

2024 Season Finale

RULES and REGULATIONS

Tournament Headquarters:

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Tournament Directors:

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SANCTION AND AFFILIATION

The Season Finale tournament is sanctioned by US Club Soccer, an affiliate member of the United States Soccer Federation (USSF). US Club Soccer does not require travel permits but all non-US Club Soccer teams must satisfy their own state travel obligations.

TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY

US, Canadian and International Competitive Club teams, State/Provincial Select Teams, Tournament Select Teams and ODP Teams who are registered and in good standing with their official governing body (USSF or CSA affiliates) will be considered for application to all of our events.

U9 THRU U15 COMPETITION

Open to all USSF, CSA and International affiliated teams. Sanctioning granted by US Club Soccer which allows competitive competition for all age groups.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS/FORMATS OFFERED

U9 and U10 – 7v7 (6+keeper) - Premier and Division 1

U11 and U12 – 9v9 (8+keeper) - Premier and Division 1

U13 and up - 11v11 (10+keeper)- Premier and Division 1

Tournament officials reserve the right to combine flights and/or age groups should the number of teams entered require such action.

Age Requirements

In order to play in a given age category, you must meet the following requirements:

U9 or 2016 (born between 01/01/16 and 12/31/16) 7v7

U10 or 2015 (born between 01/01/15 and 12/31/15) 7v7

U11 or 2014 (born between 01/01/14 and 12/31/14) 9v9

U12 or 2013 (born between 01/01/13 and 12/31/13) 9v9

U13 or 2012 (born between 01/01/12 and 12/31/12) 11v11

U14 or 2011 (born between 01/01/11 and 12/31/11) 11v11

U15 or 2010 (born between 01/01/10 and 12/31/10) 11v11

Roster Size

All age groups – maximum roster size as allowed by your governing organization.

Younger players are allowed to play up an age group as an individual or as an entire team.

A player may play for more than one team, providing that the teams are not in the same division.

Player(s) must be listed on all team rosters participating on.

No limit on guest players. Guest players may be any player that is:

- a. Age eligible
- b. Is currently affiliated with USSF or CSA and not on your current roster.

Guest player pass card must be issued by same organization as your official team roster.

TEAM CHECK-IN AND REGISTRATION-ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY

Each team is required to submit one copy of an official approved roster. Validated team player passes are required for each player and coach. (if available) Canadian and International teams will be required to provide the equivalent. The Official "contact form" must be completed and signed. If your governing organization requires guest player/loan forms or permission to travel/permission to participate, these forms must be presented as well.

In compliance with Ohio HB 143 of the 129th General Assembly:

All teams are required to submit a copy of certificate of completion of online concussion course for ALL adults (coach, manager, team parent(s) who will be present on players sideline during all tournament matches.

Three online training courses have been approved by the Ohio Department of Health:

National Federation of High School Association (NFHS) Concussion In Sports

<http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=38000>

National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) Concussion Training

<http://www.nays.org/additional-training/preview/concussion-training.cfm>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Heads Up Concussion in Youth Sports Training

http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online_training.html

These are the ONLY concussion training courses that are accepted by ODH and CASA Tournaments. Certificate of completion must be issued by NFHS, NAYS or CDC. Copies of certificate are to be submitted to tournament officials at team registration/check in.

International teams need not present proof of entry or passports.

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY.

Schedules will be available on-line approximately 5-7 days prior to the event. All game times are subject to change, at the discretion of the tournament committee.

GAME PROCEDURES

All games, including playoffs and championships will be played as follows:

Age Group	Length of Game	Ball Size
U9, U10 (7v7)	Two 25 minute halves	4
U11, U12 (9v9)	Two 25 minute halves	4
U13 and up 11v11	Two 30 minute halves	5

The maximum number of games in one day will be three.

The first team listed on the schedule will be the home team.

There could be exceptions, but as a general rule, teams will be on the same side of the field with the home team on the North/East side and the visiting team on the South/West side.

The home team must have an alternate jersey and be prepared to change if, in the opinion of the referee, there is a color conflict.

All teams should be prepared to supply a “club linesperson” if necessary.

The home team must supply the game ball.

Teams should warm up in an adjoining area by the field and should be prepared to start their game on time.

No warm up on the field

The minimum number of player necessary to start game: 11v11 is 7 (6+keeper), 9v9 is 6 (5+keeper), 7v7 is 5 (4+keeper)

In the case of a team not having the minimum number of players to field, a team or a “no show” by opponent: the game may NOT be called and declared a forfeit by referee. Referee must consult with assignor and tournament director.

The tournament director is the ONLY official that has authority to declare forfeit.

If a team forfeits any game in the preliminary round, all games that that team participates in (including games already played) will be recorded as 0 to 1 score against the forfeiting team.

