

- 1) AGE AND ELIGIBILITY
- a) Participation in the Southern Soccerfest is open to accepted recreational teams meeting the age limit of the divisions. Each team must be registered with a US Youth Soccer Association State Association. Player registration cards (passes with pictures, signatures and laminated will be required as proof of age and registration. Player passes and Tournament Rosters must be present at the field for the duration of the game.
 - b) Age groups for teams are those of US youth Soccer for the seasonal year.

- 2) LAWS OF THE GAME
- a) All games shall be played in accordance with FIFA Laws, except as specifically modified by GYSA Modifications to the Laws of the Game for Recreational teams and these rules.
 - b) U08 teams that play 4v4. Roster limit is 8 players.
 - c) U08 teams that play 5v5. Roster limit is 10 players. U10 teams will play 6v6. Roster limit is 12 players. U12 teams will play 8v8. Roster limit is 14 players. U14-U16 teams will play 11v11. Roster limit is 18 players. U19 teams will play 11v11. Roster limit is 22 players.

3) DURATION OF GAMES

The Duration of tournament games shall be:

Year	Ball Size	Round Robin Semi-Finals Finals
Under 19	5	60 minutes
Under 16	5	60 minutes
Under 14	5	60 minutes
Under 12	4	60 minutes
Under 10	4	50 minutes
Under 08	3	40 minutes

- 4) FIELD AND GAME EQUIPMENT
- a) Players must wear numbers on the back of their uniforms and these numbers shall coincide with those listed on the team's Official Team/Game Roster.
 - b) Players are required to wear shin guards in accordance with FIFA laws of the game.
 - c) Where uniform colors are similar, the designated home will change colors. Home team is listed first on the schedule. Numbers are not required on alternate jerseys.
 - d) When requested by the referee, each team must provide a linesperson.
 - e) The designated home team shall provide the game ball unless supplied by the tournament
 - f) Check-in time is 30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off.
 - g) PLAYERS WEARING A CAST WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PLAY.

5) PROTESTS

- a) THERE WILL BE NO PROTEST ALLOWED.

6) SUBSTITUTIONS

- a) Each player must play a minimum of half of each half of a match.
Under 8, Under 10, Under 12 Divisions:
There shall be four times to substitute. At two of these times, substitutions are mandatory:
 - a) In the middle of the first half of play, and
 - b) In the middle of the second half of play.
 At the other two times, substitutions may be made at the option of the coach:
 - a) At half time, and
 - b) In case of an injured player's substitution, the opposing team may also substitute.

Under 14 and Older Divisions:

- Unlimited substitutions may be made, with referee's permission:
- a) After a goal has been scored.
 - b) At the beginning of the second half or play or prior to the beginning of an overtime period.
 - c) At a goal kick by either team.
 - d) At a throw-in by the team in possession.
 - e) In case of stoppage of play for an injury.

7) FIELD MARSHALS

- a) Each home team may be asked to provide a field marshal for each game, if needed.
- b) The field marshal will need to report to the field 15 minutes before the scheduled game time.
 - 1) Responsibilities include:
- c) Following referees directions before, during and after the game.
- d) Assisting site director as requested.

8) CONDUCT

- a) Players, coaches, and spectators are expected to conduct themselves within the spirit and the letter of the Law. Displays of temper or dissent are cause for dismissal from the game and surrounding field area.
- b) Player, coaches, and team officials ejected from a game by the referee shall be ineligible for the remainder of the tournament.
- c) All players and coaches will take one side of the field, and supporters will take the other side. No one will be allowed behind either goal line, or within 18 yards of the corner flags.
- d) ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE NOT PERMITTED AT GAME SITES.
- e) ARTIFICIAL NOISE-MAKING DEVICES ARE PROHIBITED.
- f) PETS ARE NOT PERMITTED AT GAMES SITES.

9) DIVISION WINNERS AND WILD CARD TEAMS

- a) Each team will be awarded points as follows:
10 points for a forfeit.
6 points for a win
3 points for a tie
1 point for each goal scored (maximum of 3 per game)
1 point for a shutout
0 points for a loss

- b) At the end of the preliminary rounds, the division winner shall be the team with the most points in their division. In the event of a tie within a division, the following criteria shall be used to determine the winner.

- 1) Head to head competition. (In the event of a tie among more than 2 teams, this criterion will not be considered.)
- 2) Greater Goal differential - Maximum 3 per game (i.e. a score of 5-2 would be equal to a score of 3-0).
- 3) Least number of goals allowed.
- 4) FIFA kicks from the penalty mark thirty minutes prior to the schedules playoff round games.

- c) If more than two teams are tied, the sequence will be followed until a team is eliminated. The remaining teams will then restart the sequence at 9B above, until the tie is broken.

If three teams are still tied after computing the listed tiebreakers and FIFA kicks have to be taken, there will be a draw by the tournament committee. The first team drawn will receive the bye, the next team drawn will be the home team against the remaining team in the first contest of FIFA Kicks. The winner of the first contest will then compete against the bye team in FIFA Kicks to determine the winner. The bye team will be the home team.

- d) In the event that a wild card team must be selected for the playoff rounds, the above procedure, starting at 9A, will be used across the entire division.

- e) The Tournament Committee, acting within the parameters of these rules, will determine the teams to advance into the final round.

10) PLAYOFF ROUNDS

- a) Winners of each group advance into the playoff rounds.

- b) If a wildcard team is selected for the playoff rounds, that team will not be assigned to play against the winner of its own group in the first playoff round.

- c) Overtime will be played in case of a draw at the end of regulation time in the finals. The winner will be determined as follows:

- 1) The duration of overtime will be as follows:

Under 10
One 10-minute overtime period with the teams exchanging ends after 5 minutes.

Under 12 and older

One 20-minute overtime period with the teams exchanging ends after 10 minutes.

- 2) If no goals are scored during overtime play, FIFA Kicks from the penalty mark will be taken to determine the winner.

11) FAILURE TO SHOW AND FORFEITS

- a) A team shall be allowed a 10-minute grace period after the scheduled kick-off time before the match is awarded to their opponent. A minimum of 8 players constitutes a team and if 8 players are present, the game will not be delayed. (Under 8 - 3 players minimum, Under 10 - 4 players minimum, U12 - players minimum.)

- b) In no case shall a team which forfeits a game be declared a division winner or wild card team.

- c) If a team is the cause for termination of a game, that team will be considered to have forfeited that game.

- d) If a team deliberately forfeits a match in the preliminary rounds the opposing team (and any other the forfeiting team has or will play) shall be scored as 3-0 win.

- e) Forfeits of games in the playoff rounds shall be recorded as 1-0 games.

12) INCLEMENT WEATHER

In case of inclement weather, the Tournament Committee will have the authority to change games as follows:

1. Relocate or reschedule any game.
2. Change the duration of any game.
3. Cancel any preliminary game.
4. Preliminary games terminated by game or Tournament officials after one half or play shall be considered official as of the time of termination.
5. Determine a winner by FIFA kicks from the mark.

13) GENERAL

- a) Under no circumstances whatsoever will the Tournament Committee or HCSA be responsible for any expenses (including tournament entry fee) incurred by any team. This includes a situation where the Tournament or any game is canceled in whole or part.

- b) The Tournament Committee's interpretation of the rules shall be final.

- c) The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to this tournament.