



## **SOCCER TOURNAMENTS 2025 | RULES & REGULATIONS**

### **RULES OF PLAY:**

It is the understanding of this tournament committee that all teams, including all players, coaches, spectators, and officials, will participate in the spirit of FAIR PLAY and will conduct themselves in accordance with the Tournament Rules.

### **PROTESTS:**

No protests will be allowed during this tournament. The decision of the Referee, Field Marshall, and the Tournament Director shall be final. All games will be considered final.

### **MEDICAL RELEASE / YOUTH WAIVER:**

All players must have signed Sports San Diego medical release / youth waiver forms at team check in and throughout the tournament.

### **ROSTER SIZE:**

Teams may register/roster a maximum of 18 players for 11v11 teams, 16 players for 9v9 teams and 14 players for 7v7 teams. A team may use up to 7 guest players but any team utilizing guest players is still limited to the stated maximum roster size. Girl players or teams are permitted to play 1 yr. down if playing on a Boys Team or in a Boys Division. Players cannot play in multiple teams throughout the tournament even if they are in different age divisions. Note: Rosters are frozen once the first game is played, and no additional players may be added after the competition has started.

### **PLAYER'S CREDENTIALS AND EQUIPMENT:**

The referee has the final determination as to the safety of each player's equipment. All players are required to use shin guards. No rings, chains, watches, metal objects, jewelry, or headbands may be worn. Soft casts are permitted with the permission of the referee.

Player picture identification cards are to be present and available at all matches to be checked by the referee prior to each match if needed. If no Player Card is available for player, Official Picture ID (Passport, California ID, etc.) with birthdate must be presented to Field Marshall upon request.

The shirt number of each player must be the same as the player's shirt number on the game card or roster.

**HOME TEAM:**

The home team appears first on the game schedule. The Home Team will supply the game ball, unless supplied by the tournament. The game ball is subject to referee approval. The home team will be required to switch to an alternate jersey if the referee declares color conflict.

**TEAM CHECK- IN & REGISTRATION:**

Teams must Check-In at the field one hour prior to the first game. Failure to check-in may result in disqualification from the tournament without a refund of the fee. Game Roster is final after check-in, no alterations or player additions may be made after.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR CHECK-IN & REGISTRATION:**

At the Mandatory Team Check-In, teams must provide the required credentials. All teams must provide Player Identification Cards with photographs and signed Medical Release / Youth Waiver forms.

**CONDUCT:**

All coaches should be mindful to ensure that their players, bench, friends, and spectators associated with their respective teams, always obey tournament rules and act civilly and in a sportsmanlike manner. Failure to do so may result in penalties or sanctions against the respective team, at the sole discretion of the tournament:

- No noise makers
- The tone of voice is instructive and not derogatory.
- Each coach or substitute remains within 10 yards of either side of the halfway line
- No coach, substitute or spectator makes derogatory remarks or gestures to the referees, other coaches, players, substitutes or spectators.
- No coach, substitute or spectator uses profanity or incites, in any manner, disruptive behavior
- Any parental behavior on the sideline such as profanity, coaching, fighting or other behavior that is not sportsmanlike is not accepted. Teams can be removed from the tournament per the Tournament Committee if they feel team sideline is out of control.
- No alcohol permitted at the tournament
- No smoking

**CAUTIONS & EJECTION'S:**

A player or coach receiving two (2) yellow cards in a single game is considered to have received an ejection (red card). Ejected players or coaches may not be replaced in the current game and shall serve a minimum of one game suspension at their next game played. For flagrant violations, longer suspension or additional disciplinary action may be enforced based on mandatory review of the Tournament Director. The tournament director will hold ID cards of the player or coach until suspensions are served. Suspended coaches cannot be on the same sideline as the team with no communication of any manner. Players may sit with the team but may not be in uniform. Suspended Coaches must be "Out of Sight & Sound of the Field".

**SUSPENDED GAMES:**

If, in the opinion of game officials, a game must be terminated due to misconduct of players, bench or spectators, the offending team could be suspended from further play and forfeit all points and position previously earned. Additionally, the home league and state association will be contacted as appropriate.

