

2026 GRAHAM BUNTING CLASSIC RULES

This All games shall be played in accordance with the [Laws of the Game](#) observed by FIFA, The Canadian Soccer Association, and Ontario Soccer

This is a recreational tournament. Teams are encouraged to have fun and show good sportsmanship. Teams failing to do so may be disqualified from the Tournament. Disciplinary cards will be shown to players and team officials demonstrating gross or flagrant abuse of the rules.

1. TEAM ELIGIBILITY:

- All players & coaches must be registered with Ontario Soccer.
- Players must be registered with the club for which he/she is playing.
- No regional or provincial players or teams are permitted. Only district / regional (iModel) teams and players are permitted.
- Teams traveling from out of district required an approved Travel permit.

2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY: Players must be born on or after January 1st of the following years: **U14** 2021 **U15** 2011 **U16** 2010 **U17** 2009 **U18** 2008 **U19** 2007. A maximum of three (3) guest players with current valid cards meeting age group restrictions may be added to the tournament roster, prior to the commencement of the first tournament match, for a **MAXIMUM** of twenty (20) players.

3. REGISTRATION: There will be **NO** registration or check in at the fields. All documents must be submitted to Stratford Youth Soccer no less than one week prior to the tournament start date.

4. WHAT TO BRING:

- Player & Coaches Ontario Soccer cards (digital or physical) or books.
- Copy of your Official OSCAR roster.
- Tournament Roster (available on our website).
- Tournament games sheets – 1 per game (available on our website).
- Copy of your approved travel permit if your team is from outside of SWRSA.

5. GAME SHEETS: Must be completed and submitted to the referee prior to kick off. They must be signed after the game by the referee and both coaches to confirm an accurate score and which team won and lost. Completed game sheets must be texted to tournament organizers immediately after each game.

6. THE BALL: Home teams are to supply a game ball. Ball Size: U14+ size 5.

7. PLAYER UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT: The first team listed on the schedule is considered the "HOME TEAM" and will be responsible for providing an alternate colour of shirt if needed. Players must wear a number on the back of their shirts. Each player on a team shall have a different number and this number must coincide with the player's name and number as shown on the game sheet. If the colours clash, the home team will change colours (the home team is the first team on the schedule). At the Tournament Committee's discretion, a team that does not observe the colour change or shirt requirements of this rule may forfeit the game. All players must wear proper shin guards and soccer shoes.

8. THE GAME: All rounds – 2 x 20-minute halves. The half-time interval in all games shall be 5 minutes. Teams will play 11 v. 11 on full fields.

9. POINTS DISTRIBUTION: WIN = 3 POINTS ; TIE = 1 POINT ; LOSS = 0 POINTS. If a team forfeits any game, the opposing team of that game receives **3 POINTS**.

10. TIE BREAKER IN THE STANDINGS:

- 1) Winner between tied teams in pool play (Applies only if 2 teams are tied).
- 2) Goal differential (max 5 goal differential per game).
- 3) Most goals scored.
- 4) Least goals allowed.
- 5) Coin-Flip done by Tournament Director and Tournament Board Member.

11. OVERTIME (SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS ONLY): If a game is tied after regular time, then overtime shall be two (2) five (5) minute halves for all divisions. Penalty shots will decide the winner if the game is still tied after extra time (FIFA Rules). Five (5) penalty kicks will be taken alternatively by five (5) players from each team who were on the field at the end of the overtime period. If still tied, alternating penalty kicks (sudden death) will be taken one at a time by the balance of the players on each team who were on the field at the end of the overtime period. The first team to go ahead after an equal number of shots will be the winner.

12. SUBSTITUTIONS:

At the referees discretion, teams can substitute when:

- 1) A goal is scored by either team.
- 2) There is a goal kick.
- 3) There is an injury to a player on the field.
- 4) Their **OWN** team has a throw-in, BUT **piggybacking** is permitted.
- 5) The second half begins and at the beginning of both overtime halves.

13. DISCIPLINE: All discipline shall be subject to the OSA Discipline Policies by Review/Hearing (DBR/DBH) and heard by the Tournament Discipline Committee (TDC) provided by SWRSA.

