

CANADA QUALIFIER TOURNAMENT POLICIES & PROCEDURES

General:

Teams must be duly registered with and in good standing with an appropriate governing body. Players must be instructed to compete in the spirit of the game and according to the Laws of the Game. Field Marshals will be assigned to fields and will assist in the safe and orderly completion of events, and should expect cooperation from all tournament participants.

Injuries:

In the event of an injury contact your field marshal or the tournament control center. A Trainer/EMT will be dispatched to assist you.

Lodging:

A requirement for acceptance for out-of-area teams that will not be day tripping is that teams utilize sanctioned tournament lodging. Note that we reserve blocks of rooms for EDP events well in advance to ensure that our participating teams' needs are adequately met. If we do not utilize these reserved rooms, the hotels may not make these rooms available at future events, especially at times of the year when lodging demands in the area are greatest. Therefore, your cooperation in this matter is expected. Additional Lodging Information is found at <http://www.edpsoccer.com/titanlodging>

Teams and affiliated persons that are disrespectful and/or damage hotel property will be ejected from the tournament and will not be accepted for future participation. Additionally, those team(s) will be responsible for all expenses. Security and a reporting network are in place at all properties throughout the weekend.

SMOKING AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE NOT PERMITTED ON OR NEAR ANY PLAYING FIELD, ANY FOOD SERVICES OR ANY AREA WHERE THE PUBLIC CONGREGATES.

PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON OR NEAR ANY PLAYING FIELD OR EXTENDED AREAS DECREED BY TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS. SERVICE ANIMALS MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED AS SUCH.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH COACH / MANAGER TO INFORM THEIR PLAYERS AND PARENTS OF THESE GUIDELINES.

1. Registration and Eligibility

Tournament headquarters for the direction of all administrative matters will be at Community Park Fields, 605 Santa Maria Blvd, Milton Ont L9T 6W2. Headquarters will be in front of Field 3.

- a. All teams must register at least one full hour before their first game at the Field Headquarters at the site of their first game. (Should a pre-Registration be scheduled, team managers will be notified by email communication.)

- b. At initial registration each team shall provide a photocopy of the official team roster. The roster must include a uniform number for each rostered player and each guest / loan player, which must remain constant for the entire event and match the number on the Player Profiles submitted. If circumstances require a change in uniform number for any game, that change must be reported in advance to the officials on-site.
- c. At Check-in, one hour prior to game time, a team representative must present and leave a copy of the properly certified roster for the team for the event (specifically indicating which players will be participating each day of the event). The team representative must also present player passes with photo IDs for each participating player and an Authorization for Medical Treatment form (commonly referred to as a Medical Release) executed for each player. The Authorization must have been executed within the last twelve months and preferably should be notarized. Information will be presented to the site HQ registration desk designated as such at each venue at the event.
- d. All players must be registered youth soccer players in good standing with an appropriate governing body. Players must either be on a team's official roster or be an approved loan player or a guest player duly registered with a separate team.
- e. Rosters submitted at registration for may contain up to twenty-two (22) players who will be deemed eligible to play for the team during the event, including any combination of both rostered players and up to five (5) guest / loan players from outside teams. Secondary passes are allowed, but count toward the guest player limit.
- f. Up to eighteen (18) players may be in uniform and present on the team's sideline technical area. The players eligible to participate in any given game can vary from game to game at the event, provided all the players used are listed on the roster submitted at registration. Any player ineligible for a given game may not be in the vicinity of the team's technical area if wearing a game jersey or team warm-up.
- g. Players may only play with a single team during the course of an event. Should a player appear on more than one roster, the first team with which the player participates on the field shall be deemed the player's primary team for the event. Should a player participate with more than one team, the player can be barred from further participation at the event with any team. Teams that allowed such player to participate can also be sanctioned with a forfeit in any game where such ineligible player was used, and the Tournament Committee may fashion such other remedies as are deemed appropriate under the circumstances.
- h. All players on the same team, rostered or guest, must use Player Passes from the same governing body.
- i. All teams must present picture identification passes issued by the team's Federation Organization member. Teams from outside the province where the tournament is located must provide proof of permission to travel, if their governing body so requires.
- j. In the event that the tournament is cancelled prior to the start of play, teams will receive no less than a 70% refund of their entry fee, or a 100% credit toward a future event, at their option. In the event that the tournament is shortened after play has commenced, appropriate credits toward a future will be issued, as determined by and solely at the discretion of the Tournament Committee
- k. Under no circumstances will the Tournament Committee or staff be responsible for any part of any other expenses, incurred by any team due to, but not limited to, part or whole cancellation of the Showcase due to circumstances beyond the Committee's control (e.g., weather, facility operations, road closings).
- l. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on any/all matters and its interpretation of these rules shall be final. No protests will be entertained. No team or team official shall claim that the Tournament Committee approved a divergence from the posted Rules and Regulations unless they can provide documentation of such approval in writing.

