

2011 WESTON CUP SOCCER TOURNAMENT RULES – February 18-21, 2011

1. TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS

Weston FC **T-954-349-7621**
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 Weston, Florida 33331

2. ELIGIBILITY

Participation in the Weston Cup Soccer Tournament is open to accepted teams consisting of players meeting the age limit and roster size of the specified division. Players must have been born during or subsequent to, the divisional year, as defined by US Soccer guidelines. A team using guest players may have no more than four (4) loan players.

Competitive teams, except for foreign/international teams, must be registered with a National Soccer Association affiliated with US Soccer/US Youth Soccer and must present a valid State roster. For these teams, the only acceptable proof of age will be a valid US Soccer/US Youth Soccer, State, or National registration card that includes a signature and a photograph of the player. Players on these competitive teams who do not present valid player passes will not play.

Recreational team must produce, at registration, a roster signed by an official of the club (which club must be affiliated with US Youth Soccer or some other national soccer organization) of which they are affiliated and played for, listing each player, including their date of birth, and must provide, at registration, a birth certificate or state or national certified player pass, for each such player evidencing that player's eligibility to play on that team based on birth date.

A player may compete for only one team participating in the tournament. In the event a player is found to have played for more than one team in the tournament, the second team on which the player played for in the tournament shall be deemed as the team that fielded an ineligible player. Any team fielding an ineligible player will be disqualified from the tournament and their tournament fee will be forfeited.

Teams participating in the tournament (foreign/international teams are exempted from the notarization part of this requirement) must provide notarized releases for each player in a format as required by the Tournament Committee and as posted on the tournament web-site. These authorizations shall be presented at registration and a copy kept by the team at the field available for presentation in the event of an emergency.

Where required by the State or National Association for which a team/player is registered, all competitive teams/players traveling from within the United States but outside the State of Florida must have a copy of their Permission to Travel Forms, approved and signed by a USSF or duly authorized State, or National Association representative.

Foreign Teams must have written permission and verification from their Federation, indicating authorization to participate in the Tournament. Players must present passports at registration (including Canadian citizens). These teams must present a certified roster signed by an official of the Club of which they are affiliated and played for, listing each player and including their date of birth.

U9 and U10 age group teams will play 6v6 and roster size cannot exceed 12 players.

U11 and U12 age group teams will play 8v8 and roster size cannot exceed 16 players.

U13 – U15 age group teams will play 11v11 and roster size cannot exceed 18 players.

All U16 and older age groups will play 11v11 and be limited to a 22 player roster size from which the game day roster for a given game may not exceed 18 players.

The above roster sizes are for the entirety of the tournament in that the same players must be on the maximum tournament roster for the entirety of the tournament. For U16 and older, the game day roster of 18 players may change from game to game, but the players on the overall tournament roster of 22 players may not change. Players may not be listed on more than one tournament roster for the tournament.

Teams applying to "play up" an age group must be approved by the Tournament Committee.

3. LAWS OF THE GAME

All games shall be played in accordance with FIFA Laws, except as specifically modified by these rules.

4. SUBSTITUTIONS

- A. If the age group is 15 years and under, free substitution is allowed.
- B. For age groups 16 years and older, free substitution is allowed providing the tournament is not an official competition (but a friendly club tournament) and the age category does not include matches between national teams of CONCACAF member countries. If it does include national teams, then up to six substitutions are allowed.

Substitutions will be made with the referee's permission:

- **At any time upon a player's receipt of a yellow card on a one for one basis for the player receiving the yellow card**
- **After a goal has been scored**
- **At a goal-kick by either team**
- **At the beginning of the second half of play**
- **At a throw in by the team in possession**
- **In case of stoppage of play for an injury on a one-for-one basis for the injured player(s).**
- **No substitutions on corner kicks will be permitted.**

5. FIELD AND GAME EQUIPMENT

- A. No metal cleats will be allowed
- B. No jewelry will be allowed
- C. No player may participate while wearing a hard cast.
- D. Players are required to wear shin guards in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game.
- E. Players must wear numbers on the back of their uniforms and these numbers shall coincide with those listed on the team's roster.
- F. Where uniform colors are similar, the designated home team will change colors. Home team is listed first on the schedule.
- G. Both teams will take the same side of the field. All other supporters will take the opposite side. Only three (3) carded team officials are permitted on the sidelines with their players.
- H. No one is permitted behind either goal/end line.
- I. Spectators must remain behind the spectator line and coaches must remain in the coaches' area.
- J. If requested by the referee, each team must provide a linesperson.
- K. Each team shall be in the immediate vicinity of their assigned playing field 30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time.
- L. The home team will provide the game ball.

