

## Pend Oreille Cup 2025 Rules and Regulations

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#### ADMINISTRATION

The Pend Oreille Cup is hosted by the Sandpoint Strikers FC, a member of the Idaho Youth Soccer Association.

The 2025 Sandpoint Strikers Pend Oreille Cup is scheduled to be held on September 5-7, 2025. The registration deadline is **August 18th, 2025**.

- 1) No refund of entry fee due to team cancellations. If a team applies to the tournament and cancels before the deadline of registration, a refund will be granted minus an administrative fee. If a team cancels after the registration deadline, no refund will be given.
- 2) If the tournament is canceled due to poor AQI or other Acts of God prior to any games being played on Friday, a full refund minus the credit card processing fee and administrative fees will be given.
- 3) The Tournament Director(s) will delegate areas of activity to special committees; e.g. scheduling, rules, etc.
- 4) Rules are subject to change before the final schedule is released to fit all games. Example: addition or subtraction of semi-final games, even in brackets that say no semi-final. If one can be added once teams register and fields are available, then one may be added to the bracket.
- 5) The tournament committee reserves the right to accept or reject any team at its discretion. Teams not accepted will receive a full refund of their registration fee. Once accepted, teams that withdraw will not receive a refund of their registration fee.

#### GENERAL RULES

No pets allowed at any tournament game site (service animals excluded). If supporters of a team refuse to remove a pet when asked by a tournament official, the Tournament Director may forfeit the game for the team with the supporters. No alcoholic beverages allowed at any tournament game site.

#### COMMUNICATION POLICY

If Coaches, Managers, or any other Club officials have any questions, please route them through your Clubs Director who can then communicate directly to the Pend Oreille Cup Directors. This is to streamline communication and ensure that questions get answered in a timely manner. No protests or questioning of referee decisions on the field will be accepted.

#### ELIGIBILITY

The Pend Oreille Cup shall be open to teams comprised of properly registered youth players affiliated with FIFA approved National Soccer Associations. All teams must have the appropriate tournament documents approved for participation. These will include: team roster signed by association registrar, player passes, birth certificates, medical releases and travel papers (if required). Each team is required to

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have on-site at all games the ability to provide, upon demand, acceptable proof of player's age and a properly completed medical release for each player.

1. Players may play for only one team during the tournament.
    - a. Exceptions to this MUST be pre-approved and are up to the tournament committees discretion
  2. Each team is allowed three guest players which must be added to the team roster prior to team check-in.
- 1) Team rosters cannot exceed the following:
- 1) U7, U8 and U9 divisions – 16 players
  - 2) U10, U11, and U12 divisions – 16 players
  - 3) U13 - U18 divisions – 22 players/18 eligible per game

### TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS/CHECK IN

Tournament headquarters will be at Travers Park in Sandpoint.

**Teams must do all their check in online prior to August 22nd, 2025 no exceptions**

- a. **Check in documents required prior to tournament, done online (US Teams) :**
  - Coach, player, manager player cards uploaded and must be brought with them to the tournament as well (this includes guest players and club pass players)
  - Team Rosters
- b. Emergency Contact Medical Release player forms(digital is okay) (USYS or USCLUB), must be brought to the tournament but are not required for check-in.
- c. **Check in documents required prior to tournament, done online (Teams Outside the US) :**
  - Coach, player, manager player cards uploaded and must be brought with them to the tournament as well. Issued by their National or Provincial Association (this includes guest players and club pass players)
  - Teams must provide travel paperwork from their sanctioning State Association if from outside the State of Idaho
  - Teams must have a completed form from their Provincial or National governing body approving participation in the Pend Oreille Cup Tournament
  - Emergency contact form
  - Team Rosters
- d. Emergency Contact Medical release forms from each player (does not need to be notarized), must be brought to the tournament but are not required for check-in.

### TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- 1) Divisions shall be formed at the discretion of the tournament director and will follow USYS Birth Year Matrix. Age brackets are maintained in their pure form; however, play downs may be allowed on a case-by-case basis with prior approval.
- 2)
  1. U8 – U18 Divisions
  2. U8 division will play 5-a-side.
  3. U9 divisions will play 7-a-side.
  4. U10 division will play 7-a-side.
  5. U11 and U12 divisions will play 9-a-side.

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6. U13 & older divisions will play 11-a-side.
- 2) A round-robin format shall be used, and, if no championship game is scheduled, division champions shall be determined by total points.  
In other divisions, a round robin format will be used in two different brackets, with the winners from each playing in the semifinal or championship game.
- 3) All teams will be scheduled for a minimum of three games.
- 4) Teams shall be awarded points for game results as follows:
  1. Win 6 points
  2. Tie 3 points
  3. Loss 0 points
  4. Shutout 1 point
  5. Goals: 1 point for each goal up to 3 maximum

**\*\*Maximum of 10 points per game will be awarded per game.**
- 1) **Forfeitures:** A team not showing or not ready to play after a five-minute grace period will forfeit the game to the ready team. If both teams fail to show or are not ready to play following the five-minute grace period, zero points shall be recorded to both teams.
  1. Forfeited games will be recorded as a 1-0 score. The tournament director has the authority to consider extenuating circumstances in determining whether forfeiture has occurred.
- 2) Medals will be given to first and second place teams in all age groups.
- 3) **MINIMUM PLAYERS**
  1. To play, teams shall have the minimum number of players on the field at the start of the game.
    - 5-a-side – five players
    - 7-a-side – five players
    - 9-a-side – six players
    - 11-a-side – seven players
- 4) **TIE-BREAKING RULES**
  1. In the event two or more teams are tied in points at the end of all games within a division or at the end of preliminary games, the following tie breakers shall be applied in order given:
    - a. Head-to-Head Results
    - b. Goal Differential (max 6 per game)
    - c. Total Goals Scored (max 6 per game)
    - d. Fewest Goals Allowed
    - e. Most Shutouts
    - f. One point will be subtracted per Red Card
    - g. Penalty Kick Shootout
  2. Semifinal & championship games, if tied at the end of regulation play, shall be decided by a penalty kick shootout with no overtime.
  3. Penalty kick shootouts: Any five players may be chosen by the respective coaches. If the game is still tied after the first round of penalty kicks, a second separate set of players shall be chosen. Any additional rounds of penalty kicks shall be sudden death with both

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teams having an equal number of kicks. Only players on the field at the end of the match may participate in the penalty kick shootout.

4. If play/tournament is canceled due to acts of God or low AQI the Champion of each bracket will be determined by points if play made it to the semi-finals.
  - a. if cancellation occurs before semi-final and final games, a champion can not be determined

### RULES OF PLAY

- 1) Any player wearing an orthopedic device must report to the games center referee for approval prior to the start of each game. Hard and unyielding items (guards, casts, braces, etc.) on the hand, wrist, forearm, elbow, upper arm, or shoulder must be padded with a closed-cell, slow-recovery foam padding no less than 1/2-inch thick.
  1. All coaches, teams and spectators must stand behind the white line that is five yards back from the sideline. This line allows the linesman to run unimpeded up and down the sideline. No persons are permitted behind the goals.
  2. Teams (players and coaches) will be located on one side of the touch line and spectators located on the opposite touchline to be directly opposite of their team. No spectators, coaches or players are to be behind the goals at any point in time during a match.
  3. Coaching from the technical area (giving directions to one's own team on points of strategy and position) by a coach or assistant coach is allowed in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game. No mechanical devices are permitted, and tone of voice shall be informative and not harangue.
  4. Each coach is responsible for the conduct of his/her team and sideline spectators. Lack of control may result in the coach receiving a yellow caution, red card game ejection, and/or disqualification from the tournament or the team supporters being told to leave the game area.
  5. All teams must have a set of alternate jerseys in case of color conflict. The home team will be the team listed first on the schedule and shall wear white/light colored uniforms for match play. The home team is responsible for changing uniforms in the event there is a conflict. The goalkeeper must also have an alternate jersey.
  6. The home team shall provide three (3) game balls for the match. Size 4 for U8, U9, U10, U11 and U12, and Size 5 for U13, U14 and U15.
  7. Prior to the start of each scheduled game, each team must present to the referee the team's player cards so that the team may be checked into play.
  8. All games will be played according to the U.S.Y.S.A. Rules of Competition unless otherwise stated in these Sandpoint Strikers Pend Oreille Cup Tournament Rules.
- 2) Heading – There will be no heading at the U12 or below ages. An indirect kick will be awarded to the non-offending team at the spot of the header.
- 3) Punting – There will be no punting or drop kicks at the U10 (7v7) or below ages.
- 4) U8 – U10 Modified Law
  1. The dashed build out lines serve as the offside line in the same way that the half line does on a traditional field: the attacking team cannot be offside unless the offending player is on the attacking side of the line when the ball is played. An attacking player would have to be between the build-out line and the opponent's goal line to be in an offside position. By using the build-out line as the offside line, strikers can take up

