

Bend Premier Cup Tournament Format

The Bend FC Bend Premier Cup features a guaranteed three-game tournament format, with select divisions playing four games depending on bracket size.

Most divisions use a **pool play, total points** format, where every match is meaningful. Rather than advancing to a championship game, the tournament champion is determined by the team that earns the highest point total within the bracket. This format ensures that all three games are competitive and equally important.

In larger divisions, additional playoff rounds may be used, including semifinal and championship matches. Tournament formats vary based on the number of teams in each bracket and are designed to provide the best possible competitive experience while accommodating scheduling needs.

Because many teams travel long distances to participate, Bend Premier Cup strives to create schedules that allow families and teams to plan their weekend in advance while also enjoying everything Central Oregon has to offer.

Each division's format is determined by the number of teams entered and may include one of several competition structures, including:

- Pool Play – Total Points Champion
- Pool Play with Championship Match
- Pool Play with Semifinals and Championship
- Other modified formats for larger or unique bracket sizes

The Bend Premier Cup welcomes teams from throughout the Pacific Northwest and Northern California. Each year, the tournament hosts clubs from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, and occasionally neighboring states, creating a highly competitive and memorable soccer experience in beautiful Central Oregon.

2026 BPC

4 teams

- Each team plays 3 group games over Fri / Sat / Sun
- Top 2 teams play in the final on Sunday

5 teams

- Each team plays 4 group games over Fri / Sat / Sun
- There are no finals. Winner is decided on points

6 teams (U12 Girls, U15 Boys, U18 Boys)

- Each team plays 1 game on Friday and 2 on Saturday against team from another bracket
- Top 2 teams play in the final on Sunday (could be from the same bracket or opposite)

6 teams (U12 Boys, U15 Girls)

- Each team plays 3 group games over Fri / Sat / Sun
- Top 2 teams play in the final on Sunday

7 teams

- Each team plays 4 group games over Fri / Sat / Sun
- There are no finals. Winner is decided on points

8 teams (U12)

- Each team plays 3 group games over Fri / Sat / Sun against team from another bracket
- Top 2 teams play in the final on Sunday (could be from the same bracket or opposite)

8 teams (U14)

- Each team plays 3 group games over Fri / Sat / Sun within their bracket
- The 2 bracket winners play in the final on Sunday

BASIC INFO ON BRACKETS

Straight Round Robin (Champion by Total Points)

How it works

- Every team plays every other team (or all teams within its pool).
- Final standings are determined by points.
- The team with the most points wins the division.
- No semifinals or championship match.

Advantages

- Fairest competitive format because every team plays the same opponents.
- Every game matters.
- Easy to explain to coaches and parents.

This format is commonly used for five-team divisions where every team receives four games and the highest point total wins

2. Round Robin → Semifinals → Championship

Example`

- Eight teams
- Two pools of four
- Three pool games
- Top two from each pool advance

Semifinals:

- A1 vs B2
- B1 vs A2

Championship:

- Semifinal winners

Advantages

- Creates a true championship atmosphere.
- Gives more teams something to play for.
- Rewards pool performance while still allowing an underdog run.

3. Round Robin with Crossovers

This format has become increasingly popular because **every team gets a meaningful final game**.

Example (8 teams)

Pool A

- A1
- A2
- A3
- A4

Pool B

- B1
- B2
- B3

- B4

After pool play:

- Championship: A1 vs B1
- 3rd Place: A2 vs B2
- 5th Place: A3 vs B3
- 7th Place: A4 vs B4

Advantages

- Every team gets a fourth meaningful game.
- Final standings are determined on the field.
- Better competitive balance.

Two-Pool Crossover

A **Two-Pool Crossover** format combines the fairness of round-robin play with the excitement of a final placement match. Teams are divided into two pools and compete in round-robin play within their own pool. Once pool play is complete, each team plays one crossover match against the team that finished in the same position in the opposite pool.

Example (8 Teams)

Pool A

- A1
- A2
- A3
- A4

Pool B

- B1
- B2
- B3
- B4

Each team plays three pool games.

After Pool Play

- **Championship:** A1 vs. B1
- **3rd Place:** A2 vs. B2

- **5th Place:** A3 vs. B3
- **7th Place:** A4 vs. B4

The crossover match determines each team's final tournament placing.

Advantages

- Teams compete against opponents of similar performance levels.
- Reduces the chance of mismatched games on the final day.
- Keeps all teams engaged throughout the tournament weekend.