

# Rules for the Fall Shootout Youth Soccer Tournament

## General Rules

1. The Players/Coaches must present picture identification cards issued by the teams Federation Organization Member (USYS, AYSO, US Club Soccer, other)
2. Teams must provide proof of approval of the teams' participation from the teams Federation Organization Member.
3. Teams from outside the State Association where the tournament is located must provide proof of permission to travel. Teams must be in good standing with their Federation Organization.
4. If a game is temporarily suspended due to weather problems, field conditions, or other situations beyond the tournament's control, each team (coach) involved must check with the site's tournament headquarters. Have players go their cars during a weather delay. No one will be allowed on the fields until the weather conditions are favorable to resume.
5. Coaches should bring medical release forms for each player to every game.
6. Each team will play a minimum of 3 games. A maximum of 2 matches will be played on any one day.
7. Spectators are not permitted on the Team side of the field or directly behind the goals.
8. All teams are required to clean up their sidelines after each match. Please keep our sites clean/green.
9. The tournament directors' interpretation of the foregoing rules/regulations shall be final.

## A. TEAMS FROM THE UNITED STATES:

1. The Players must present picture identification cards issued by the teams Federation Organization Member (USYS, CLUB SOCCER, AYSO, other)
2. Teams must provide proof of approval of the teams participation from the teams Federation Organization Member.
3. Teams from outside the State Association, Ohio Youth Soccer Association North, where the tournament is located must provide proof of permission to travel. Teams must be in good standing with their Federation Organization.

## B. FOREIGN TEAMS For a team coming from a CONCACAF nation:

1. Players must present passports at registration or, if from a nation that the United States does not require a passport, proof of entry into the United States that is required by the United States.
2. Teams are required to have and present player picture identification cards.
3. Teams must have a completed form from its Provincial or National Association approving the teams participation in the tournament.

### **IMPORTANT ISSUE: CONCUSSION LAW**

In order to protect young athletes, the State of Ohio has passed a concussion law, commonly called the “Return to Play” law. Therefore, all Ohio Tournaments are responsible to monitor and track compliance with the concussion training requirements of the Return to Play law. Each coach (head coach and assistants) must receive approved concussion training prior to April 26, 2013. See O.R.C. 3707.511(C)(1). Tournaments are required to collect and maintain certificates of compliance from the coaches.

1. All coaches MUST complete the Concussion Training Course from either NFHS (preferred) or CDC and submit a COPY of the completed certificate to the tournament. Both online courses are FREE of charge! See the links for the Concussion Form after you CONFIRM acceptance (using your WSC #) on the forms list.
2. Coaches must also carry their certificate COPY of compliance with them during the event.
3. Coaches are also required per Ohio law, to have distributed a COPY of the Parent Concussion Information Sheet to the parents of their team players.

If these 3 items are not satisfied, those coaches will NOT be able to coach at this event.

If a player is believed, by either a coach, referee or tournament official, to exhibit the signs, symptoms or behaviors of concussion during the tournament, that player shall be prohibited from continuing to play that same calendar day and may not play until they have received clearance to “return to play” by a physician or other authorized medical personnel.

For more information on this new law, go to: <http://www.healthy.ohio.gov/concussion.aspx>

### **Team / Player Requirements / Game Length**

Age--Format---Ball Size--Max Roster---Max Guest Players---Game Duration

U8/U9-7v7-4-12--3--50 minutes

U9-7v7-4--12--3--50 minutes

U10-7v7-4--16--3--50 minutes

U11-9v9-4--16--3--50 minutes

U12-9v9-4--16--3--50 minutes

U13-11 v 11-5--18--3--60 minutes

U14-11 v 11-5--18--3--60 minutes

U15-11 v 11-5--18--3--60 minutes

NOTE: The Tournament reserves the right to consolidate age groups. If we consolidate groups into an 11 v 11 age group we will allow teams in this age group to move to the other age group. We may have to consolidate some divisions due to the lack of teams in some divisions.

**GUEST PLAYERS:** A player may only play for one team. THREE (3) guest players will be allowed per team. Guest player Rosters (yours or ours) should be validated by your state association/country federation (if required by your association). Prior to the start of each game the referee shall check that each player has a current Federation player card and coaches (if required by your State Association) card. Guest players must have a valid player pass from the same governing body that they are guest playing with.

