

# Characteristics of Each Age Group

<u>Age</u>	<u>Characteristics</u>	<u>Role of the Referee</u>
Passers (8U)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Age of innocence</li> <li>* Fouls accidental</li> <li>* Frequently ask at game's end, "Did we win?"</li> <li>* Limited attention span</li> <li>* Need constant movement</li> </ul>	<p><b>PATIENCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Safety</li> <li>* Briefly explain calls</li> <li>* Teacher 70%</li> <li>* Referee 30%</li> </ul>
Wings (10U)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Still obedient to decision of Referee and coach</li> <li>* Openly, intensively competitive</li> <li>* Fouls <u>usually</u> accidental</li> <li>* Parents becoming aware of laws</li> <li>* Games can move quickly</li> <li>* Because of unpredictability, this a difficult level to referee</li> </ul>	<p><b>SAFETY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Patience</li> <li>* Still briefly explain calls</li> <li>* Teacher 50%</li> <li>* Referee 50%</li> </ul>
Strikers (12U)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Occasional dissent</li> <li>* Size and strength of players</li> <li>Frequently out-distance skills</li> <li>* <u>Very</u> competitive</li> <li>* Fouls <u>rarely</u> deliberate, but are caused by lack of skill</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Teacher 30%</li> <li>* Referee 70%</li> </ul>
Kickers (14U)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Usually better-balanced physically and mentally than other groups</li> <li>* Can be intolerant of teammates'</li> <li>* Occasional dissent with ref's calls</li> <li>* High degree of team loyalty, and cooperation can emerge</li> <li>* Can be independent and head-strong</li> <li>* Fouls <u>occasionally</u> are retaliatory</li> <li>* Fewer (and quieter) parents at games</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Be wary and in control</li> <li>* Players see through ref's lack of expertise or lack of skill and refs "ego trip"</li> <li>* Teacher 10%</li> <li>* Referee 90%</li> </ul>