



Friendship Tournament Rules & Guidelines

1. FIFA Rules will apply except as noted.

2. Eligibility

All players must be registered on the team making application and have the proper USYSA/STYSA/US Club Soccer/AYSO ID Card. A proper ID card has the player's picture attached and is laminated. An official team roster signed by your Club Registrar is required. Medical Release forms are required for each player. All teams should have its team roster and ID cards in their possession at all times throughout the duration of the tournament. Team officials will be required to display an Adult Participation Pass or equivalent while on the team sideline during a game.

3. Registration

Submit team tournament application online by visiting the website at Eclipse Friendship Tournament. An official (signed by club registrar) team roster will be required at team check in. **No team will be considered registered unless full payment is received on or before the team registration deadline.**

4. Protests

All Referee decisions are final. **No protests are permitted.**

5. Illegal Players

An illegal player is defined as an individual playing for more than one team during the tournament or one not listed on the final roster provided at check-in prior to tournament play. Player cards will be randomly checked prior to any game. A team playing an illegal player will be disqualified and not permitted to continue tournament play. All prior and future tournament games involving the team will be scored as forfeits.

6. Discipline

- Any ejected player or team official (coach, assistant coach, manager or trainer) may not participate in the next scheduled game, even if that game is a Championship Game.
- Any player or team official (coach, assistant coach, manager or trainer) receiving two (2) Red Cards will be suspended from further participation in the tournament.
- Any person sent off must leave the field area within two (2) minutes of being sent off or the game will be abandoned by the Referee and will be scored as a forfeit.

Cases of serious misconduct will be reported to a player's or team's governing association for follow-up action.

7. Substitutions

- A. Prior to a throw in by either team.
- B. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
- C. After a goal by either team.
- D. After an injury by either team when the Referee stops play.
- E. At half-time.
- F. When the Referee stops play to caution a player, only the cautioned player may be substituted.

No player shall enter or leave the field of play without the consent of the referee.

8. Schedule

Once tournament officials declare the game schedule as final as published, **No further changes** will be made.

9. Game Time

Teams must be at the field at least thirty (30) minutes prior to their scheduled starting time. If a team is not ready to play at the scheduled time, the team will forfeit that game. If both teams are not ready, then both teams will forfeit the game and receive zero (0) team points.

10. Uniforms

The Home team will wear their colored or darker jerseys and the Visitors will wear white or lighter jerseys. In the event of a uniform color conflict, the team designated as the home team must change jerseys. No hard casts, padded or otherwise. NO EXCEPTIONS. No jewelry of any kind (i.e. rings, ear rings, watches, necklaces or hair accessories).

11. Awards

All U8 players will receive a participation award. No standings will be released. The first and second place teams in each U9 age group and above will receive awards at the tournament headquarters immediately following the final match.

12. Bracketing

The brackets will be filled on a first come first serve basis. Every consideration will be made to place all teams in an evenly matched bracket – four (4) team brackets where registration numbers permits. The Bracketing Committee reserves the right to combine age groups or move teams to fill a bracket if necessary.

13. MATCH PLAY – QUALIFYING GAMES

A. Match Times: See chart below.

B. Scoring (U9 Age Groups and above)

- Six (6) points for a win
- Three (3) points for a tie
- Zero (0) points for a loss
- One (1) bonus point for a shutout
- One (1) bonus point per goal scored by each team, with a maximum of three (3) goal points per game
- The maximum total points per qualifying game are ten (10).
- A zero to zero (0-0) tie will be scored as four (4) points for each team.
- Games may end in a tie score and no game tiebreakers will be used.

C. Forfeits

A forfeit will be scored as a one to zero (1–0) game or eight (8) points. A team abandoning a game in progress will automatically forfeit that game.

D. Advancement (U9 Age Groups and above)

- Teams with the highest point total in each pool advances to the next round (semi-final or final). Some pools will advance wild card teams. The team with the highest number of points, after the pool winners are determined, is the wild card team.
- In brackets with only one (1) pool, the teams with the two highest point totals advance to the final round.

E. Tie Breakers

In case of a tie, the pool winners and/or wild card teams will be determined as outlined below:

1. Results of head-to-head competition.
2. Goal Difference: team with highest goal difference – “Goals For” minus “Goals Against” (maximum three (3) goals per game for or against).
3. Fewest goals allowed
4. Coin Toss by Tournament Director or Field Coordinator assigned to the site.

