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OFFICIAL DOCUMENT TOURNAMENTS POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

## **SAN JUAN SOCCER CLUB TOURNAMENT POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS**

*\*Applies to all Club tournaments: dated February 2024.*

### **FIFA RULES:**

- The rules will be as modified by USYSA and US Club Soccer, as well as modified herein.
- The age matrix for 2023/2024 will be utilized.

### **CREDENTIALS:**

- Laminated USCS or USYSA/CYSA player cards will be required for participation.
- Medical release forms signed by a parent are necessary for each player.
- An official USCS roster or CYSA Golden Rod must be presented.
- Guest/Loan forms must be signed by all parties involved.
- All teams that are not US Club Soccer members must obtain and submit travel papers prior to competition.
- It is imperative to note that mixed passes are not permitted.

### **MEDICAL RELEASE:**

- All players MUST have a signed medical release form in order to participate.

### **CHECK-IN PROCESS:**

- We will be holding online check-in this year for all paperwork requirements.
- On game days, a team representative must check in at their assigned field marshal tent a minimum of 45-30 minutes prior to the first scheduled game of the tournament to verify player passes and check in.
- For each subsequent game, a team representative is required to check in at the Field Marshal tent at least 30 minutes prior to their scheduled game time.

### **SHIN GUARDS & CASTS:**

- All players are required to wear shin guards during play.
- Additionally, no hard casts will be permitted under any circumstances, with no exceptions granted.

### **UNIFORM RULE:**

- Home uniforms should consist of dark uniform colors.
- Away uniforms should consist of light/white uniform colors.

### **EXPECTED COACH CONDUCT:**

- All coaches bear full responsibility for the conduct of their players, substitutes, and spectators throughout the duration of the event.
- If a coach is unable to control the behavior of the parents associated with their team, they may face ejection, potentially resulting in the team losing a point.
- Furthermore, the use of any type of noisemaker on the sidelines is strictly prohibited.

### **EXPECTED SPECTATOR CONDUCT:**

- All spectators are obligated to take their places on the side of the field opposite to where the Team Benches are located. In a gesture of sportsmanship, we ask that spectators demonstrate support for their respective teams by positioning themselves in the same half of the field as their team, essentially mirroring the team's location. This helps maintain a sense of unity and cohesion among supporters. Furthermore, we urge spectators to refrain from mingling with supporters from opposing teams, as this can mitigate potential conflicts and foster a positive atmosphere for all participants. It is crucial to emphasize that spectators are strictly prohibited from occupying the side of the field designated for the teams, ensuring clear boundaries and facilitating smooth operations during the event.

## **SUSPENDED GAMES:**

- If, according to the judgment of game officials, a game must be terminated due to misconduct or unsportsmanlike behavior by players, bench personnel, or spectators, the offending team(s) will forfeit their match and may face suspension from further play. The scoring regulations outlined in the "Forfeit and Byes" section of these rules will be applied. Additionally, the home league, state association, and/or relevant FIFA Association will be notified as necessary. In the event that a game must be terminated for reasons unrelated to either team, the score at the time of termination will stand.

## **YELLOW CARDS AND RED CARDS:**

- In this tournament, if a player accumulates two yellow cards within a single game, it is treated equivalently to receiving a red card. Consequently, any player who receives either a red card or two yellow cards in one game will be immediately expelled from that game and cannot be substituted. Such a player or coach will be ineligible to participate in the subsequent game as well. It's important to note that the tournament committee retains the authority to adjust penalties for severe infractions or violent conduct violations. Coaches can receive cards for their own actions or those of spectators or friends associated with the team. Each red card received by a team in a game will result in the deduction of 1 point from their score.

## **SEMIFINALS PAIRING:**

- If teams that faced each other in the preliminary rounds are scheduled to compete in a Semifinal match, the lower-seeded teams in the two Semifinals will exchange positions, unless this exchange results in an identical scenario.

## **SUBSTITUTIONS RULE:**

- Free substitutions are permitted in all age groups.
- Teams may make substitutions at any stoppage of play, provided they have obtained permission from the referee.

## **TOURNAMENT WEBSITE:**

- This web site and/or live scoring displays, shall be the final reference for all schedules, scores, rules, policies, and procedures. Any conflicts between this site and other published information shall default to this site. The Tournament Committee maintains the right to independently make new and possibly conflicting rules or regulations on the web site at any time.

## **DETERMINING WINNERS:**

- Teams shall be awarded points on the following basis:
  - Three (3) points for each win.
  - One (1) points for each tie.
  - Zero (0) points for a loss.
  - A maximum three (3) points may be earned in each preliminary game.
- Minus one (-1) point for each red card per game (players and/or coaches).
- Guest Teams: Teams that are accepted to the tournament as "guest teams" shall not advance out of their group. The guest team results are predetermined to be 1-0 against the guest team.

## **TIEBREAKER RULES:**

- In the event of a tie in points at the end of bracket play, the teams to advance will be determined as follows:
  - 1. The winner in head to head competition
  - 2. Goal differential (up to 5 per game)
  - 3. Goal For (up to 5 per game)
  - 4. Goals Against
  - 5. Most Wins
  - 6. Flip of a Coin/Coin Toss

### THREE TEAM TIES:

- In the event that more than two teams tie in points at the conclusion of the preliminary round, the advancing team will be determined by completing steps two through five. Upon elimination of one team, after any of four steps, the remaining teams will proceed through the remaining steps of the tie-breaker to determine the team which advances irrespective of the results of the previous steps.

