



TOURNAMENT RULES and PROCEDURES

GENERAL RULES

Game Guarantee – All teams are guaranteed a minimum of four games. The maximum number of games is determined by the number of teams in an age group.

Home Team Jersey – The first team listed in the schedule is the home team. The home team must have an alternate jersey and be prepared to change, if, in the opinion of the referee, there is a colour conflict. Team jerseys must all match in style and have a unique number for each player. Player jersey numbers must match the jersey numbers submitted on the Official Tournament roster. No sharing of jerseys permitted.

Duration of Games - Length of Game Per Age Group (min. per half)

Age Group classification	Preliminaries	Finals	Age group classification	Preliminaries	Finals
Boys or Girls 09	25	30	Boys or Girls 15	35	40
Boys or Girls 10	25	30	Boys or Girls 16	35	40
Boys or Girls 11	25	30	Boys or Girls 17	35	45
Boys or Girls 12	30	35	Boys or Girls 18	35	45
Boys or Girls 13	30	35	M or W Under 21	35	45
Boys or Girls 14	35	40			

- a) Length of games will be as indicated on each schedule. No overtime will be played during group competition. Half time in all games will be approximately five (5) min. If a game is interrupted it is considered officially played if the first half of the scheduled time has been completed.
- b) Length of Quarter-final, Semi-final and Final games will be indicated on each schedule. If the game is tied after regulation play, Group Ranking Rule 5 will apply.
- c) In the event of inclement weather, poor field conditions, or unforeseen circumstances, the tournament committee shall have the authority to change the above format as follows:
 - i) relocate and/or reschedule any game
 - ii) to reduce the scheduled duration of any game
 - iii) cancel games in preliminary rounds which have no bearing in deciding playoff positions

Game Ball – All divisions use a size 5, except for U09, U10, U11 and U12, which use a size 4.

Placement to Teams/Spectators – Whenever possible, teams and rostered coaches only should position themselves on the same side of the field, while spectators for both teams should be positioned on the other side of the field. Coaching may only occur on the team's half of the sideline, from the centreline to approximately 30 yards of the end line.

Referee System – The diagonal system of control will be used with certified referees. Toronto Cup will assign referees for all matches, but teams should be prepared to provide a club "linesperson", if necessary. A club "linesperson" may be used to determine balls out of play only.

Eligibility – Teams / Players

- a) All teams must be currently registered with their Region, State or Provincial Association.
- b) All teams from outside the jurisdiction of the York Region Soccer Association, must have the appropriate permission to travel forms authorized by their governing Association.
- c) Each team may dress up to 18 players (14 for U9 and U10) in game uniforms for each game. All players must meet the age requirements and be listed on the team roster. Girls may be rostered on boy's teams. Each roster may have up to five (5) guest players from any FIFA affiliated Association/team. These players must provide their standard approved Association documentation for such eligibility.
- d) Approved player passes which are signed and laminated, Canadian booklets or Toronto Cup International Player Passes may be checked

by Toronto Cup Officials prior to a game. Players must have player passes in order to play. There is a no pass – no play policy.

- e) All teams must be covered by the required medical and liability insurance.

FIFA Laws of the Game – Toronto Cup will be played under the FIFA Laws of the game which are in effect January 1, 2007. Subsequent modifications to the Laws of the Game made by FIFA will become effective per the directive of FIFA and/or the Canadian Soccer Association. Toronto Cup may further modify certain Laws in keeping with Tournament Rules and Procedures.

Pre-Game Warm-Ups – It is essential that games begin on time. Have your team warm up on the sideline; there will be no pre-game warm-up on the field. Please plan your pre-game practice warm-up in an adjoining area.

Game Card – At the end of each game, after verifying the score, both coaches must sign the game card. Any scores that are marked incorrectly on the game card will affect the standings.

Red Cards – Red cards will be administered as per FIFA Laws of the game. Any participant who is sent off for a second caution will not be allowed to participate for the remainder of that game and the next game. The referee will display both the yellow and red cards to indicate the dismissal for a second cautionable offense.

Any participant sent off for any other reason will not be allowed to participate for the remainder of that game and the next game at a minimum. Violence may result in more than a one game suspension by Tournament Committee decision.

If a player receives a red card, the player pass will be retained by the referee and forwarded to headquarters. After the suspension is served, the coach may pick up the pass at headquarters.

At the end of the tournament, unserved red cards of Ontario players will be forwarded to OSA.

Unserved red cards from non-Ontario teams will be sent to the proper Association within 48 hours of the end of the team's last game.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE BEHAVIOUR

Toronto Cup will not tolerate any unsportsmanlike behaviour on or off the field. We ask that you please:

1. *Know and understand the Laws of the game. Educate the players on the technical, tactical and physical demands of the game.*
2. *Keep your players and spectators under control. The Tournament adheres to a zero tolerance for fighting or heckling. Any person conducting themselves in this manner will be asked to leave the premises.*
3. *Be a positive role model. Set the standard for sportsmanship with the opponents, referees, and spectators.*
4. *Encourage moral and social responsibility.*
5. *Encourage players to have fun and to keep a positive attitude about winning and losing.*
6. *Show pride and support for your Club, Province, State and Country, but be respectful of other nation's customs and traditions.*

PROTESTS

All protests must be in writing and delivered to the Tournament Headquarters as designated by the Tournament Committee, together with a non-refundable cash fee of \$100 within one (1) hour of the completion of the game to which the protest relates. The referee is the sole time keeper of each game. No protest of a referee's decision will be entertained. The decision of the Tournament Committee will be final.