14. CHAMPIONSHIP (Semi-Finals and Finals) GAMES

A. Playing Time: See chart below.

B. Scoring: In semi-final game, winning team advances to final.

C. Forfeits: A team abandoning a championship game will automatically forfeit that game.

D. Tie Breakers: If a championship game results in a tie, two (2) five (5) minute overtime periods will be played in their entirety. If still tied, FIFA Penalty Kicks with Sudden Death will be applied immediately following overtime periods.

15. U8 Guidelines

- All players will receive a participation award at conclusion of final game
- All teams will be scheduled for a minimum of 3 games
- Field Size is approximately 25 yards by 30 yards
- 4 vs. 4 without Goal keepers
- Substitutions per above
- Only exaggerated off-sides will be called by the referee
- All free kicks are indirect - No penalty kicks
- **No** scores or standings will be released

16. Referees and Game Cards

USSF certified referees will be assigned to each game. A one (1) referee system will be used for all U8 - U10, U11 and U12 qualifying games. A three (3) referee system will be used for all U13+ qualifying games and for all championship (semi-final and final) games. The Referees will bring the game card to the field and return it to the Tournament Director. Both Coaches must verify and initial the results on the game cards.

17. Rain-Out Procedures

The Tournament Director will have jurisdiction over field playability, cancellations and rescheduling. Every effort will be made to play as many games as possible. In the event of a total rain-out, a make-up date will be considered, however, in the event of a total rainout prior to the first game of the tournament, a partial refund equal to team's entry fee less an allowance for administrative costs will be given. In the event of a partial rain-out, matches will be rescheduled or shortened at the discretion of the Tournament Director. If at least half of a game has been completed and conditions prohibit continuation, that game will be considered complete and the score at the time of the stoppage will be the final score. **No refunds will be given once the tournament games begin.**

18. Withdrawals

There will be no refunds for teams withdrawing from the tournament after the registration deadline. A non-refundable fee of 25% will apply for teams withdrawing prior to the entry deadline. Should a team not be bracketed a full refund will be issued.

19. Refund Policy

A team withdrawing from the tournament after being accepted shall forfeit their team registration fee. In the event of inclement weather, the Tournament Director will have jurisdiction over restructuring or canceling the tournament. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED ONCE PLAY HAS BEGUN.** If the tournament is canceled, prior to the start of play, a refund less administrative expenses will be issued. A full refund will be issued to teams if not included in a bracket.

20. Tournament Check-in

One official from each team will be required to check-in at the Missouri City Community Park tournament Headquarters at least one hour prior to the first game on Saturday with:

- Official Player Roster (signed by team's club registrar)
- Player Medical Release Forms (properly signed by parents or guardians)
- Player Cards (laminated with a player picture)

Failure to Check-in may result in disqualification.

21. Other Items

Verbal/physical abuse or intimidation by team players, team representatives (coaches and/or trainers), or player parents will not be tolerated by tournament officials. Tournament Field Marshalls will be walking throughout the complex, and report all incidents to the tournament headquarters for action as required. The local police department will be called for assistance if needed. All complaints must be reported to tournament headquarters.

Game times and rules are subject to change and should be verified online by the coaches prior to check-in and frequently thereafter!

Alcoholic beverages or glass containers are **NOT** permitted at any of the tournament sites.

Tobacco products are **NOT** permitted at any of the tournament fields or pavilions.

Park only in designated areas and **not on the grass!** The Police will issue a ticket.

DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS! Please put litter in the designated trash containers –

Pets are **NOT** allowed on any of tournament fields or in pavilions.

MOST OF ALL - HAVE FUN AND GOOD LUCK TO ALL TEAMS!

Eclipse Friendship Tournament

Player Information, Fees, Format and Playing Time

Age	Max Players (including guests)	Guest Players	Registration Fee	Minimum Players	Format	Match Play & Semi Finals		Finals	
						Halves	Halftime	Halves	Halftime
U8	8	3	\$250	3	4v4	3 – 15's	N/A		
U9 - U10	12	3	\$375	5	7v7	25	5	25	5
U11 – U12	14	3	\$425	7	9v9	25	5	30	5
U13 – U14	18	4	\$500	7	11v11	30	5	35	5
U15 – U16	18	4	\$500	7	11v11	30	5	35	5
U17 – U19	18	4	\$500	7	11v11	35	5	40	5