6. DURATION OF GAMES

Age Group	Ball	Preliminary Games	Playoffs
U9/U10	4	20 min. halves	25 min. halves
U11/U12	4	25 min. halves	30 min. halves
U13/U14	5	30 min. halves	35 min. halves
U15/U16	5	30 min. halves	40 min. halves
U17/U19	5	30 min. halves	40 min. halves

- A. **Water Breaks:** Will be mandatorily provided at the mid point of each half of regulation play during a natural stoppage in play. They will be no shorter than 1 minute in duration and the game clock will continue to run.
- B. **Mercy Rule:** All games will be subject to a mercy rule of an 8 goal differential at any time after the completion of the first half.

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7. GAME AND SCORE REPORTING

- A. The Head Referee will ensure that the game report forms are properly completed and presented to the Site Director at the completion of each game. Uniform numbers must be accompanied by player names if a card is issued.
- B. The Head Referee will ensure that the correct score for each game is reported to the Site Director after each game in a timely manner.

8. FAILURE TO SHOW AND FORFEITS

- A. A team shall be allowed a ten (10) minute grace period after the scheduled kick-off time before the match is awarded to their opponent. A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a team for ages U13 and older and if seven (7) players are present, the game will not be delayed. For ages U9 and U10 the number of players required is five (5). For ages U11 and U12, the number of players required is six (6).
- B. In no case shall a team that forfeits or does not show-up for a game be declared a division winner. If an apparent division winner forfeits a game, or does not show up for play, the division team with the next best record shall be named the division winner.
- C. A forfeit in the preliminary round will be awarded as three (3) points for the win and the score will stand at the time of the forfeit unless the score is 0-0 at the time of the forfeit, in which event the score will be recorded as 1-0.
- D. Forfeits in the play-off rounds shall be recorded as 1-0 games.

9. NO PROTESTS SHALL BE ENTERTAINED

10. CONDUCT

There will be a Discipline Committee comprised of three members. The Committee will review and rule on all reports of unacceptable conduct by players, managers, spectators and coaches, using the FYSA standards as set forth under FYSA Rule Section 502 and all players, managers, spectators and coaches shall be subject to FYSA Rule Section 502 – Discipline and Sanctions.

- A. Players, coaches, and spectators are expected to conduct themselves within the spirit of the Law as well as the letter of the Law. Displays of temper or dissent are cause for ejection from the game and surrounding field area and/or the Tournament. Repeated violations may result in the suspension of the team from the Tournament as decided by the Tournament Director.
- B. A player, coach, or team official ejected from a game shall receive an automatic minimum one (1) game suspension regardless of the cause of the ejection. The Discipline Committee shall determine the appropriate sanction for the action resulting in the ejection, said sanction will be determined and communicated to the affected parties as soon as practicable, but no later than prior to the next scheduled game in which the offending party would have an opportunity to participate, which is no sooner than two games after the game in which the offending party was ejected, since there is at least a one game automatic suspension.
- C. Any player, coach, team official or parent exhibiting or threatening violence to anyone (player, coach, referee, spectator, or Tournament official) will be grounds for immediate expulsion from the tournament, such determination to be made by the appropriate referees and tournament officials. When serving a suspension, the suspended party must check in and remain at the site tent through the duration of the game, or alternatively may be asked to leave the park.
- D. In accordance with US Youth Soccer Tournament Hosting Agreement, all red and yellow cards and other matters involving team conduct will be reported to the home club and State Association of the team involved as well as US Youth Soccer National Office.
- E. Alcoholic beverages, smoking, use of profanity and animals are not permitted at the fields or parks.

