

Tournament Rules

1. **LAWS OF THE GAME:** All games will be played under international (FIFA) rules as modified by the USSF for youth games. A reduced, eight yard radius will be used for free kicks for U9-U10 games though the 12 yard mark will be used for penalty kicks. U9-U10 games will be 8 v. 8.
2. **TEAM AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:** Maximum of 18 players (14 for U9-U10) and no less than 7 players (5 for U9-U10) per team with up to 3 guest players. One player must be designated as keeper. Official State Rosters with ID/Player Pass Cards, Medical Release Forms, and approved Travel Forms (out of state teams) are required of all teams at registration. No player may register with more than one team. No roster changes will be approved during the course of the tournament following registration. Players must be born within the August 1-July 31 time frame established by USSF for the division in which they participate. No exceptions will be made regardless of league or state rulings to the contrary. Each team must have a designated coach.
3. **GAME LENGTH AND BALL SIZE:** All games will be 30 minute halves with 5 minute half except that U9-U10 games will be 25 minute halves. All games will be running time with the referee stopping the clock only for serious injury. U9-U12 will use a size 4 ball; all other divisions will use size 5. LISC reserves the right to alter game times, move games to alternate sites, shorten game times and even eliminate games (in the event of inclement weather) as needed to insure timely completion of the tournament. There will be no refunds of fees for games not played unless the entire tournament is cancelled.
4. **SUBSTITUTIONS:** Teams may substitute without limitation during the game at times allowed under FIFA rules. A player may leave and reenter the game. Specifically,
 - a. All substitutions must be made at the mid-field line with consent of the referee.
 - b. Substitutions may take place: Prior to a throw-in by the substituting team; Prior to a goal kick; At the beginning of any period of play; After a goal by either team; After an injury to either team when the referee stops play (1 for 1).
 - c. After a caution is administered, the cautioned player must be substituted with the opposing team able to substitute a like number. A cautioned player may reenter at the first opportunity.
 - d. In the event of injury, at the discretion of the referee, the player may be substituted. The referee may call for removal of a player by qualified medical personnel and will determine player status when blood is present.
5. **EJECTION AND CAUTIONS:** Any player or coach ejected from a game will be ineligible to participate at a minimum in the team's next tournament game with additional penalties as determined by the tournament directors. Anyone ejected for serious foul play or violent conduct will be subject to ejection from further tournament participation.
6. **FORFEITS:** A team will be declared as "forfeit" if they cannot begin play within 5 minutes of the start time. A team must begin play if seven or more players (5 for U9-U10) are present at game time. Any team dropping below the minimum of seven players (5 for U9-U10) during the course of the game will be declared as "forfeit". Forfeited games will be scored 3-0/10 points.
7. **UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT, AND GAME RULES:** All players must wear shin guards with socks completely covering them. Each player must have the same uniform but with a different number on his/her jersey than the other players on his/her team. No jewelery is permitted with the exception of medical alert bracelets or necklaces. Both teams must report to the field marshal 30 minutes prior to game time for equipment and player id check. Home team should provide a ball to the field marshal prior to the start of the game for game ball subject to referee approval. The home team, listed first on the schedule, shall be responsible for changing colors in the event of a conflict. Referees have final approval on all uniform and equipment issues. Coin toss by the referee will determine defending sides.
8. **PROTESTS AND FINAL ARBITRATION:** The Tournament Director is the final interpreter of the rules and reserves the right to issue final decisions on all matters pertaining to the tournament. To protest a referee's decision, a team must present its protest in writing to the Tournament Headquarters within one hour of the completion of the game. A protest bond of \$100 must accompany the protest. If the Tournament Committee upholds the protest, the entire protest bond will be returned. If the Tournament Committee denies the protest, then the bond will be forfeit. A referee's judgement is not a basis for protest. The Tournament Committee's decisions and or interpretations are final.
9. **ADDITIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS:** No pets, smoking, or alcoholic beverages are permitted on the University of Illinois Sports Complexes. Parking in designated areas only.
10. **SCORING:** Winning coach (Home team coach in the event of a tie) is responsible for collecting the score card from the referee and turning it in to the scoring table at the field complex within 30 minutes of game time. Awards will be given to first and second place. Each team will be awarded points as follows:

Win = 6 points, Tie = 3 points, Loss = 0 points, Shutout = 1 point
Bonus points: 1 point for each goal scored by either team up to a maximum of 3 points
A maximum of 10 points may be scored by a winning team.

