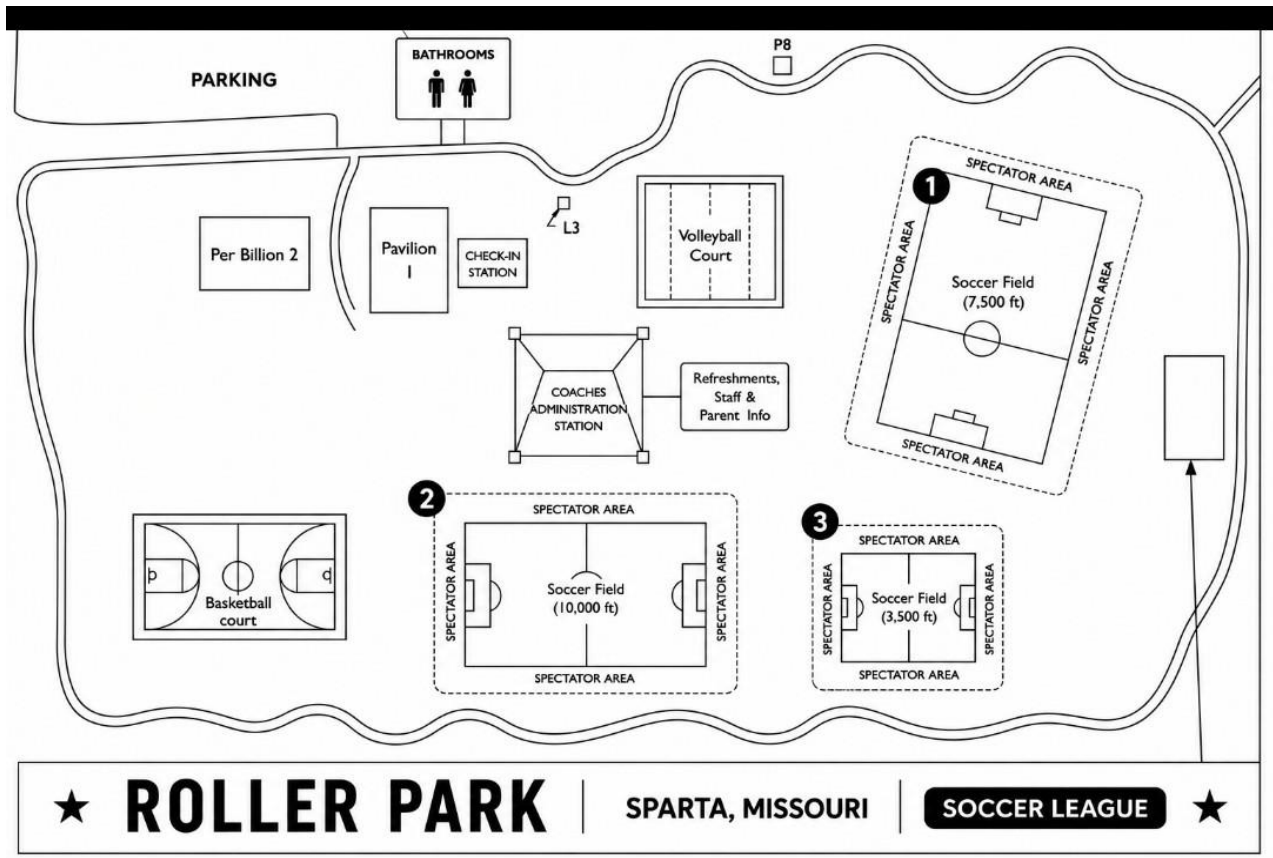




LocalRek Youth Soccer — Game Rules

• Pre-K & Kindergarten

Format: 3v3 - clinic style

Goalkeeper: No

Game: Four x2- 15-minute halves

Halftime: Approximately 5 minutes

Substitutions: Unlimited

Offside: Not enforced

Throw-ins: Players may receive a second attempt after instruction

Heading: Not permitted

Slide tackling: Not permitted

Penalty kicks: No

Standings/scores: Development-focused; no emphasis on standings

Coaches/referees should teach and explain rules rather than heavily penalize mistakes.

• 1st & 2nd Grade

Format: 4v4 or 5v5

Goalkeeper: Yes

Game: 2x –20 min halves

Halftime: Approximately 5 minutes

Substitutions: Unlimited

Offside: Generally not enforced; obvious goal-hanging may be corrected

Throw-ins: One instructional retry may be allowed

Heading: Not permitted

Slide tackling: Not permitted

Penalty kicks: May be used for appropriate fouls in the penalty area

Emphasis remains on participation, learning positions, passing, and sportsmanship.

• 3rd Grade

Format: 5v5

Goalkeeper: Yes

Game: 2x- 30-min halves

Halftime: 5 minutes

Substitutions: Unlimited

Offside: Enforced

Throw-ins: Standard throw-in rules

Heading: Not permitted

Slide tackling: Not permitted

Free kicks: Direct/indirect kicks as appropriate

Penalty kicks: Enforced when applicable

- **4th & 5th Grade**

Format: 5v5 or 6v6

Goalkeeper: Yes

Game: 2x – 30 min halves

Halftime: 5 minutes

Substitutions: Unlimited

Offside: Enforced

Throw-ins: Standard rules

Heading: Not permitted

Slide tackling: Not permitted

Free kicks & penalty kicks: Standard youth rules

Referees have final authority over game decisions.

❖ Rules applying to ALL LocalRek divisions

Playing time: Recreation soccer should provide every player with meaningful playing time.

Coaches should make a reasonable effort toward equal participation.

Sportsmanship: Coaches, players, and spectators must demonstrate good sportsmanship.

Harassment or abusive behavior toward officials, players, or coaches isn't permitted.

Jewelry: No jewelry during games. Medical/religious exceptions should be handled safely.

Equipment: Shin guards are required and must be completely covered by socks. Soccer cleats or appropriate athletic shoes may be worn; no baseball/football cleats with unsafe toe cleats.

Ball out of play: The entire ball must cross the entire touchline or goal line.

Kickoffs: Opposing players must provide appropriate space. A goal may not be scored directly from kickoff in the youngest divisions.

Goal kicks/corner kicks: Used according to the age division, with additional instruction permitted for younger players.

No heading: Deliberate heading isn't allowed in LocalRek's Pre-K–5th-grade program.

No slide tackling: Slide tackles aren't permitted at any age level.

Dangerous play: Kicking near another player's head, pushing, tripping, reckless contact, or other dangerous play can result in a free kick and/or removal from play.

Coach location: Coaches remain in their designated team area unless assisting an injured player or permitted by the referee.

Spectators: Parents and spectators stay in designated spectator areas and may not stand behind goals when prohibited by field setup.

Officials: *The referee's decision on the field is final. Coaches should address concerns calmly through LocalRek administration rather than arguing with officials.*

Weather: LocalRek administration may delay, shorten, reschedule, or cancel games because of lightning, severe weather, unsafe field conditions, or excessive heat.

Fun and development: The primary purpose of the league is to teach soccer, teamwork, sportsmanship, and provide a positive experience for every child.

L

LocalRek Sports & Community Complex — Sparta, Missouri
Youth Recreation Soccer • Pre-K through 5th Grade