### **Teams:**

Home team is determined by the tournament scheduler. The first team listed in the tournament schedule is the home team. A maximum of 3 rostered and carded coaches are permitted on the coaches' side of the field. A minimum of 1 rostered and carded coach must be present at all times during the game. Coaches will remain within 20 yards of the centerline on their half of the field, on the side opposite of both team's spectators. Field marshals will communicate which side is the coaches' side if questions arise.

The home team will be responsible for using an alternate color uniform if necessary, and shall supply a suitable game ball (as determined by the Referee) unless the referee is able to supply a game ball.

Spectators are not permitted directly behind the goals.

### **Player Credentials and Uniforms:**

1. Player and coach picture identification cards are to be present and available at all matches.
2. Identification cards may be required to be checked by the field marshal prior to each match. Identification cards will be provided to the field marshal prior to each game and held by the head referee during the match. It is the coach's responsibility to ensure return of the cards following the match.
3. Player's uniforms shall have unique numbers unless agreed upon by the game referees.

### **Laws of the Game:**

All matches must be played in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game, except as specifically modified as follows in the tournament rules:

A. Substitution Time: Unlimited substitutions for all age groups will be allowed with the consent of the Referee;

1. before a throw-in in your favor. The team in possession of the ball for a throw-in may substitute. If the team in possession substitutes players, the opposing team may also substitute any number of players at the same time.

2. before a goal-kick.
3. after a score by either team.
4. at half time.
5. After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play.
6. After a caution, one for one by both teams, if the cautioned player is substituted.

B. Games will consist of two halves of equal length based on the times listed above. The

Tournament Directors reserve the right to adjust game length for conditions beyond their control. See Weather/Reschedule section below.

C. The game clock will not be stopped because of injury to any player, except if deemed necessary by a tournament official. Due to the time allowed for the completion of all games, the clock should run continuously.

D. It is the intent of the tournament to provide a three person, diagonal system of control, for all 9v9 and 11v11 tournament matches; however, if deemed necessary, matches may be conducted with club linesmen. Note: 7v7 games will utilize a one person referee system. Offside rule will not be enforced in the 7v7 games unless the referee determines the offside position is obvious and intentional. Specifically:

If the Referee determines that the offside infraction was Intentional and Obvious, he/she may signal for an indirect free kick for the defending team. The intent is to ignore offside. However if a coach is encouraging a player to remain in the opposing penalty area, shield a goalie or gain advantage by abusing FIFA & USSF Law 11 then the Offside infraction can be called. The Referee's decision is final.

E. A coach may coach more than one team during the tournament. The tournament makes reasonable attempts to avoid scheduling conflicts; however, we cannot guarantee a game conflict will not occur especially in event of multiple teams coached by the same coach making it to the final rounds. Coach cards should indicate the team(s) to which the coach is associated.

F. No overtime will be played during preliminary games.

G. Red cards will be administered as per FIFA laws of the game.

H. A player or coach sent off for a second caution will not be allowed to participate for the remainder of that game and their next game.

I. Un-served Red cards and game report will be forwarded to their appropriate State or National organizations.

### **SPECIAL RULES:**

**BLOOD:** A player who is either bleeding or has blood on her/his uniform shall be required to be removed from the field and allowed to return only when in the opinion of the referee the bleeding has stopped and blood removed from the uniform.

PIERCINGS: Players must be removed from any piercing, from any location on their body, prior to any match.

## **GAME BALLS**

Balls used must be FIFA Approved.

The game ball size for U-8 through U-12 is Size 4 and the game ball size for U-13 and above is Size 5.

## **PLAYER EQUIPMENT**

1. Shin guards are mandatory and must be of appropriate size and must be covered by a sock.
2. In the event of a color conflict, the home team (first team listed on schedule) will change color.
3. Hard and soft casts are permitted with the approval by the game referee if they deem that the cast is properly wrapped.

## **TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

For all age groups the Tournament format calls for three preliminary round games (round robin) with Final Matches in each division. Divisions with 6 teams (2 groups of 3) and divisions with 4 teams (1 group of 4) will play their Finals on Sunday. Divisions with 5 teams will play 4 preliminary games and the team with the best record will be declared the champion.

## **Scoring**

The Coaches and Game Referee will sign the game card certifying the final score which will then be delivered to the Tournament Headquarters. The Site scorer will be responsible for updating the tournament website, which will be the official location for all scores and standings. Posted scores will reflect a maximum goal difference of 3. Bracket standings, leading to championship play, will be determined on the following basis:

### **a. Points**

- Win = 3 Points
- Tie = 1 Point
- Loss = 0 Points

- The team with the most points wins the Group Standings and will advance to the Championship Game.

