

2025 AFC of Rochester Cup

Rules and Regulations of Competition

This Tournament is sanctioned by the United States Youth Soccer Association of the New York West Youth Soccer Association

FIFA RULES ARE IN EFFECT EXCEPT AS LISTED BELOW

RULE I – ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY: Fair play and good sportsmanship are the cornerstone of the AFC of Rochester Cup. New York State West Youth Soccer Association (NYSWYSA) has a zero tolerance policy in effect at all times. This policy applies to the tournament and can be found at NYSWYSA Zero Tolerance Policy. If a referee or tournament official observes inappropriate behavior from a coach, spectator or player at any time during the tournament, appropriate action may be taken, up to and including ejection from a game or the entire tournament. Alcohol consumption or the use of illegal drugs by any participant, coach, team, or supporter during the Tournament will not be tolerated. The Tournament will not tolerate discriminatory acts by any Tournament participant (coach/player/supporter), with respect to race, color, religion or national origin.

RULE II - GAME LENGTH and GAME PLAY: Games for the U9 and U10 age groups will consist of two (2) 25-minutes halves and will be played 7v7 and according to the 1997 USYSA 10 & Under format. Games for U11, U12 will consist of two (2) 30-minute halves played 9v9, and U13-U19 age groups will consist of two (2) 30-minute halves played 11v11. There will be NO OVERTIME in any game. There will be a 5-minute interval at the half.

RULE III: SMALL SIDED GAME RULES: U9 and U10 game will be played in accordance with USYS Small Sided Game Rules with respect to goal kicks and goalkeeper punting. U9-11 games will be played in accordance with USYS Small Sided Game Rules with respect to deliberate heading of the ball and slide tackling.

RULE IV - PLAYER PASSES/BOOKS and GUEST PLAYERS: The ONLY acceptable proof of age will be a VALID USSF, state, or national/province pass/book that includes the photograph of the player. Players not presenting a VALID player pass/book at registration will not play.

Only coaches who are listed on the team roster and have provided approved credentials will be allowed on sidelines. Roster sizes are as noted

in this table:

Age	# of Players on Field	Minimum # of Players on Field	Maximum rostered players	Maximum Guest Players
U9-U10	7	5	18	5
U11-U12	9	6	18	5
U13-19	11	7	22	5

Rosters may not be changed after the start of a team's first game. There will be no exceptions. At no time may any player(s) in this Tournament register or play for more than one tournament team. Any player(s) found doing so will be removed from the Tournament. Any team using a player either not validated at registration or dual-rostered, may, at the discretion of the Tournament Director, forfeit all games in which the player(s) participated and such conduct will be reported to its respective state/provincial soccer association. Players' credentials must be in the coach's possession for all games of the tournament. The Tournament reserves the right to check player credentials at any time. Any disputes regarding player eligibility must be brought to referee's attention by head coach before the end of a match. If at any time a coach does not have all players' credentials in his or her possession during a tournament game, the Tournament reserves the right to end the game and declare a forfeit, awarding a win to the opposing team.

RULE V - SUBSTITUTIONS: Teams can substitute on any dead ball. There is no limit to the number of substitutions per game. Referee approval is required for any substitution.

RULE VI - FOULS and MISCONDUCT: Fair play and good sportsmanship are the cornerstone of the AFC of Rochester Cup and as such, all participants are expected to act accordingly throughout the Tournament. In the event a player receives a RED CARD or a coach is dismissed, the Field Marshal will turn in the player's pass/book and report the infraction or the dismissal to the Tournament Director at headquarters. Any player receiving a RED CARD or any coach who has been dismissed will not be allowed to participate in the following game. If any individual receives a second RED CARD or dismissal, that individual will be denied further participation for the remainder of the Tournament. RED CARDS and dismissals will be reported to the New York State West Youth Soccer Association (NYSWYSA). Passes/books will be held at Tournament headquarters until the suspension is fulfilled.

RULE VII - FORFEITS: All teams must be at their assigned field at least 15 minutes before the start of their games. In the event a team does not appear at the scheduled game time or leaves the field before conclusion of a game, a 3-0 score/win will be awarded to its opponent at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Teams not properly registered before the start of their first game will forfeit all games until proper registration and paperwork are completed. All forfeited games will be scored as a 3-0 score/win for the opponent.

