

# WESTON 2008 INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT RULES

## 1. TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS

Weston Fury Soccer Club: 4581 Weston Rd, # 264  
Weston Florida 33331

**Tournament Director:** Alan Foy: 561 483 9631

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

Participation in the Weston Invitational 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. Each non-recreational team must be registered with a National Soccer Association affiliated with USYSA/USSF and must present a valid State roster. For these teams, the only acceptable proof of age will be a valid USSF, State, or National registration card that includes a signature and a photograph of the player. Players on non-recreational teams who do not present valid player passes will not play. Each recreational team must produce, at registration, a roster signed by an official of the club (which club must be affiliated with USYSA 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 for each such player evidencing that player's eligibility to play on that team based on birth date. Any team fielding an ineligible player will be disqualified and its tournament fee will be forfeited. A player may compete for only one team participating in the tournament.

All teams participating in the tournament must provide notarized medical authorizations for each player in a form adequate for use at the site. These authorizations shall be presented at registration and kept by the team at the field available for presentation to tournament officials upon request.

All non-recreational teams traveling from outside the State of Florida must have a copy of the 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 USSF/USYSA and their Federation, indicating authorization to participate in the Tournament. Players must present passports at registration (including Canadian citizens). Teams are required to have & present picture identification cards.

U9 and U-10 age group teams will play 6v6 and roster size cannot exceed 12 players.

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

The U-12 age group may have two divisions, one for playing 8v8 and another for playing 11v11. U-12 teams playing 8v8 will be limited to a 16 player roster size. U-12 teams playing 11v11 will be limited to an 18 player roster size.

All U-13 and higher age groups will play 11v11 and be limited to an 18 player roster size.

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

1. If the age group is 15 & under, free substitution is allowed.
2. 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:

- \* **After a goal has been made**
- \* **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.**

## 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 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 teams 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 Two (2) 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. Check-in time is 30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time.

## 5. DURATION OF GAMES

Age group	Ball	Preliminary games	Playoffs
U-9	4	25 min. halves	25 min. halves
U-10	4	25 min. halves	25 min. halves
U11/U12	4	30 min. halves	30 min. halves
U12 11v11	5	30 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

**The home team will supply the game ball and will retrieve it from the field at the completion of the game.**

- A. **Water Breaks:** will be provided at the mid point of each half 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.

## 6. 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 scores of each game are reported to the Site Director after each game in a timely manner.

## 7. 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 U-13 (and U-12 if playing 11v11) and older and if seven (7) players are present, the game will not be delayed. For ages U-9 and U-10 the number of players required is five (5). For ages U11 and U-12 (playing 8v8), the number of players required is six (6).

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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. If the score is 0-0 at the time of the forfeit, the score will be recorded as 1-0.

D. Forfeits in the play-off rounds shall be recorded as 1-0 games.

## 8. NO PROTESTS SHALL BE ENTERTAINED

## 9. CONDUCT

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. Repeated violations may result in the suspension of the team from the Tournament as decided by the Tournament Director.

B. Players, coaches, and team officials ejected from the game by the referee shall be ineligible for the next scheduled game.

C. Any player, coach, or team official ejected from a game for violent conduct shall result in suspension of the player, coach, or team official for the remainder of the Tournament. Any player, coach, team official or parent exhibiting or threatening violence to anyone (player, coach, referee, spectator, or Tournament official) will call for immediate expulsion from the tournament. When serving a suspension, the suspended party must check in and remain at the site tent through the duration of the game.

D. In accordance with USYSA 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.

## 10. 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.

(Thus a team winning a game 4-0 or 6-1 would receive a maximum of four for goal differential.)

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 play-off 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 tiebreaker.

In the event 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.

## 11. PLAYOFFS

A. Winners or top seeds of each division/age group-bracket shall advance into the playoff rounds.

B. If 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:

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.

## 12. INCLEMENT WEATHER

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

A. Relocate or reschedule any game(s).

B. Change the duration of any game(s).

C. Cancel any preliminary game(s) that have no bearing on the selection of division winners.

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. If the first half can not be completed, the score at the time of the suspension will be the final score. Any game that is canceled due to weather or other external conditions will be recorded as a 0-0 tie. Each team will be awarded 1 point. Canceled games will not be made.

E. Cancel the Tournament in whole or in part.

## 13. TEAM CONTACT PERSON

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

## 14. 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.

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 to advance into the final rounds.

E. **NO SALES OF ANY KIND ARE PERMITTED WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE CITY OF WESTON AND THE WESTON SOCCER CLUB.**