**SUBSTITUTIONS:**

Unlimited substitutions allowed in all ages group. However, teams may substitute only with the referee's permission. Substitutes must wait on the sideline (off the field of play) until the field player has left the field of play and/or the referee has indicated the substitute may enter the field of play.

Substitutions are allowed only at the following times (including overtimes):

Substitutions by either Team are allowed at any stoppage of play with the permission of the referee.

**SIDE LINES:**

Both teams and coaches will be on the same sideline directed by the field marshal or referee unless otherwise notified. All spectators will be on the opposite sideline.

**FORFEITURES & SUSPENSION:**

Games not played will be classified as "Forfeits & Suspension". Teams failing to report ready to play within Five (5) minutes of scheduled kick-off time forfeit that game. All teams who Forfeit or are Suspended will have the game scored 0-2 loss. The winner will be awarded 3 tournament points for a win.

A team needs the minimum number of players as required for a match for the game to get started.

7v7 = 5 players min.

9v9 = 6 players min.

11v11 = 8 players min.

**PLAYING TIMES:**

Play will be based on halves as specified below in all divisions:

AGE DIVISION	PLAYERS ON FIELD	GAME LENGTH	MAX ROSTER SIZE
2020 – 2016	7 v 7	25 Minute Halves 25 Minute Halves (Finals)	14 Players
2015 – 2014	9 v 9	25 Minute Halves 25 Minute Halves (Finals)	16 Players
2013 - 2007	11 v 11	30 Minute Halves 30 Minute Halves (Finals)	18 Players

**2015 and Younger: No heading.**

**2007-2014: Heading is allowed.**

**All teams will be scheduled for a minimum of 3 games.**

All Preliminary games will be terminated not less than five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the next game regardless of the amount of time played in each half up to that point. A game is "complete" upon completion of one half of play regardless of the circumstances of termination during the second half with final results based on the score at termination. A preliminary game can end in a tie.

**SEMI-FINAL GAMES:**

If tied will go directly to FIFA Penalty Kicks (5) from the Mark to determine a winner.

**CHAMPIONSHIP GAME:**

If tied will go directly to FIFA Penalty Kicks (5) from the Mark to determine a winner.

**HALF-TIME:**

Half-time will be five (5) minutes. If Game are delayed/behind schedule, the tournament holds the right to cut time from the half time.

**TOURNAMENT POINTS SYSTEM:**

**3 POINTS FOR EACH WIN**

**1 POINT FOR EACH TIE**

**0 POINT FOR EACH LOSS**

**SCORE REPORTING:**

Scores after each game will need to be reported by the Referee to Field Marshall.

**TIE BREAKERS:**

In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined as follows:

1. Total Points
2. The winner of head-to-head competition
3. Goal Differential
4. Goal Scored
5. Goals Against
6. Shutouts
7. Most wins

If a tie still exists after steps 1 through 7, FIFA Kicks from the Mark will be taken 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the Semi-Final or Final game. If a 3-way tie exists within a bracket after steps 1-5, a three-way coin -flip will be conducted. The teams that tie in the coin -flip will compete in FIFA Kicks from the Mark to eliminate one team prior to proceeding to FIFA Penalty Kicks from the Mark with the third team. The coin -flip and time of the FIFA Penalty Kicks from the Mark will be determined at the field.

**ACTS OF GOD:**

Rain or other weather conditions during the tournament shall not delay play unless the referee determines the field to be unsafe for play, or the venue determines that field damage will result due to continued play. In the event of such a delay or postponement of games, the tournament will endeavor to reschedule such games in a reasonable manner, if possible. If games cannot be rescheduled or played due to rain, weather, or other Acts of God there will be no refund or credit of fees.

**DISPUTES:**

The Tournament Committee will handle all disputes that are non-referee decisions and make all final decisions.

Decisions by referees may not be appealed and any decision on a dispute will be final and may not be appealed.



# SPORTS SAN DIEGO