COMPETITION FORMAT

The competition format will be determined by the number of entries per age category.

The CASA Tournament officials reserve the right to combine age brackets/flights/formats should the number of teams participating warrant such a move.

Each team will play a minimum three (3) games. (Exception: in event of opponent withdrawing from tournament or no opponent (TBA), effort will be made to find opponent for a “friendly” game, but tournament cannot guarantee game.)

Games scheduled for teams with no opponent (TBA), or in case of opponent forfeit, will be awarded the win (1-0) and the points (3).

Teams that have already played each other in pool play will not play each other in semi-finals if avoidable.

Tournament officials have authority to make decision as to possible switch in opponent in semi-final games.

Teams from the same club will NOT meet until the finals if possible.

DETERMINING CHAMPIONS IN EACH GROUP

All team standings shall be determined by using the following criteria, in order of importance.

1) Total number of points- each team receives 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie and 0 points for a loss.

2) Record head to head (If 3 or more teams are tied, head to head will not be used.)

3) Goal difference- Subtract total goals allowed from total goals scored. Please note: The maximum recorded goal difference in any one game shall be four (4)

4) Most goals scored (up to 4 per game)

5) Least goals allowed

6) FIFA penalty kicks

In event of forfeit, rules 3 and 4 will be placed in a “per game average”

Official scores/standings, semi-final bracketing and any field changes will be online only.

OVERTIME PERIODS

During group competition, no overtime will be played. Each team will be awarded one point for a tie.

In playoff competition, if game is tied at completion of regulation play, no overtime will be played. Teams will go directly to FIFA tie-breaking method of kicks from the penalty mark to determine winner.

FIFA RULES APPLY TO ALL AGES AND FORMATS WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

Offside rule is in effect for all age groups.

No heading is allowed for U11 age groups and younger.

Substitutions

1) Substitutes are to enter the game at the centerline on the bench side of the field.

2) Teams in all age groups are allowed unlimited substitutions.

3) Substitutions may take place for both teams at the following times provided that permission is granted by the referee:

a) on a goal kick

b) after a goal is scored

c) on an injury, when the referee has stopped play

d) at half time and the start of any overtime period (in the playoffs)

e) after a caution is issued

f) on a throw in – If the team in possession of the ball is permitted to substitute, the other team is allowed to also substitute provided the player was already at the center line ready to enter the field.

EJECTIONS

If, for any reason, a player or coach get ejected from any game (receiving one [1] red card or two [2] yellow cards) the same player or coach will lose his/her eligibility to further participate in this game. In addition, they will lose the right to participate in the next scheduled game. Furthermore, they may lose the right for further participation in the entire tournament depending on the gravity of the offense. The tournament disciplinary committee's decision is FINAL. Foul and abusive language is cause for ejection.

PROTESTS

No protests will be heard. **All decisions by the Tournament Directors Committee are final.**

WEATHER PROVISIONS

Games called off in the first half, by the referee or Tournament Director, because of weather conditions, will be decided as follows:

a) The team up by two goals or more shall be awarded a win.

b) Score difference of one goal or less will be recorded as a tie.

Games called off during the second half are confirmed complete and will be scored according to the score at the time the game is called off.

Under no circumstances whatsoever will the Tournament Committee, Central Alliance Soccer Association, Internationals SC, North Coast Premier Soccer, LLC or hosting organization, be responsible to any expenses (including the tournament entry fee) incurred by any team. This includes a situation where tournament or any game(s) is (are) cancelled in whole or in part.

FIFA rules will apply to all games, conditions, and situations unless otherwise specified within these tournament rules.

ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

1) Any player or spectator found using any alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs on premises will be expelled from the tournament.

2) Any player who destroys or steals property will be expelled from the tournament.

3) No firearms on premises

REFUND POLICY

Once accepted into the tournament, no refunds will be granted. If weather conditions or the state of the fields make it impossible to carry out the tournament to its full extent, it is up to the organizers to make the necessary decisions concerning the arrangement or cancellation of games for any reason. Fees are non-refundable if games or the tournament are cancelled for any reason.

REFEREES

This tournament will use certified officials for all matches (USSF Rule 3040). The Tournament Committee and Referee assignor will make every effort to use a three referee system of officiating at all 11v11 games.

BLOOD RULE

Any player who is bleeding and/or has blood on any part of the uniform will be required to leave the field by the referee. A substitution can be made. The player sent off may return once the bleeding is stopped and/or bandaged. The affected uniform must be cleaned before the player may re-enter the game.

SPECTATORS

Coaches and players will be required to stand on the same side of the field during competition – limited to three coaches/managers per team. Spectators will be required to remain on the opposite side of the field.

NO PETS ARE ALLOWED.

AWARDS

Trophies will be awarded to winners and second place teams for each age group.