

The Optus Small-Sided Football Formats for the season commencing 2010 and beyond are summarised in the following table with key explanations below.

Playing Format	Under 6 & 7	Under 8 & 9
Numbers	4 v 4	7 v 7
Field Size	Length: 30m Width: 20m	¼ Full Size Pitch Length: 40m - 50m Width: 30m - 40m
Field Markings	Markers or line markings	Markers or line markings
Penalty Area	Nil	5m depth x 12m width
Goal Size	Width: 1.5m – 2.0m Height: 0.9m x 1.0m	Width: 2.5m - 3.0m Height: 1.8m - 2.0m
Goal Type	Goals, Poles or Markers	Goals, Poles or Markers
Ball Size	Size 3	Size 3
Goalkeeper	No	Yes
Playing Time	2 x 15 minutes	2 x 20 minutes
Half Time Break	5 minutes	5 minutes
Referee	Game Leader	Instructing Referee
Point's Table & Finals	No	No

Explanations of key changes are highlighted below;

Age Groups

The Under 7 age group have changed to play the 4 v 4 format. The Under 8 age group have changed to play the 7 v 7 format.

Goal Size & Penalty area

For the Under 8 and 9 age groups, it is recommended that clubs that wish to and have the capacity to do so use 3m x 2m goals. Should a club not be able to do this, the 5m x 2m goal is most acceptable for use on fields for the Under 8 & 9 age groups. The penalty area has slightly decreased in size and is a standard size of 5m depth x 12m width regardless of goal size. FFA understands that clubs may have existing goals however when they need to replace existing goals or are in a position to make a change they should use these dimensions.