TOURNAMENT RULES and PROCEDURES

GROUPINGS

1. Teams will be divided into groups of 3, 4 or 5 for round robin play. Each team is assigned at least three games in the initial group play. Each team may play games against other teams within its group. Groups that have three teams may play two games within their own group and one game against a team from another group.

Exception: If there is an insufficient number of teams in a group/flight, the Tournament reserves the right to play that group as an all team Group format. The top two teams from the Group will play in a championship game to determine a winner.

2. The Tournament reserves the right to combine age groups, depending on the total number of teams in a particular age division. Teams will be notified when groups are combined. It is likely that a decision to combine groups will not be made until approximately two weeks prior to the event.
3. All games do count in the group standings for determining play-off placement.

Group Ranking

1. Teams will be awarded 3 points for a win and 1 point for a tie.
2. A forfeit score will be recorded as a 3-0 victory.
3. At the end of the preliminary round, the following criteria will be used to determine placement for the play-off brackets, in order of importance.
 - a. greater number of points obtained – Each team receives 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss.
 - b. goal differences – Total goals allowed minus total goals scored.
 - c. greater number of goals scored.
 - d. least number of goals allowed
 - e. a two-way tie shall be decided as in the preceding subsections; in case of a three-way tie or more, the teams will go straight to penalty kicks. A coin toss will determine the team with the bye
 - f. in the event that wild cards must be selected, such teams shall be those with the best non-qualifying record in the age division, determined by the number of points accumulated. In the event of a tie, criteria 3b, 3c, and 3d shall apply. If still tied, the team with the lower Toronto Cup team ID number will determine the wild card team.
4. A wild card team shall play against a team from its own group in the playoff round if such is the schedule.
5. In the event of tied games in Quarter-final, Semi-final or final rounds the following procedure will be used to determine game winners:
 - a. best of five penalty kicks by five players from each team
 - b. alternate penalty kicks by balance of team until a decision is reached. Any player listed on the roster form will be eligible to take penalty kicks.

FAILURE TO SHOW AND FORFEITED GAMES

1. A team shall be allowed a ten minute grace period from the scheduled kick-off time if there are less than seven players (5 players in U-9/10) present before the game is awarded to their opponents
2. If a team forfeits a game, their opponents will be awarded a win and given 3 points and the game will stand at a 3-0 score. A team forfeiting a game will be subject to a \$100 fine and will be reported to their Regional, State or Provincial Association

SUBSTITUTION

All teams are allowed unlimited substitutions with their entire roster. Unlimited substitutions may be made with the consent of the referee, at the following times:

- Prior to a goal kick, by either team;
- After a goal, by either team;
- After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play;
- At half time;
- Prior to a throw in – only the team in possession of the ball for a throw-in may substitute (**only in preliminary round games**).

CONVENORS

Toronto Cup uses a system of field convenors to help keep the games on time, as a resource in case of a problem, and as a first line of communication. Each field convenor will have a communications radio for injuries. The referees also use the field convenors tent as a meeting area.

COACHES' RESPONSIBILITY FOR INJURIES

It must be understood that coaches are considered guardians for underage participants, when the parents are unavailable, and for all players, regardless of age, when impairment of mental status renders the player incapable of making an informed decision. As such, they have a responsibility to make decisions in the best interest of the health and safety of the player. A coach's decision to allow a participant to play, may leave the coach open to legal liability.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION

Team coaches are responsible for having emergency medical/insurance information for all players in their possession at all games. Teams are also required to provide their own medical kits as might be needed.

EVALUATING REFEREES

Referees will be evaluated by certified assessors throughout the tournament. These evaluators will be used to help determine the referee assignments for the play-off rounds.

USE OF ALCOHOL

Consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited at any field or facility used by Toronto Cup. Violation could result in suspension from the Tournament.

NON-ATTENDANCE

If a team fails to attend the tournament, it does not justify other teams receiving any refund. There will be no financial compensation to teams that miss games because of another teams non-attendance.

CANCELLATION

If the Tournament is cancelled due to events beyond the control of the Tournament Committee, the Tournament will not be required to make any financial compensation in excess of refund of the tournament fee paid to Toronto Cup.

WAIVER

By entering this Tournament, every participant agrees to accept the jurisdiction of the Tournament Committee or its Members, Tournament Time, the field sites and their respective employees, the York Region Soccer Association (YRSA), Ontario Soccer Association (OSA) and, Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) in all matters of dispute.

