

# Tournament Rules

## Official Regulations 1. Rules

The tournament will be played in accordance with applicable sections of the FIFA rules except otherwise noted in this document.

## 2. Tournament Format & Awards

U8-U19 all teams will be grouped such that every team will play a minimum 3 games. The format will be based on the number of teams in the age group and published prior to the event. The tournament committee may group teams of the adjacent ages together only if needed. (e.g. U11 with U12; U15 with U16 etc). At the conclusion of the final or championship matches, **first** (1<sup>st</sup>) place in each age group will receive individual medals, and the coach will receive a "Tournament Champion" trophy; **second** (2<sup>nd</sup>) place will receive individual medals. Awards will be presented immediately after the respective playoff game, or at the conclusion of the final game in each division. Award presentations will be held at the Tournament Headquarters.

## 3. Tournament Scoring

Teams shall be awarded points for match results as follows:

- 3 Points for each win.
- 0 Points for each loss.
- 1 Point for each tie.

Ties in BRACKET standings will be broken by employing a tiebreaker. If more than two teams are involved in the tie, once the first team is eliminated the remaining teams will start back at #1 until all ties are broken.

- 1 Head to head (if all teams played each other).
- 2 Goal Differential (Max of 6 goals)
- 3 Goals Against (Max of 6 goals)
- 4 Goals For (Max of 6 goals)
- 5 Most Shutouts
- 6 FIFA penalty kicks (site and time at the discretion of the Tournament Director). All

players from each team must be ready to participate within (5) minutes of the appointed time of else that team will forfeit its opportunity to prevail in the tiebreaker.

## 4. Age Groups

When possible the organizers will put age pure groupings together, however if it is not possible, teams may be grouped with adjacent age groups. Example: U10 with U11; U12 with U13 etc.

**U8 to U10 (7 v 7) Roster Size – Maximum of 26 players (Maximum of 18 players eligible for each game)**

**U11 and U12 (9 v 9) Roster Size – Maximum of 26 players (Maximum of 18 players eligible for each game)**

**U13 to U19 (11 v 11) Roster Size – Maximum of 26 players (Maximum of 18 players eligible for each game)**

**Headers will be allowed for U11 Brackets and older.**

## **5. Duration of Matches**

**U8-U12: Group Play, and Single Elimination 2x25 min, Final 2x25 min. Note: U9 and U10 will play with a buildout line.**

**U13-U15: Group Play, and Single Elimination 2x30 min, Final 2x30 min.**

**U16-U19: Group Play, and Single Elimination 2x35 min, Final 2x35 min.**

**NOTE:** Injury time will NOT be added to the length of the game, except under the most extenuating circumstances. This will be at the discretion of the referee. THERE WILL BE NO OVER TIME PLAY IN ANY REGULAR GAME.

**Semi Final Games** If the score is tied at the end of regulation time in the semifinal games, **kicks from the penalty spot will be taken per FIFA rules to determine the winner NO OVERTIME.**

**Championship Games:** If the score is tied at the end of regulation time in the Championship games, the teams will have a 5 min. break then start over-time play **for two periods of 5 minutes each.** If the game is still tied at the end of the second overtime period, kicks from the penalty spot will be taken per FIFA rules to determine the winner. Only players on the field at the end of Overtime are eligible to take a Penalty Kick. NO GOLDEN GOAL.

## **6. Number of players/gender & Substitution Rule SUBSTITUTES**

All players **in all age groups** can be substituted out and in again. The player must be ready at the midfield line to substitute. It will be the discretion of the referee to allow substitutions.

It is permitted for a player from the same club to play on more than one team but not on multiple teams in the same age group and not more than one age above their birth year without Tournament Directors approval. This player must be on the rosters of all teams he/she will play for. Girls may play on boy's teams; Teams with one or more boys will be entered in the boy's brackets.

### **Substitution of Players**

May be unlimited in number and may occur on any dead ball for either team, at the discretion of the center referee provided the player is ready to enter the field at the midfield line.