Examples: 0-0 tie will result in 4 points for each team, 1-1 tie will result in 4 points for each team, 5-1 will result in 9 points for the winner and 1 point for the loser, a forfeit will result in 10 points for the winning team.

In accordance with Illinois Youth Soccer Guidelines for U9 and U10 games, only Win/Loss/Tie will be recorded for games, standings will not be calculated or posted, and all U9-U10 teams will receive participation awards.

11. **STANDINGS:** The following procedure will determine the group winner
a. Most points; b. Winner in head to head competition between tied teams; c. Most wins; d. Goal differential (goals scored – goals allowed to a maximum of three goal spread per game); e. Fewest goals allowed; f. FIFA penalty kick shootout from the penalty mark between tied teams, time and location determined by the tournament director following all matches in the group. In the event that a shootout can not take place, the teams will share first place.

12. **PLAYER, COACH, PARENT, and SPECTATOR CONDUCT:** coaches are responsible for the conduct of players, parents, coaches, and spectators at the field, hotel, or other locations for the duration of the tournament. If LISC receives complaints regarding the conduct of any player or person associated with your team, the Tournament Committee may ask any and all individuals to leave the tournament. In addition the Tournament Committee reserves the right to ask a team to leave the tournament, declare any remaining games forfeit, and may bar a team from future participation.

Both teams, including their coaches, shall be on the same side of the field. Each team and their coaches shall remain between the midfield line and the 18 yard marking on their designated half. All other individuals must be on the opposite side of the field. No one will be allowed to stand at the goal ends of the field and everyone except those players waiting to substitute must remain beyond 1 yard of the touchlines. Coaching is not permitted from the spectator side of the field and only to the extent provided by FIFA rules from the coach/team areas. Arguments between parents or supporters, or with the referee, are inappropriate. Making derogatory remarks about or to opposing teams or their supporters, or the referees, will be grounds for dismissal from the Sports Complex. The referees will ask anyone not in conformance with these rules to move or refrain from inappropriate behavior or be subject to dismissal from the area.

13. **INCLEMENT WEATHER:** Regardless of weather conditions, coaches and their teams must appear on the field of play, ready to play as scheduled. However, the presence of lightning or dangerous wind will cause an immediate delay of play. In the event that play has already been stopped or postponed at your designated check-in or playing time, coaches and teams should report to the Tournament Director, Site Coordinator, or Field Marshall at the site's main tent area. Duration and severity of storms will determine what actions are required to insure safety, provide for maximum tournament play, and make equitable scoring decisions in the event of severe weather.

General Guidelines that may be modified by the tournament directors are as follows:

A. Although tournament officials may suspend play, the referee has complete discretion on stopping play on his or her field if deemed appropriate for safe play.

B. Teams, coaches, or spectators who ignore or defy a directive to promptly leave the fields or tents by referees or tournament personnel, risk forfeiture of the current or subsequent games.

C. In the event of a stoppage, teams must check with the tournament director or site coordinator to receive final instructions. Any team not present at resumption of play will forfeit the match.

D. In cases of extreme heat, allowance of unlimited substitutions and/or water breaks.

E. Rain delay guidelines

1. If the delay is of less than 15 minutes, all games will resume from the point of stoppage. If there is less than 5 minutes of play, the Referee will declare the game complete regardless of the score.

2. If the delay is from 15 to 30 minutes then

a. If the game is in the first half, the game will begin with the second half and be of 15 minutes length.

b. If the match is in the second half with less than 15 minutes played, the match will continue with 10 minutes remaining.

c. If the match is in the second half with more than 15 minutes played, the Referee will declare the game complete regardless of the score.

3. If the delay is for more than 30 minutes then

a. If the game is in the first half, the game will begin with the second half and be of 15 minutes length.

- b. If the match is in the second half, the Referee will declare the game complete regardless of the score.
- c. The Tournament Committee and Directors have the authority to change the duration of games or any other function including such things as game relocation, rescheduling, and reduction of time so that all teams will be able to complete their current or remaining games.