



Tournament Rules

May 1st, 2022

All games shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as issued by FIFA/USYSA and Illinois Youth Soccer Association. The following rules supplement the Laws of the Game.

REGISTRATION & ELIGIBILITY

All teams are required to check in at the registration site, Waukegan Sports Park. No player shall be allowed to register for more than one team or switch from one team to another during the course of the tournament.

LENGTH OF GAMES & ROSTER SIZE

Game duration: U8 (7v7) - 25 min games; U10 (7v7) - 30 min games, U12 (9v9) - 35 min games; U14 (11v11) - 40 min games. The tournament does not require the referee to add time to any game. Referee or Tournament Staff decisions in these matters are final.

FORMAT

U8 | 7v7
Max. Roster Size • 16

U10 | 7v7
Max. Roster Size • 16

U12 | 9v9
Max. Roster Size • 16

U14 | 11v11
Max. Roster Size • 18

GAME PROCEDURES

All parents and spectators are required to sit on one side of the field opposite the players.

Home team wears light colored jersey; Away team wears a dark colored jersey. In the event of a conflict, the offending team must change or wear bibs. No coin toss – Home team sits on the north/west bench, defends north/west goal.

If an Official Tournament Ball is not present, the home team is responsible to provide a game ball. All U8 - U12 divisions shall use a #4 ball. U14 divisions shall use a #5 ball.

TOURNAMENT SCORING/TIE BREAKING

Games in the preliminary rounds will be scored as follows: Win – 3 Points, Draw – 1 Point, Loss - 0 Point In the event of a tie in deciding group positions, the following criteria will be used to break the tie:

1. Head to head competition (criteria not used if more than two teams are tied)
2. Winner of most games
3. Goal Differential (max 4 per game)
4. Fewest goals allowed
5. Penalty kicks

In the event 3 teams are tied, the tie-breakers will be applied until one team is eliminated. We will then go back to the #2 tie-breaker and apply the rules again with the two remaining teams in sequence until a winner can be determined. The tournament staff may change the semi-final bracketing of teams, so that two teams that have already played will not have to play again until the final.

OVERTIME PERIODS

During group competition, no overtime will be played. In the event of a tie in semi-final, third place and championship games, the following will occur: Teams will play two 5 minute overtime periods (golden goal counts). If still tied after overtime periods, teams will designate five players to take alternate penalty kicks: the best of five is the winner. Only those players on the field of play at the end of the second overtime period are eligible to take penalty kicks. If teams are still tied after 5 kicks, the remaining players will take alternate penalty kicks in sudden death fashion to determine a winner.

EQUIPMENT

In accordance with the IYSA, Rule 007, which endorses FIFA Law 4, "A player must not use equipment or wear anything which is dangerous to himself or another player." Therefore, no prescription glasses are permitted, only sports goggles. Casts and Orthopedic devices may be worn only if fully covered by foam and elastic bandage, and the player is allowed to play with the consent of the on-field referee, the Head referee will make the final decision if necessary. No metal parts may be exposed. Devices designed for sport play only may be worn. No jewelry may be worn by any player (earrings, watches, necklaces, etc.)

Shin guards must be worn by all players at all times. All players must have an individual number on their jersey, no duplicate numbers. All players' equipment is subject to referee approval.

FORFEITS

Games will commence on time if the minimum numbers of players are present. A forfeit shall be awarded if a team is not present and prepared to play within five minutes of the scheduled start time. In the event of a forfeit, the winning team will be awarded a 4-0 win. Any team that forfeits a game may receive a ban on HOTC events, and may incur club repercussions.

SUBSTITUTIONS

For all age groups, substitution is on the fly.

An injured player may be substituted at the discretion of the referee. If a substitution is made for the injured player, the opposing team may also make a "one-for-one" substitution.

PROTESTS

All referee decisions are final. No protests will be heard on any judgment calls by the referee.

All protests must be written to the tournament committee within one hour after completion of the game, along with a check for \$100. If the protest is not upheld, the protest fee will not be refunded.

EJECTIONS

A player, who receives a red card, will receive a minimum of a one game suspension. The tournament committee can increase that suspension if it is warranted.

The throwing of a punch is an automatic removal from the tournament.

A coach who receives a red card will receive a minimum of a one game suspension plus possible intervention by the tournament committee and their state association.

No substitution can be made for a disqualified player for that game.

PROTESTS

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DISCLAIMER

Reschedule, relocate or terminate games due to weather conditions. If 1/2 of the game has been played before termination for weather conditions or tournament director decision, the game stands as a completed match and is scored accordingly. NOTE: the referee or Tournament Director may suspend a game without necessarily being terminated. Reduce by up to half, the duration of the game. Cancel a preliminary game that has no bearing in deciding the group winner. Decide the final tournament standings, trophy winners. Move penalty kicks to another field or area in order not to hold up other games.

The tournament director has the right to change any of these rules or make a decision that would be in the best interest of the participants.

REFUND POLICY

Heart of the City is not responsible for any expenses incurred by any team in the event games are discontinued or canceled due to inclement weather or adverse field conditions. We will offer a 100% refund if the tournament is canceled due to COVID-19 in 2022. If the tournament is cancelled due to an "act of nature", Heart of the City has the option of retaining 20% of the team entry fee to cover set-up and administration costs. No refunds offered for any other reason.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Heart of the City is dedicated to the development of all the young men and women participating in the tournament, to good sportsmanship and to the "good of soccer." The Tournament Director may suspend, without recourse or appeal, any players, coaches, or spectators who demonstrate anything less.



www.heartofthecitysports.org
847-623-6200 ext. 1
info@hotcsoccer.org

heartofthecitysports.org/2022-spring-into-action-tournament



REGISTER BY April 10, 2022

Go to heartofthecitysports.org