



Lions FC 2025 Memorial Day Tournament Rules

Dec. 12-14, 2025

CLASSIFICATION AND AGE DIVISIONS: The tournament is sponsored by the Lions Football Club and sanctioned by the South Texas Youth Soccer Association (STYSA). This is an unrestricted tournament open to boys' and girls' competitive teams from ages U11-U19 and recreational teams from U7-U19. Unless otherwise amended below, the current Laws of the Game (as published by IFAB) will apply to this competition.

TEAM REGISTRATION: Team registration and payment must be done through GotSport. No team will be scheduled for games without full payment. Once a team is accepted and scheduled for games, no refunds will be given. All teams must have proper player identification for each player, including guest players. All players must be officially registered through USYS, US CLUB, or a recreational league to be eligible for play.

TEAM ENTRY FEES: Team entry fees must be paid by credit card. No cash or checks accepted.

TEAM CHECK-IN

1. The Team Event Roster needs to be built in GotSport. This will serve as your tournament roster and must list all players, guest players, and club pass players participating in the tournament. Guest players will need to be registered through the Guest Player link found on the tournament website. Once registered, they can be added to your tournament roster.
2. Check-in documents will be uploaded in GotSport and must be completed by the date posted on the tournament website. The following is needed to complete online check-in:
 - a) A copy of your official roster signed by your club registrar. Guest Players should be written in at the bottom. The roster must include the name, date of birth, and ID numbers for all players.
 - b) Virtual Player ID cards for each player, guest player, and club pass player will need to be uploaded as a PDF in a single document. Players without a virtual player ID and/or not on an official roster, will not be eligible to play.
 - c) For players U10 and below, a birth certificate, or a letter from club registrar verifying that your players are registered for the current seasonal year. The letter from your registrar will need to include the team's name, player names, dates of birth, and player ID numbers.

Team managers or a team representative must have a signed medical release form for each player in their possession.

A player may only participate with one team during the tournament and must be listed on the GotSport Event Roster. If a player plays on more than one team, the additional team will forfeit any games in which that player participated.

TEAM, PLAYER, and COACH CREDENTIAL CHECK: Each team must be able to present laminated or virtual player cards to either a Tournament Official or the Referee team before the start of each match, if requested. Coaches and additional staff on the sideline must have an official "Kid Safe" pass for the current year.

NO PLAYER WRITE-INS ON GAME CARD: Player write-ins are not allowed on the game card. Unapproved write-ins will automatically result in a forfeit for the offending team, regardless of the game outcome or the team's standing in the tournament.

"STAY TO PLAY" EVENT: We are partnered with Traveling Teams to help out-of-town teams book local hotels. Once your team registers for the tournament, you will be contacted by a Traveling Teams representative.

NO HARD CASTS: No player will be allowed to play with a hard cast (padded or otherwise).

GAME INFORMATION: Game cards must be picked up at the tournament headquarters by the HOME TEAM coach/manager prior to the start of each game. The WINNING TEAM coach/manager must return the game card to the tournament headquarters immediately following the end of the game. Once game cards are turned in, scores are final. Please verify that scores are accurate and that a representative from both teams has signed the game card before they are turned in. Do not leave the game cards with the referees.

All teams will be guaranteed to play at least three (3) games. In group or round robin play, ties at the end of regulation time will stand. Semi-Finals and Finals will go straight to Penalty Kicks in the event of a tie. No overtime periods will be played. Both coaches must agree in order to play the third game as a final (in the event both teams would play each other in the final game). *Referees will be checking in players against the game card prior to the start of each game. Only players printed on the game card are eligible to play. No Write ins are allowed on game cards.*

Age Group	Ball Size	Max Roster Size	Minimum Players on Field	Club Pass Player Limit	Guest Player Limit	Game Format	Game Length	Half Time Length
U8	4	8	3	-	5	4v4	2 x 15 min	5 min
U9-U10	4	14	4	-	5	7v7	2 x 20 min	5 min
U11-U12	4	16	6	3	5	9v9	2 x 25 min	5 min
U13-U15	5	18	7	4	6	11v11	2 x 30 min	5 min
U16-U19	5	22	7	4	6	11v11	2 x 30 min	5 min

Game lengths may be shortened to meet scheduling constraints. U15-U19 teams are allowed a maximum of 22 players on a roster (includes Club Pass and Guest players). **Only 18 players are eligible to participate in each match.**

HOME TEAM: The first team listed on the schedule is the home team and should wear their dark-colored jerseys. The visiting team should wear their light-colored jersey. Teams without two sets of uniforms will be permitted to use “pinnies” to provide color distinction. The home team will be responsible for supplying a game ball to the referee, and if necessary, changing jerseys in case of a color conflict.

