



RoboCupJunior Soccer Rules 2025

Soccer League Committee 2025:

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| Jakub Gál | Slovakia |
| Mohammad Hadi Shirani | Iran |
| David Schwarz | Germany |
| William Plummer | Australia (CHAIR) |
| Isa El Doori | Netherlands |

Soccer League Committee 2024:

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| Michael Ambrose | USA |
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| Ivan Kolarić | Croatia |
| David Schwarz | Germany |
| William Plummer | Australia (CHAIR) |
| Adrián Matejov | Slovakia |

1 Dimensions of the field

- 1.0.1 The playing field is 158 cm by 219 cm. The field is marked by a white line which is part of the playing field. Around the playing field, beyond the white line, there is an outer area of 12 cm in width.
- 1.0.2 The floor near the exterior wall includes a wedge, which is an incline with a 10 cm base and 2 +/- 1 cm rise for allowing the ball to roll back into play when it leaves the playing field. Note that the goal should not contain the wedge.
- 1.0.3 Total dimensions of the field, including the outer area, are 182 cm by 243 cm.

2 Walls

- 2.0.1 Walls are placed all around the field, including behind the goals and the out-area. The height of the walls is 22 cm. The walls are painted matte black.

3 Goals

- 3.0.1 The field has two goals, centered on each of the shorter sides of the playing field. The goal inner space is 60 cm wide, 10 cm high and 74 mm deep, box shaped.
- 3.0.2 The goal "posts" are positioned over the white line marking the limits of the field.
- 3.0.3 The interior walls and of each goal are colored matte, one goal yellow and the other goal blue. It is recommended that the blue be of a brighter shade so that it is different enough from the black exterior.

4 Floor

- 4.0.1 The floor consists of green carpet ideally of darker shade on top of a hard level surface. Teams should be prepared to adjust to different levels of contrast between the green carpet and lines as some events may be restricted to using lighter shades of green. All lines on the field should be painted, marked with tape, or installed as white carpet and be somewhat resistant to tearing or ripping. Lines should have a width of 20mm ($\pm 10\%$).

- 4.0.2 It is impractical to set international constraints on carpet other than it being green. In the spirit of the competition, teams should design robots to be tolerant or adaptable to different fibers, textures, construction, density, shades, and designs of carpet especially when competing amongst different regions. Teams are encouraged to visit regional resources or reach out to Local Organization Committee for suggestions if desiring to build their own practice field(s).

5 Neutral spots

- 5.0.1 There are five neutral spots defined in the field. One is in the center of the field. The other four are adjacent to each corner, located 45 cm along the long edge of the field. They align with the sides of the penalty areas. The neutral spots can be drawn with a thin black marker. The neutral spots ought to be of circular shape measuring 1 cm in diameter.

6 Center circle

- 6.0.1 A center circle will be drawn on the field. It is 60 cm in diameter. It is a thin black marker line. It is there as guidance during kick-off.

7 Penalty areas

- 7.0.1 In front of each goal there is a 25 cm wide and 80 cm long penalty area with rounded front corners (15cm radius).
- 7.0.2 The penalty areas are marked by a white line of 20 mm ($\pm 10\%$) width. The line is part of the area.

8 Lighting and Magnetic Conditions

- 8.0.1 The tournament organizers will do their best to limit the amount of external lightning and magnetic interference. However, the robots need to be constructed in a way which allows them to work in conditions that are not perfect (i.e. by not relying on compass sensors or specific lightning conditions).

Diagram of a soccer field layout for a 4v4 game. The field is green with white lines for the center circle, center spot, and two goal areas. The top and bottom edges are labeled "Wedge". The left and right edges are divided into "Wedge" (outer) and "No Wedge" (inner) sections. Four black dots are placed on the field: one in the center circle, one in the top half of the left goal area, one in the top half of the right goal area, and one in the bottom half of the left goal area.

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9 Field CAD models

- 9.0.1 There are STEP and IGES files available that contain a model of the fields. These are *not authoritative* and exist mostly for illustration purposes.¹

10 Notes on building soccer fields

- 10.0.1 There is **no standard design** for fields - some notes from experience are collected below. If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask on the usual channels (Discord, Forum, Email, all listed in the main rules)

10.1 Getting your first field - starting small

- 10.1.1 If you are a team, school etc. just getting started with RoboCupJunior Soccer you can start with something much simpler and cheaper than a competition-grade field: Get yourself some green carpet and some white tape for the lines and make a basic field you can put on the ground. The next upgrade could be some walls (maybe you have some cardboard or scrap wood that you can spray paint black and put up in a square shape). If you grow out of that it might be time to build actual full fields. There are designs that can be stowed relatively easily (by folding in half or being taken apart into quarters), more on that below.

10.2 Converting existing equipment (esp. for Entry Leagues)

- 10.2.1 If you are considering starting in one of the Entry Leagues and you or your school have existing fields of any kind (e.g. First Lego League fields can be converted to competition-spec entry fields by just laying down carpet and installing goals. The Entry rules explicitly have a size range so that different size existing equipment can be used.

10.3 Building Competition Fields

- 10.3.1 If you are hosting a competition you are probably in one of three situations:
- You build fields that you will be using for practice and then maybe put on fresh carpet when you use them for the competition. Many local competitions that get hosted by schools that also participate work this way.
 - You are building fields that you have no immediate use for after the big competition you're involved with hosting. In that case consider building fields that are suitable (i.e. durable, transportable and storable) to be given out to local/regional competition hosts or participating schools in the region to support RoboCupJunior instead of going to waste.
 - You are using fields you already have.
- 10.3.2 It may of course also be a combination of these cases or something else entirely.

¹ they can be found at <https://github.com/robocup-junior/soccer-rules/tree/master/media/CAD>

10.4 Competition conditions

- 10.4.1 If you are hosting competitions it is worth it to make sure all carpets use the same material, all walls and goals use the same surface finish (so no matte/shiny differences between fields, no color shade differences between the goals and so on). Teams greatly appreciate this because it makes their calibration work a lot better. This also applies to having even lighting. As little natural light as possible (because it tends to change a lot) and placement of the fields in such a way that there is a similar amount of light (smartphones can measure this well) and as little shadow as possible on the fields).
- 10.4.2 If you plan to use your fields for an extended period of time avoid fiberboard (MDF etc.). Qualify plywood works really well but is expensive - so investing in that once you have worn out a cheap field may be an option. Robot impacts into walls and goals have gone down a lot with rule changes of 2022-2024 but we've had goals torn out of fields in the past. Assembling and disassembling fields (which you may have to do if you have limited space and have to store them when not in use or if you have to transport them to a location to host a regular tournament) also puts wear and tear on the fields and using locking fasteners where a thread or similar