Scores will be posted as quickly as possible. Coaches should report any discrepancies to Headquarters prior to their next game.

## **Match Schedules**

The ONLINE Schedules are the OFFICIAL schedules of the tournament. Each team will be scheduled for a minimum of 3 preliminary games. A maximum of 2 matches will be played on any one day.

### **Forfeits**

Failure to complete a match, or a team leaving the field during play, will result in forfeiture. No team that has forfeited a game will be declared a group or wild card winner. The team winning by forfeit will be awarded a winning score of 3-0. This score will be the official score in case goal differential is necessary. The Tournament Officials reserve the right to decide all matters concerning a forfeit. If a team arrives more than 15 minutes late for a match the Tournament Officials, at their discretion, may declare the game to be a forfeit depending upon the situation. A team failing to field the proper number of players at the scheduled time, or at any time during the match, will forfeit the game. All 7v7 teams must field a minimum of five (5) players, 9v9 teams must field a minimum of six (6) players and 11v11 teams must field a minimum of seven (7) players. The scores of forfeit games in this manner will be scored as described above in this paragraph.

### **Standings and Tie-breakers**

A. In the event of ties in the group standing, the following procedure will determine the group winner:

In the event of ties in the Group Standings, the following sequence will be used to determine the group winner:

1. Team with the most points wins.
2. If two teams are tied: Winner of the game played between the tied teams. (If 3 or more teams are tied, skip this tiebreaker).
3. Highest number of total NET goals (goal differential). MAXIMUM goal differential is three goals per game.
4. Fewest total goals against.
5. Penalty kicks will be used when there is a tie to determine if a team is going to a semi-final or championship round game(FIFA Laws of the game until a winner is decided).

B. Five Team Divisions will be played as Round-Robins. Ties will be broken by the criteria listed above.

C. Ties in Championship Games

Two (2) Five (5) Minute Overtime Periods played to conclusion for all age groups (no Golden Goals). If, after the completion of both Overtime Periods a winner has not been determined, the game will go to Penalty Kicks per FIFA rules.

### **Penalty Kick Elimination**

When Final matches are still tied after overtime (see overtime times in the Laws of the Game above) the FIFA laws of the game for Penalty Kicks apply. Only players on the field at the end of the second overtime period are eligible for penalty kicks. Coin flip will determine who will go first (visiting team calls). Five penalty kickers per team. The most goals scored after five kicks for each team wins the game. If the score remains tied, teams will alternate shooters until there is an unmatched goal between the teams. After all eligible players, including goalkeepers, on the field of play have taken kicks; teams will start with their first kickers again and in the same order.

## **Protests and Disputes**

Protests must be presented in writing to the tournament site Headquarters within 30 minutes of completion of the game and must be accompanied by a fee of \$100 in cash. Referee judgment will NOT be a basis for protest. Coaches wishing to file a protest shall notify the referee of this intention as soon as possible but not later than 15 minutes after the conclusion of the game in question. The Protest Committee's (Tournament Directors and Referee Assignor) decision is final.

## **Standards of Conduct and Discipline**

Disciplinary action taken against a coach will be levied in the next game in which he/she coaches the team playing at the time of the original infraction, or to the next game coached if the violation occurred during the last game for that team. If additional behavior problems occur, the Directors reserve the right to levy additional discipline up to and including expulsion from the Tournament.

- a. All participants will be expected to maintain high standards of conduct during their stay. These standards are expected of players, referees, and other guests in the hotels and motels; keeping noise in the hallways to a minimum, refraining from kicking soccer balls inside any of the buildings, and being respectful of the property of others. Should it come to the attention of the Tournament Directors that a person (or persons) has failed to observe these guidelines; the Director reserves the right to take remedial action. Said action, depending upon the circumstances, may range from a warning, a reduction in points in the standings, or banning that team and/or all teams in its club from future participation in the tournament.
- b. There shall be no dissent between players and/or coaches and the referee. Questioning a referee is considered dissent. All coaches are responsible for the actions of his or her spectators, specifically verbal abuse of referees. Such abuse will not be tolerated! Violation may result in forfeiture of the game and/or expulsion from further play.
- c. Any player or coach ejected from a game will be ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game (a minimum of one game suspension depending upon the severity of the offense). The player/coach card is to be turned in to the referee headquarters immediately following the initial suspension game. If dismissed in the last game, the player/coach card MAY be returned to the team if there is not an assault associated with that card. In this case the player/coach card will be held and returned to the appropriate state association.
- d. Any player or coach who receives an accumulation of three (3) yellow cards must sit out the

next tournament game. e. All coaches will remain within 20 yards of the centerline on their half of the field, on the side opposite of both team's spectators. Teams will be located on the same side of the field. Spectators will be on the opposite side.