### ROSTER RULES:

- The maximum roster size is as follows:
  - U15 – U19 age groups can roster up to 26 players but only 18 players may be in uniform and participate in each game.
  - U13 and U14 age groups can roster up to 26 players but only 18 players may be in uniform and participate in each game.
  - U11 and U12 age groups can roster up to 16 players and play 16 players per game.
  - U9 and U10 age groups can roster, and play up to 12 players per game
- Guest Players: Each team is allowed up to six guest players, not to exceed maximum roster size per age group. Player passes for guest players must be from the same season as the team as a whole. No mixed passes allowed.

### PLAYING ON MULTIPLE TEAMS:

- Players may play on multiple teams if playing in different age groups.
- Playing on multiple teams is not allowed within the same age group.

### HOME TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The home team will be the team that appears first on the game schedule. The home team for Final games will be the team with the most points entering the match. The home team will supply the game ball unless supplied by the tournament. The game ball will be subject to referee approval. The home team will be required to switch to an alternate jersey if a color conflict is declared by the referee.

### FORFEITS AND BYES:

- Teams failing to report ready to play within five (5) minutes of the scheduled kickoff time, teams with fewer than seven (7) players to start a game or teams failing to check-in at the designated time will forfeit the game with a score of 3-0 awarded to the qualified team. The winner will be awarded three (3) points. San Juan Soccer Club will not provide for a make-up or replacement game in the event of a forfeit.
- San Juan Soccer Club is fully accountable to schedule the guaranteed number of games but will bear no financial responsibility if a team does not get to play the guaranteed number of games due to an opponent team forfeiting.

### INJURY DELAYS:

- In the event of game delays caused by injuries, regardless of the duration of injury time, a maximum of five (5) minutes will be added to the full game time. However, it is the responsibility of the referees to ensure that any additional time added does not disrupt the commencement of the next scheduled game. For more details, please refer to the Playing Times section provided below.

### PLAYING TIMES:

Play will be based on halves as specified in the chart on the right and description below:

- All preliminary games will end at least 5 minutes before the next scheduled game, regardless of time played.
- If a game is terminated after one half, the score at termination stands as final. Ties are allowed in preliminary matches. In semifinals, ties lead to penalty kicks.
- Championship matches tied after regulation will have two 5-minute OTs before penalty kicks decide the winner.

Age Group	Preliminaries	Semifinals	Finals	Overtime (*)
U09 (7v7)	25 Min	25 Min	25 Min	5 Min
U10 (7v7)	25 Min	25 Min	25 Min	5 Min
U11 (9v9)	25 Min	25 Min	25 Min	5 Min
U12 (9v9)	25 Min	25 Min	25 Min	5 Min
U13 (11v11)	30 Min	30 Min	30 Min	5 Min
U14 (11v11)	30 Min	30 Min	30 Min	5 Min

**HALF TIME:**

- Half time will be exactly 5 minutes.

**WEATHER:**

- In the event of inclement weather, winners will be decided based on tournament points earned up to then for those games that have been completed or begun, with tie breakers determined as described elsewhere in these rules. In case of cancellation due to weather, tournament officials retain the right to keep up to one-third (1/3) of the registration fee to cover expenses. There will be no make-up games due to weather.

**REFUND POLICY:**

- Teams are not charged application fees until accepted. Refunds will be provided to teams that withdraw from the tournament prior to the application deadline, minus a \$100 administrative fee.
- Teams requesting to withdraw following acceptance must do so by contacting the tournament at [sjsctournaments@sanjuansoccer.org](mailto:sjsctournaments@sanjuansoccer.org), however, they shall forfeit their entire application fee. No refunds will be issued once the tournament has started.
- Teams requesting to withdraw because they disagree with the division/bracket placement or with the schedule are not entitled to any refund.

**DISPUTES:**

- All disputes shall be settled by the Tournament Committee.

**PROTESTS:**

- There will be absolutely no protests allowed.

**AWARDS:**

- Champion Medals (individual) and a Team Trophy will be given to the Age Group Champions (All Age Groups).
- Finalist Medals (individual) will be given to the Age Group Finalists (All Age Groups).
- All awards will be handed out after each Championship Game.

**ONSITE PHOTO AND VIDEO:**

- San Juan Soccer Club operates on private property, and we reserve the right to enforce policies and procedures to maintain a safe and professional environment.
- Any outside creative professionals, including photographers and videographers, shooting on behalf of a club, team, or player must obtain pre-approval from San Juan Soccer Club before commencing any work on club premises.
- To obtain pre-approval, creatives must contact [media@sanjuansoccer.org](mailto:media@sanjuansoccer.org) and complete an extensive screening process.
- Failure to secure pre-approval will result in the creative being asked to leave the premises immediately, with enforcement by San Juan Soccer Club staff or security personnel as needed.
- If parents discover that an unapproved creative has taken photos of their children and violated their privacy, please rest assured that the creative will be banned from accessing our facility in the future for evading proper procedures. San Juan Soccer Club is committed to protecting the privacy and safety of all players and families.
- All photographers, videographers, and other creative media professionals must meet and coordinate proper regulations of field access with a designated point of contact from San Juan Soccer Club. This coordination will serve as a formal check-in process to ensure compliance and safety.