UNIFORMS: All uniforms for U11 and above teams must have a number that matches the number listed on the game card. If you have a duplicate number, you must make the referee aware and be able to distinguish between the players with duplicate numbers. GK jerseys do not have to have a number, but if the GK comes onto the field as a field player, his/her jersey number must be listed on the game card.

PROTESTS: There is **NO appeal or protest process.** Referees’ decisions are final. Any other non-game issues should be immediately reported to tournament headquarters and will be resolved by the Tournament Director or a representative.

TEAM AND SPECTATOR DISCIPLINE: The coach/manager is responsible for the actions of his/her spectators. Verbal and/or physical abuse of referees will not be tolerated and can result in immediate expulsion from the complex. Violations may result in termination of the game. Any individual that has been expelled must leave the field area immediately or the game could be terminated by the referee with further sanctions added by the Tournament Director. Teams exhibiting poor sportsmanship will not be allowed to participate in subsequent Lions Football Club tournaments.

The use of artificial noise makers is prohibited.

EJECTIONS: A red carded player is ineligible for their next scheduled game. An ejected coach or trainer is ineligible for the next scheduled game of the team he/she was ejected from, even if that game is a semi-final or final game. A second red card to the same individual results in that person being expelled from the tournament. Any ejected player, coach, or trainer will be noted on the game card. All red cards will be reported to your State Association.

Team Standings and Tiebreakers: Team standings will be based on the following scoring system:

Win	6 points, plus 1 point for each goal scored (max of 3 goals)
Tie	3 points, plus 1 point for each goal scored (max of 3 goals) <i>* A 0-0 tie will be scored as 4 points for each team. 3 points for the tie, and 1 point for the shutout.</i>
Loss	0 points, plus 1 point for each goal scored (max of 3 goals)
Shut Out	1 point is awarded for a shutout, 1 point per goal scored (max of 3 goals)

Maximum number of points awarded to a team in one game is 10. In the event a team forfeits a match, all points from tournament games involving that team will be dropped from the calculation of final standings. All forfeited games will be scored as 1-0 (8 points to the opposing team). Any team who forfeits cannot qualify for advancement.

ROUND ROBIN GAMES: In the event that two or more teams are tied in points at the end of these games, the following tiebreakers shall be applied in order given until a winner is determined. While following criteria, never revert back to the top of the list even after a team has been eliminated from the tiebreaker. Finals cannot end in a tie; these matches will go straight to FIFA penalty kicks. Ties in the standings will be resolved in the following order:

- Winner of head to head competition,
- Net goals (goal difference, limit of +/- 3)
- Goals against,
- Most goals scored
- Most total wins
- FIFA penalty kicks

SEMI-FINAL AND FINALS: All semi-final and final games ending in a tie will go straight to FIFA style penalty kicks.

AWARDS: Tournament medals will be presented to the 1st and 2nd place teams for the U8 – U19 divisions. Medals will be given to each player on the roster. Medals can be picked up at the Tournament Headquarters following your last game. Medals will not be issued if the tournament is cancelled, regardless of standing or potential outcome.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: In the case of inclement weather, the Tournament Director will determine if games are to be played. Tournament staff will make every effort to allow teams to play their complete tournament schedule, however game schedules or length of play may need to be altered. The Tournament Director will have the authority to change, cancel or re-schedule any game and/or its format. In the case of unplayable fields for extended periods of time, the use of penalty kicks, coin toss, or other means may be used to determine the winner. The Tournament Director's Decision shall be final.

Once a game has started, the decision to continue play rests with the referee and the Tournament Director. If any games are cancelled or re-scheduled, it is up to the team's representative to check the online tournament schedule for information. Any game terminated at, or after, half-time due to adverse weather conditions shall be considered complete.

TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION: In the event of inclement weather, the Tournament Director has the authority to restructure or cancel the tournament. If the tournament is cancelled entirely, it will not be rescheduled for another date. A portion of the entry fee may be refunded. The amount of the refund will be determined by the Tournament Director and the tournament committee after all expenses have been calculated. A full refund will not be issued.

REFUNDS: Once the tournament starts, no refunds will be given. A team withdrawing from the tournament after being scheduled for games will forfeit the entry fee in full. Under no circumstances will Lions Football Club be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team.

COMPLEX RULES: In addition to the rules established above, additional rules, and procedures are implemented by the soccer complexes. Please note that **Alcoholic Beverages, Firearms, PETS, Tobacco Products, Drones, Glass Containers, and Artificial Noise Makers** are prohibited on the complex grounds.

MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR: Any situation or questions on rules of competition not covered herein will be governed by USYSA and STYSA Administrative Rules. Any matter not provided for in the tournament rules or STYSA or USYSA rules shall be determined by the Tournament Director, whose decisions shall be final.

TOURNAMENT QUESTIONS: Please send all questions to: tournament@lionsfc.org.