- F. Mechanical noise makers are prohibited.

11. DETERMINATION OF PLAYOFF FINALISTS

Finalists will be determined through a seeding format or by a division winner's format. The Tournament Committee will decide which format each age group and bracket will follow. This will be announced prior to the commencement of competition. The rules to determine tie breakers will be the same for either format. Each team will be awarded three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie and zero (0) points for a loss. At the end of the preliminary rounds, if the finalists for a particular age group and bracket are determined by the division winner, the division winner will be the team with the most points in their division. In the event of a tie within a division, the following criteria will be used to determine who moves forward:

1. Head to head competition (this criterion will not be considered in the case of a tie among more than two (2) teams.) ****
2. Goal differential to a maximum of four (4) per game.
3. Most goals scored to a maximum of four (4) per game.
4. Least goals allowed to a maximum of four (4) per game.
5. FIFA penalty kicks.

**** In the event of a tie among more than two teams, once a tie is broken by the above system, and if ties among remaining teams still must be decided, those ties would be broken by starting again from the top of the tie breaking procedure.

In the event that a wild card team must be selected for the playoff rounds, the above procedure will be used across the entire age group and bracket involved.

If a division winner does not show up for play, the division team with the next best record shall be named the division winner.

In the event the finalists for a particular age group and bracket are determined by seeding, the finalists (or semi-finalists if applicable) shall be determined based upon the two teams (or more if semi-finals are applicable) with the most points in the overall age group and bracket involved. In the event of a tie, the same criteria as utilized for division winners shall be used to determine the finalists.

In the event that there is an age group(s) and bracket in which semi-finals are held, to be determined in the discretion of the Tournament Committee, the foregoing rules shall be applied to determine the teams that shall qualify for the semi-finals.

12. PLAYOFFS

- A. Depending on the number of teams in the division/ age group bracket, there may be a playoff.
- B. If there are playoffs and a wild card team must be selected for the playoff rounds, that team will not be assigned to play the winner of its own division in the first playoff round.
- C. In the case of a draw at the end of regulation time in the playoff rounds, the winner will be determined as follows:
 1. The best of five penalty kicks taken alternately by each team will determine the winner. Only those players on the field at the end of regulation time of the playoff game may compete. If the penalty kick score is tied at the end of the five kicks, the teams will continue to take penalty kicks alternately until there is a winner. All players on the field must kick before any player may kick a second time.

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13. INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, the Tournament Committee will have the authority (in its sole discretion) to change games as follows:

- A. Relocate or reschedule any game(s).
- B. Change the duration of any game(s).
- C. Cancel the game(s).
- D. Games that have been started and subsequently suspended due to inclement weather or other external conditions, will be deemed complete if one half of play has been completed or the first half can not be completed prior to the start time of the next scheduled game on that field. For any such game that is not completed, the score at the time of the suspension will be the final score. Any game that is not started and is canceled (as opposed to postponed) due to weather or other external conditions, will be recorded as a 0-0 tie. Canceled games will not be rescheduled.
- E. Cancel the Tournament in whole or in part, with no refunds being issued, except for the registration fee for teams that have not begun any type of participation in the tournament. There will be no liability or refund for any other incurred expenses for any team.

14. TEAM CONTACT PERSON

Each team, on checking in at registration, **must provide the name** and phone number of the coach or a designated contact person who can be reached at any time, should the necessity arise.

15. GENERAL

- A. Under no circumstances whatsoever, will the Tournament Committee, Weston Soccer Club, or FYSA be responsible for any expenses (including tournament entry fee) incurred by any team. This includes a situation where the tournament or any game(s) is cancelled in whole or part, due to any factor including inclement weather.
- B. The Tournament Committee's interpretation of these rules shall be **FINAL**.
- C. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to this tournament.
- D. The Tournament Committee, based on its interpretation of these rules, will determine the teams which advance into the final rounds.
- E. Out of area teams are required to stay at tournament approved host hotels.
- F. **NO SALES OF ANY KIND ARE PERMITTED WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE CITY OF WESTON AND THE WESTON FC**