



## Week 8 : Parts of a Game/Match

A soccer game is called a *Soccer Match*. A Soccer match has two halves. The length of the game depends on the level of play.

U9 & U10 - 25 minutes halves

U11 & U12 - 30 minutes halves

U13 & U14 - 35 minutes halves

U15 & U16 - 40 minute halves

U17 - U19 - 45 minutes halves

After the half time intermission (water brake) the teams change sides. The team that did not start the game with a kick off, will kick off for the second half.

If the weather is too hot, or the heat index becomes too high, the officials may add a mandatory stoppage of the game in the middle of each half to give the players an extra water brake.

### THE MATCH:

As a coach, I divide the match into 3 parts.

The Beginning, the main part of the match and the end of the match.

- In the beginning, I try to learn as much as possible about an opponent. How skillful and fast are the individual players? How are they defending? How are they attacking? How strong is the goalkeeper? What system do they play?
- The main part of the match is obviously filled with a lot of action.
- During the end of the match the coach may decide to make changes or modify a team's tactics and style of play, depending on the score, the age of the players and the level of the team.

It is important that players understand the coach's decisions to make changes during the match. Players should learn to read the game, and be open to being creative and tactically flexible.

Coach Jeff