

Tournament Rules

Official Regulations

1. Rules

Players Spring Cup will be played in accordance with applicable sections of the FIFA rules except otherwise noted in this document.

2. Tournament Format & Awards

U8-U18 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** (1st) place in each age group will receive individual medals, and the coach will receive a "Tournament Champion" trophy; **second** (2nd) 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) Points for each tie.

(1) Point deducted for each red card received

(1) Points deducted for a coach ejection.

Players receiving a red card will serve an automatic suspension for the following one game. The tournament director will decide about suspension for further game(s).

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 the all ties are broken.

1 Head to head (if all teams played each other.)

2 Goals For (max of 6 goals)

3 Goals Against

4 Goal Differential (Max of 6 goals)

5 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. E.g.U10 with U11; U12 with U13 etc.

U8 (5 v 5)
U9, U10 (7 v 7)
U11, U12 (9 v 9)
U13–18 (11 v 11)

5. Duration of Matches

U8: Group Play 2×20 minutes, final 2 x 20 minutes

U9-U12: Group Play, and Single Elimination 2×25 min, Final 2×25 min.

Note: U9 and U10 will play with a buildout line.

U13-U16: Group Play, and Single Elimination 2×30 min, Final 2×30 min.

U17-U18: Group Play, and Single Elimination 2×35 min, Final 2×35 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, You must have possession of the ball to substitute the player. The player must be ready at the midfield line to substitute. It will be the discretion of the referee to allow substitutions.

A team may bring more players but only the stated number may be used for each game. It is permitted for a player from the same club to play on several teams but not in the same age group. This player has to 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, but shall be allowed only:

(1) On throw ins, as long as the player is ready at the half; at the discretion of the center referee.

(2) Prior to a goal kick as long as the player is ready at the half; at the discretion of the center referee.

(3) After a goal (either team), as long as the player is ready at the half; at the discretion of the center referee

(4) If the referee stops play due to an injury, the injured player must be substituted, and the other team may also substitute.

(5) At half time.

7. Check In Credentials

Properly validated USYSA, US CLUB, AYSO, 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..

Check in prior to games is NOT necessary for the players. Random checks of team lists and Participants' lists will be carried out. Teams using unqualified players can be excluded from the tournament and all their prior games considered forfeits. Player check ins will 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. So, your team would be playing a man down until the next stoppage!

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

8. Important match details Team list

The number each player has on the roster must be the same as the number of the shirt. All players on the roster are considered as if they have participated in the game. Random checks of rosters and Participants' lists will be carried out.

Players uniforms

- All team shirts must be numbered and the numbers must correspond to the numbers on the roster. Numbers must be on the backs of the shirts. Two players may not use the same number in any given match.
- 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 game.
- All teams must be ready at the field no later than 15 minutes before kick-off.
- The home team is in white or light color uniform. The away team will be in dark
- The home team is awarded the ball and direction.
- 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.

10. Referees

U8 one referee per game

U9-U10 there may be 2 or 3 referees but that will up to the 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 losses automatically the game with 4-0.

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

13.1 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 jury. 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, i.e. if a deliberate W/O favors the own team or is unfair to another team in the group.

13.2 If a match is interrupted for some reason and can't be played to the end the jury 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 4-0.

15. Match fields

All the playing fields are grass or artificial turf.

16. Organizer

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

17. Regulations for accommodation

General

- The team 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 you have to 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 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 regulations. The tournament standings at that time will be final.

SOCCER REFUND POLICY / BAD WEATHER POLICY: We understand that there will be a 80% refund granted if the Spring Cup soccer tournament is canceled due to inclement weather Before the day of the tournament. In case of inclement weather day of tournament, the Event Director reserves the right to reduce the number of scheduled games and/or the time of games and/or postpone or delay game times and/or cancel the event in which case partial refunds may or may not be issued. Every effort will be made to complete games and the tournament. Full or partial registration fees may be transferred to another rescheduled Players North soccer event of your choice at no charge

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.

THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS.

The Tournament Director is the final authority in ALL matters