1. A player who receives a red card for a sending off offence or receives a red card for a second caution in the same game, or a or a team official who is dismissed from the field, shall be subject to discipline under the DBR/DBH system. The player or team official will be suspended from the team's next scheduled game.
2. A player receiving two yellow cards during the tournament will be suspended from the next game.
3. Any player red-carded by the referee or coach ejected will be suspended from the next game. The Tournament Discipline Committee will review the referee report, and the appropriate suspension will be rendered in accordance with Discipline Section 9 –Tables 5 -12 & Policy 14.0 (Standard Fees, Fines, Bonds, and Penalties) for the Ontario Soccer Association's Published Rules.
4. A player receiving two red cards during the tournament will be suspended from the tournament.
5. In the case of a Referee Assault, the accused is immediately suspended from all soccer related activity until the case is heard by the appropriate District Association.
6. If a team official or player is ejected from their final game, the discipline report will be sent to their District Association for processing.
7. Tournament Discipline is done by DBR.
8. A DBR decision can be appealed, in writing, under the following 4 appeals criteria, within 45 minutes of the end of the game in which the infraction occurred and accompanied by a \$100.00 cash fee. This fee is refunded if the appeal is successful.

Appeals Criteria:

- New Facts (that did not exist when hearing was convened or could not be found via due diligence).
- Procedural Errors (exact errors with reference to the Published Rules).
- Incorrect Interpretation of the Published Rules (which rules and rationale).
- Excessive Fee, Fine, Bond or Penalty (state why excessive).

IN ACCORDANCE WITH FIFA RULES, NO PROTEST ON A REFEREE'S DECISION WILL BE ENTERTAINED.

14. COACHES: Coaches must stay in their designated technical area (determined by the referee) prior to the start of the game and must remain in the area for the duration of the match. Spectators' areas are on the opposite side of the field from the technical areas. Coaches will be held responsible for the behaviour of their players and of the spectators in their party.

15. ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY: This policy is in effect for the entire duration of the tournament. Any inappropriate or unruly behaviour will be addressed by tournament referees and field marshals. Coaches are reminded that the referee's authority extends beyond the start and end of the match and always applies while participating in tournament activities.

16. EXTRAORDINARY WEATHER:

In the event of severe weather (e.g., continuous heavy rain, lightning, excessive heat), the Tournament Committee has the authority to change the duration of games or any other function of the tournament, including such things as the following:

- a) Relocate and/or reschedule any games.
- b) Reduce, by up to 50 per cent, the scheduled duration of any game.
- c) Cancel any game.
- d) A game is considered complete when 50 per cent or less of the playing time remained when the game was terminated by the referee.
- e) In the event of total cancellation of the tournament, the tournament committee reserves the right to refund a portion of the registration fee.

17. SCHEDULING: Scheduling and refereeing are the responsibility of the Tournament Host. Schedules will be posted approximately ONE week prior to the Tournament on the SYS website – www.StratfordYouthSoccer.com.

18. FAILURE TO SHOW: A team shall be allowed a 10-minute period of grace after the scheduled kick-off time to field the minimum number of seven (7) players needed to start the game. Failure to produce the minimum number of players will result in the awarding of the game to their opponents with a score of 3-0.

19. ABANDONED GAMES: The Tournament Committee will review the circumstances of any team that abandons (quits) a game before it is completed and decides whether the team shall forfeit the game.

20. FORFEITED GAMES: At the discretion of the Tournament Committee, teams that abandoned (quit) a game, fail to show, or otherwise forfeit a game will be subject to a dismissal from the Tournament and all entry fees and bonds forfeited without appeal. Furthermore, such action will be reported to the governing body of the team involved.

21. FIELD SUPERVISION: Persons acting in the capacity of Field Convener reserve the right to check player cards before all games.

22. GENERAL: No protest regarding the referee's decisions will be accepted. The Discipline Committee's decisions will be final. The Tournament Committee will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team if the Tournament is cancelled in whole or in part. The Tournament Committee and/or South-West Regional Soccer Association reserve the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the event.

23. REFUND POLICY: \$50 admin fee if registration cancelled up to 3 weeks prior to the tournament date. No refunds if cancelled within 3 weeks of tournament date.