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positions farther from their goal, effectively keeping opposing defenders from pushing up, which decreases space for long balls over the top and increases space in the midfield, incentivizing building play through the thirds of the field and encouraging movement off the ball for the second and third attackers.

2. Most of the confusion with the build out line comes on goal kicks and/or when the keeper has the ball in hand. In these two occasions all opposing players must retreat behind the build out line. Once the ball is put into play, then normal play resumes and opponents can cross the line to pressure the ball. The ball is in play when the player taking the goal kick plays the ball and it clearly moves. There is no limit to how many defending players may cross the line to pressure the ball.
- 5) Dropped balls by a referee will no longer be contested dropped balls.
- 6) Attacking players cannot stand in or next to a wall in a free kick situation. If a defending team has 3 or more players in a wall, the attacking team must be at least 1 meter away from the wall.
- 7) The ball is in play as soon as it is kicked and moved. This Law change allows the defensive team to play a goal kick inside the penalty area to a teammate. The opposing team must still retreat to outside the penalty area or behind the build out line until the ball is kicked and moves.

### ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY – REFEREE ABUSE

Pend Oreille Cup maintains a **strict zero tolerance policy** for **referee abuse**, regardless of referee experience or match circumstances.

We will be utilizing a mix of experienced and **newly certified referees** during pool play. Your **support, patience, and professionalism** are expected at all times from **coaches, players, and spectators**.

Abuse includes, but is not limited to:

- Verbal harassment
- Demeaning comments or yelling at referees
- Physical intimidation or threats
- Sideline behavior meant to undermine or influence referees

### Enforcement:

- Plain-clothed POC representatives will be observing matches throughout the weekend.
- **Any abuse will result in immediate removal from the game venue for the remainder of the day at minimum.**
- **Further disciplinary action** (including removal for the full weekend) is at the sole discretion of the **POC Tournament Director** or **Referee Assignor**.
- ***If a referee abandons a game due to verbal or physical abuse from a team's sideline (coaches or parents), that team will be removed from the tournament immediately with no refund.***

We are committed to maintaining a **safe, respectful, and development-focused environment** for all players, referees, and teams. Thank you for helping us protect that mission.

### GAME DURATION

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The duration of the games will be as follows. The tournament director may adjust playing times as circumstances warrant. There is no stoppage time.