## 7. Check In Credentials

Properly validated USYSA, US CLUB, AYSO, or USSA player passes will be required. A properly validated team roster which contains player names as well as dates of birth and player medical releases must be present at all games. **Rosters may not be changed once the tournament begins.** Coaches are responsible to play only the players on the tournament team roster.

**Teams will check-in online prior to the start of tournament prior to the deadline communicated by Tournament Director. In person check in prior to games is NOT necessary for the players.** Random checks of team rosters will be carried out. Teams using unqualified players can be excluded from the tournament and all their prior games considered forfeits. Player check-ins may be done prior to the Championship games only.

THE COACHES ARE RESPONSIBLE TO MAKE SURE THEIR PLAYERS ARE PROPERLY EQUIPPED WITHOUT JEWELRY, WRIST BANDS, AND METAL HAIR PINS ETC. If a player is on the field without shin guards, or with metal hair pins the officials will send them off the field and no substitution can be made nor the player return to the field until a stoppage of play, and then allowed only with a referee's permission.

**All challenges of player eligibility MUST be made BEFORE start of second half to a referee.**

## 8. Match details and rosters

All players on the roster are considered as if they have participated in the game. Random checks of rosters and participants' lists may be carried out.

### Players uniforms

- . All team jerseys should be numbered, and the numbers should correspond to the numbers on the game card. Numbers should be on the backs of the jerseys. In the event that players on the same team have the same number it will be at the referee's discretion if a player will need to change jerseys or modify the jersey number for the match. Each player's team uniform should be the same color jersey, short and sock. Non-identical uniforms may be acceptable at the discretion of the referee, provided they are the same or similar colors as teammates.
- . If the referee decides that one team should change shirts due to similarity to the opposing team's shirts, **THE AWAY TEAM MUST CHANGE** before the game.
- . All teams must be ready at the field no later than 15 minutes before kick-off.
- . The home team will wear a dark color uniform.
- . The home team is awarded the ball and direction for initial kickoff.
- . All players **MUST** wear shin guards.
- . The team **COACHES** are responsible for their supporters' conduct.
- . The home team must supply 3 game balls (adequately pumped)  
U8 Size 3, U9-U12 Size 4, U13 and older Size 5

All teams must be ready to provide 3 suitable soccer balls for the games, but it is the responsibility of the HOME team (listed first on the game schedule) to provide the balls.

Arm casts may be worn provided they are completely wrapped in padding. Decision as to amount of padding required will be at the referee's discretion.

Game clock will begin at the scheduled kick-off time regardless of whether the teams are ready to start the match.

#### **10. Referees**

U8-U10 there may be 2 or 3 referees, dependent on availability of the referees.

U11 and up there will be 3 referees.

All referees are certified by USSF.

#### **11. Tournament Protest**

The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with the play are final. **PROTEST of game results or Referee decisions are not allowed.**

The Tournament Director handles complaints. His decisions cannot be appealed.

#### **12. Cautions and Sending-Off Offenses**

Any player given a red card is automatically suspended from participation in the following match.

The Tournament Director can decide about suspension for further game(s).

Yellow cards are **not cumulative in the tournament: except per single game; if a player is given two yellows in 1 game that still equals a RED.**

Severe offenses will result in player and/or team being expelled from the tournament.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If a player that is suspended is found to be participating in a game, the team with the suspended player loses automatically the game with 3-0.

#### **13. Sportsmanship and Conduct**

Good sportsmanship shall prevail. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents and spectators. **ALL PERSONS MUST REMAIN AT LEAST THREE (3) FEET BEHIND THE TOUCH LINES.**

Coaching shall be done from an area ten (10) yards either side of the mid-field line. **Coaches and Managers are responsible for their supporters' behavior. In extreme circumstances of unacceptable behavior by your team's supporters, offending supporters may be asked to leave the premise. This may also result in your entire team being expelled from the tournament. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN.**

#### **14. Game Forfeitures and Game Abandonments**

Any team not appearing at the appointed time and place for a match without a valid excuse can be declared loser by 3-0, after a decision by the Tournament Director. If a team repeatedly fails to appear at the games, the team may be excluded from the tournament. In special cases,

the tournament jury may decide to exclude a team at the first offense, for example if done deliberately in favor of their own club or is unfair to another team in the group.