RULE VIII – POINTS AND STANDINGS: WIN = 3 points, TIE = 1 point, LOSS = 0 points Shut-Outs = 1

Standings in a division will be determined by points accumulated; points accumulated in "crossover" play against teams in other divisions (if any) also count when determining standings within one's own division. In the event of teams being equal in points after the division's games are completed, standings will be determined as follows:

1. If 2 teams are tied, the result of head-to-head competition (if 3 or more teams are tied, skip to #2 below); if still equal, then:
2. The team with the most wins, if still equal, then:
3. The sum of goal differential for (maximum of plus 3 per win); if still equal, then:
4. The least number of goals against; if still equal then:

5. The most shut-outs; if still equal, then:

6. FIFA penalty kicks tie-breaking procedure under the supervision of the head referee.

Ties at the end of regulation time in championship, semi-final or play-off games (where applicable) will be broken by the FIFA penalty kicks tie-breaking procedure; there are no overtimes. For tie-breaking penalty kicks, any player on the official tournament roster may either act as kicker or goal keeper during penalty kicks. In the event of a 3-way tie, the 1st place team will be determined using the above criteria. The 2nd place team will then be determined from the remaining 2 tied teams, by using the above criteria, starting with the first tie-breaker. Awards will be presented to division champions and runners-up for U-11 divisions and older. Standings will not be kept in U-9 and U-10 divisions; participation awards will be presented to all players in U-9 and U-10 divisions.

RULE IX – INCLEMENT WEATHER: Only the referee or the Tournament Director may suspend a game; only the Tournament Director may cancel a game. In the event of inclement weather before a game, the Tournament Director may delay the game or reduce its length by 50%; furthermore, the Tournament Director may reduce the length of subsequent games on the schedule by up to 50% and/or change scheduled field locations if deemed necessary. If a game in progress is terminated due to weather conditions and one half of the game has been completed, then that game will be considered official and the score final.

RULE X - TEAM SIDES OF THE FIELD: The home and visiting teams will occupy a touchline on the same side of the field, teams will occupy opposite halves of the field, and coaches shall not enter the other team's half during the game. Their respective supporters will occupy the touchline on the opposite side of the field as the teams are on. No coaches or spectators are allowed on goal lines or behind goals at any times. Referees or tournament officials can stop play at any time, without stopping the game clock, to rectify the situation.

RULE XI - PLAYER EQUIPMENT: Players must wear shin guards and proper uniforms in accordance with FIFA, USSF, and NYSWYSA guidelines. Field players on the same team must have the same color and style of jerseys. Keepers must have a different color jersey from their team and the opponent jersey color. If the home team (as specified on the schedule) jersey colors conflicts with the opponent jersey color, the home team must change. The home team will provide a ball for the game, size 4 for U12 and younger, size 5 for all other age groups.

RULE XII - PROTESTS: Referee decisions are final and are not subject to protest. In the event a situation occurs which is not covered by or is ambiguous in the Tournament Rules and Regulations of competition, that situation will revert to the Tournament Committee for a decision based upon the spirit and intent of that situation. Protests must be submitted in writing with a bond check of \$100 to the Tournament Director. The bond fee will be refunded if it is decided by the Tournament Committee that the protest is upheld. The decisions of the Tournament Committee are final. Referee decisions are final and are not considered reviewable. Games for this tournament will be played in Brighton NY (14 fields). In the event more fields are needed, the added fields will be within 10 miles of the headquarters at Buckland Park.

RULE XIII - Policy on team placement within divisions:

Premier level teams include teams from Premier clubs or any teams who participate in leagues above the district level.

Your Signature is required to play

As a coach/representative of a team participating in the AFC of Rochester Cup, I have read and agree to abide by the rules and regulations put forth. I will also ensure my team players, parents, and spectators are aware of the rules of conduct and Zero Tolerance Policy.

(Print)

(Signed)

Team Name & Age Division

Club Representative (Print)

Club Representative

Date