- 1) U8 - U10: 20 minute halves with a 5 minute half-time.
- 2) U11 - U12: 25 minute halves with a 5 minute half-time.
- 3) U13 - U18: 30 minute halves with a 5 minute half-time (subject to increased time based on teams registering).
- 4) For all age groups, free substitution is allowed. Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, during any stoppage in play. Players may exit to the nearest boundary line on the field.
- 5) The goalkeeper six-second rule will be in effect.
- 6) In case of inclement weather or fields conditions, games may:
  - a. Be shortened
  - b. Be canceled (if stopped during game and restart is not possible, game will be reported with score at time of stoppage.)
- 7) In the event of an unusual circumstance that results in significant loss of game time, the lost game time may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Tournament Director. The rescheduling of the lost game time is subject to field availability. An example of an unusual circumstance would be a major injury to a player, which prevented the use of the playing field or extreme weather which forces the closing of the park. The Tournament defines a significant loss of game time as more than half of the game. Any accumulation of time delays due to minor/moderate injuries to several players would not constitute an unusual circumstance nor will these delays be considered lost game time. An accumulation of time delays resulting from the normal course of a game will not be considered lost game time.

## **VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES**

- 1) Infraction or violation of Tournament Rules may result in any of the following penalties:
  - c. Ineligibility of a player or team from tournament play
  - d. Forfeiture of game or games
  - e. Return of trophies or medals
  - f. Revocation of titles
- 2) If the referee abandons the game, the final score will remain as it is at the time of the abandonment. If abandonment occurs solely to the misconduct of one team, that team shall forfeit the game.
- 3) Any player receiving three yellow cards during tournament games will be required to sit out the next tournament game following the game in which he/she received the third yellow card.
- 4) Any player receiving a red card ejection will sit out the next scheduled tournament game.
- 5) A player receiving a second ejection (red card) will be prohibited from competing in additional tournament games.
- 6) A coach who receives two yellow cards or a red card ejection during the tournament must sit out of the next game. Teams that fail to abide by these rules will be banned from further competition.

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### MATCH AND SCORE REPORTING

- 1) Referees are responsible for reporting the match results, cautions, and ejections to the tournament headquarters via the Field Marshall Supervisors. Referees will turn in a completed scorecard to the **Field Marshall Supervisors and they in turn will text a picture of the scorecard to the Tournament Director(s) at pocssa1@gmail.com located at tournament headquarters within 10 minutes of the game ending.** Hard copies will be retrieved several times during the day for record keeping and validation.
- 2) **Both coaches** are required to review and sign the final scorecard before leaving the field of play.
- 3) It is the teams' responsibility to verify the match results, cautions, and ejections reported to the tournament headquarters. Any discrepancy in the information recorded must be disputed within one hour of the game ending. If the game is the last scheduled game of the day, disputes must be made within one hour after the start of the first scheduled game the next day. Changes will only be allowed after validation and agreement by either both teams' coaches or the center referee for the game.

### JUDICIAL

- 1) No protests can or will be accepted. All decisions by the referee are final.

### EQUIPMENT

- 1) All players must wear shin guards and soccer cleats.
- 2) All players must keep their socks pulled up and over their shin guards.

### LIGHTNING

- 1) 30/30 rule. If lightning is seen and thunder is heard within 30 sec, game will be suspended for 30 min. If it happens again within the 30 min delay, the 30 min delay starts over. Games will then try to be played if time allows and to the discretion of the tournament director. If games cannot be finished, then the current score at the start of the delay stands as the final result.

### SMOKE

- 1) Games will be played to completion if the smoke index is 149 or lower at the start of the game. Smoke index will be determined solely by the Tournament Director.
- 2) Games will resume if time allows, if games must be abandoned during the game, then the last recorded score will stand as final.
- 3) If the AQI goes above 150 after a match has already started the game will continue to completion unless mutually accepted by both coaches to abandon the game.
  - g. Any teams that begin play after games have been canceled due to low air quality will not have the game results count for either team and will be subject to a fine of \$250 with medals being withheld.

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### **Reminders:**

Yellow and red cards can be given to team officials (IYSA began implementation of yellow and red cards to team officials and sidelines in 2018)

A player being substituted is to leave the field at the nearest boundary line (IYSA will ask that all substitutes (oncoming players) occur on the touchline nearest the team bench of the player being substituted. This is to ensure the safety of our youth players.)

Goal kicks and free kicks in the defensive penalty area do not need to leave the penalty area to be in play.