f. Spectators may be ejected from the park for improper conduct, at the discretion of the tournament officials. Artificial noise makers, such as air horns, bells, etc. are not permitted.

g. If field condition is such that there is a problem with interference by an outside agent; such as a tree overhanging the field for instance, the play will be restarted with a drop ball.

h. Not permitted at our tournament sites include: alcoholic beverages, smoking, and verbal abuse.

Persons ejected due to any of the above situations must leave the site immediately.

Report of Disciplinary action taken against any team will be reported to that teams provincial or:

A. For United States teams, the procedure for notifying the Federation Organization Member of that team of disciplinary action taken or required will be followed.

B. For CONCACAF teams, the tournament committee will notify the US Soccer Federation guidelines of disciplinary action taken, and that the Federation will transmit to the national association.

### **Awards**

All Champions and Finalists teams will receive individual awards. These awards will be presented after the final game at the Finals site.

### **Inclement Weather Procedures**

A. If a game is suspended/delayed due to weather, field conditions, or other situations beyond the tournament's control, after the completion of the first half, that game shall be considered complete and official.

B. If a game is temporarily suspended for any of the foregoing reasons before completion of the first half, each team will be notified through the website with instructions.

C. No one should retake the field or re-start the game until all of the lightning and thunder or other hazardous weather has left the area. Specifically, no one should retake the field for a minimum of 30 minutes after the last lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or the dangerously high winds have passed. For every new lightning strike or thunder, the 30- minute delay clock restarts.

D. If an audible tornado warning is heard, the game will be delayed and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.

E. If necessary, game lengths may be shortened to accommodate scheduling requirements. It is the responsibility of each coach to check Tournament Headquarters or the website for any reschedule information. In the event that rescheduling is not possible, and game cancellation creates a situation where teams within the division are unable to play an equal number of qualifying games, the group winner will be determined on the basis of awarding the average tournament points earned in the other games, to the teams that were unable to complete an official game, followed by the tie breaking procedure if necessary. The team with the highest average points will be declared the winner of the group. In the event there is a tie which cannot be resolved by point averaging, the advancing team will be determined by a coin toss, or penalty kicks, per FIFA as directed by the Tournament Directors.

F. The tournament committee reserves the right to shorten any games to complete matches during the tournament weekend to ensure the safety of all players, coaches and spectators.

G. If games have to be canceled before halftime for inclement weather, the result will be recorded as a 0-0 draw with both teams receiving 1 point. If a Championship Round game must be canceled before halftime for inclement weather, the champion will be determined by using the standard tie breaker procedures from above.

### **Cancellations**

If the Tournament is cancelled due to events beyond the control of the Tournament Committee, the Tournament will not be required to make any financial remuneration.

### **Final Rulings**

The final interpreter of the foregoing rules and regulations, and also any matters not provided for in these rules will be the Tournament Directors and Referee Assignor, who decisions shall be final.

### **Waiver**

By entering this tournament, every participant agrees to accept the jurisdiction of the Tournament Committee or its members, the Ohio Extreme SC, its staff and employees, the field locations and their respective employees, the United States Soccer Federation, United States Youth Soccer Association, and Ohio Youth Soccer Association North in all matters of dispute. No official, coach, club, league, referee, player or their representative may invoke the aid of the Courts of any political or governmental entity without first exhausting all available remedies within the appropriate affiliated soccer organizations as set forth in these rules, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ohio Extreme Soccer Club, the Constitution and Bylaws of the United States Soccer Federation, the Constitution and Bylaws of the United States Youth Soccer Association, and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ohio Youth Soccer Association North. For violation of this rule, the offending party shall be subject for all expenses incurred by these associations and/or their officers, as appropriate, in defending each court action, including, but not limited to, court costs, attorney(s) fees and reasonable compensation for all time and expenses.