If a match is interrupted for some reason and can't be played to the end, the Tournament Director will decide if the game has to be replayed, if the result will be fixed or if one of the teams or both teams lose 3-0.

### **15. Match fields**

All the playing fields are grass or artificial turf.

### **16. Organizer**

The Players North SC tournament committee organizes the tournament which is sponsored by Players North Soccer Club listed on the sanctioning document.

### **17. Regulations for accommodation General**

- The team coach and manager as indicated on the Participants' list is responsible for any damage caused by his/her players.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages is absolutely forbidden in the playing venues.
- Before departure teams must clean up the area used by your players and supporters.
- Smoking is prohibited in the playing venues.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE RULES WILL BE DEALT WITH BY THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR AND MAY RESULT IN EXCLUSION FROM THE TOURNAMENT AND LODGINGS.**

### **18. Insurance and responsibility**

Participants must have primary personal medical insurance. Make sure that all your players are insured both on and off the playing field. Players North SC will not carry any group insurance outside of the sanctioning insurance protecting participants including but not limited to cases of injury, illness, theft or damage to property. Players North SC is in no way responsible for injury or economic loss which may arise from the tournament and in the case of war, warlike events, civil war, revolution or civil disturbances or because of the actions of the authorities, strikes, lockouts, blockades or similar events.

### **19. Inclement weather or unexpected termination of play**

**Matches will be played in all weather conditions**, unless the Center Referee or Tournament Director determines the conditions are dangerous and/or life threatening as per FIFA, USYSA, USYSNV and US Club regulations. The tournament standings at that time will be final.

### **SOCCER REFUND POLICY / BAD WEATHER POLICY:**

In the event that a team must withdraw from the event for any reason prior to application deadline there will be a \$100 processing fee deducted from the refund.

In the event that a team must withdraw after the application deadline for any reason there will be No Refunds.

If there are any unforeseen events, disasters or developments, whether natural or man made, that would make it impossible for the tournament to take place, including but not limited to the State of Nevada enacting COVID-19 guidelines that prohibit tournaments or restrict travel from outside Nevada; all teams will be moved to a reschedule date or a future Players North Tournament with guaranteed acceptance. In the event that a team can not participate in a future tournament within one calendar year, a refund less \$100 if event is canceled or rescheduled prior to the application deadline, or 75% if canceled or rescheduled after the deadline, to be processed within 90 days.

### **Contingency Plan:**

Plan A: All matches will be played as scheduled

Plan B: Shorten all first round matches to 15 min. halves.

Plan C: Plan B, plus shorten all second round matches the same.

Plan D: Plan C, plus shorten all third round matches the same.

Plan E: In the event the fields become totally unplayable or the weather becomes hazardous condition, it may be necessary to decide some matches with FIFA penalty kicks.

## **20. DISPUTES**

The Tournament Director shall settle all disputes and their decision is final. **NO protests will be allowed.** Any verbal abuse directed at tournament staff, referees or other volunteers would result in suspension and ejection of your entire team from the tournament, and may include the forfeit of all remaining matches.

## **21. Tournament Cancellation**

**The Tournament Committee will do whatever is necessary to play all games, however, the safety of the players is paramount. Along with safety, damage to the fields will be considered in making the decision to cancel the tournament or any games due to weather or natural disasters. There will be no refunds for cancelled or shortened games the day of the tournament.**

**THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS for teams dropping out after the deadline or being removed from the tournament do to discipline action.**

The Tournament Director is the final authority in ALL matters