2. Player's Equipment and Field Regulations

- a. All soccer equipment must adhere to F.I.F.A. laws. A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry).
- b. **Shin guards are mandatory.**
- c. **Game Referee shall inspect all casts, braces and their protective coverings, and determine whether a player's participation presents an unreasonable risk to the player and/or the player's opponents.** Such determination is specific to the game for which the inspection is being conducted, and is independent of inspection and participation in other games at the tournament.
- d. Players' numbers must coincide with numbers listed on the roster.
- e. All teams must have two sets of jerseys in contrasting colors. All players must wear matching color team shorts and team socks; one set of each will be acceptable for the team.
- f. In the event that team colors are similar, the home team will change colors. The home team is the team listed first on the schedule, if not clearly designated as "home".
- g. Each team's players and coaches shall take one side of the field, and all spectators shall take the opposite sideline. On the team's sideline, the home team has the choice of side with respect to the centerline, and coaches and players must stay within the technical area on their side.
- h. On the spectators' sideline, spectators are to remain behind the designated line. No one will be allowed behind either end line.
- i. Player picture identification cards are required to be checked by the referee prior to each match.

3. Substitutions

- a. Unlimited substitutions are allowed, with the referee's permission, at every stoppage in play (for example, throw-ins, goal kicks, corner kicks, after goals, upon stoppages for fouls, etc.). Free substitution is allowed for all age groups unless teams are advised in advance otherwise.
- b. Players must be clearly standing and waiting **AT THE MID-FIELD LINE** to be substituted (and not merely waiting "in the vicinity of mid-field"), and the referee's assistant should be alerted, to the extent possible, of the request to substitute at the next stoppage of play.
- c. Players standing at midfield should be substituted into the game at the next stoppage of play, unless they remove themselves from the mid-field position prior to the stoppage of play.

4. Game Duration, Ball Size & Age-Specific Rules

- a. Games are two (2) halves of thirty-five (35) minutes each for ages U15 through U19, two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each for ages U11 through U14, and two (2) halves of twenty-five (25) minutes each for small-sided competition at U8 through U10.
- b. FIFA Inspected/Approved size 5 balls shall be used at ages U-13 through U-19, and FIFA Inspected/Approved size 4 balls shall be used at ages U-8 through U-12, to be supplied by the Tournament.
- c. Heading Rules for U11 and Younger: Whenever the ball strikes a player in the head, play is stopped. The proper restart depends upon whether the player deliberately played the ball with their head. If deliberate, the proper restart is an indirect free kick to the opposing team. If this occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If the play by the head is deemed inadvertent, then the proper restart is a dropped ball.

5. Forfeit

- a. A five-minute grace period will be allowed from scheduled kickoff time. Teams must be present and ready to play at the scheduled time or potentially forfeit the game. Nonetheless, Tournament officials

are mindful that unforeseen circumstances may occur, and will have the option to shorten, reschedule or otherwise create such circumstances as will allow a game to be played on the field rather than be won by forfeit.

- b. A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a team for 11v11 match.
- c. A forfeit will be recorded as a two to zero result.
- d. The Tournament Committee will review abandoned games on a case-by-case basis.
- e. No team that forfeits a game will be eligible to win any championship awards at the event.
- f. **The determination of the Tournament Committee is final.**
- g. **In the event that a forfeit is anticipated, teams will NOT release their players until the team manager has conferred with the Tournament Director / Committee.** Teams must recognize that the cancellation of a competitive game may create a lost opportunity for an expected showcase evaluation for one or more players, and is disrespectful to teams that travel significant distances to attend the Tournament. (The Tournament Committee will consider numerous possibilities to permitting game action, including the possible availability of guest players, mutual agreements to play 10v10, 9v9 or 8v8, or declaring a forfeit but then scrimmaging with guest players supplied by the opponent or otherwise.)

6. Standings and Championships

- a. All game scores are recorded and will be posted on the website after the Tournament. During the event, manual scoreboards at HQ will be controlling, and any concerns about posted scores should be brought to the attention of the scorekeepers at HQ as soon as possible, and certainly before the start of any subsequent game.
- b. Game cards will be used by the referee to record game results and disciplinary actions. A team coach or team manager should approach the game referee following the game, verify the score and initial the gamecard. (Referees are not expected to seek out team officials following games, as often recovery time between games is limited.) Field marshals will collect the game cards and them to the HQ scorekeeper desk.
- c. Where brackets are created for championship play, the following rules apply to Playoff and Consolation Rounds:
 - 1. Teams will normally only be scheduled for a maximum of one playoff during the tournament.
 - 2. In an eight-team bracket, Group A first will play Group B first in a bracket Final.
 - 3. In a six-team bracket, Group A first will play Group B first in a bracket Final.
 - 4. In a four-team bracket, Group A first will play Group A second in a Final.
 - 5. In the event of a tie playoff game, only the Final Game requires a winner; in those instances, the teams proceed directly to PKs to determine a winner (See Section 9.d.8. for procedure).
 - 6. In a five-team bracket, teams play a four-game round robin schedule without playoff rounds. First and Second places are determined solely by standings after Group Play.
 - 7. At U9 and U10, consolation games may be scheduled to ensure all teams participate in at least two games each day.
- d. Where brackets are created for championship play, the following rules apply to Group Play:
 - 1. In Group Play, team standings are based on won-lost record.
 - 2. Wins count for three points, ties for one point.
 - 3. Forfeits are recorded as a 2-0 score.
 - 4. In the event of tie between two teams, head-to-head results determine placement.
 - 5. In the further event of a tie, goal differential determines placement, with up to plus-4 or minus-4 units awarded per game.

6. In the further event of a tie, accumulated goals scored with a limit of 4 per game determines placement.
7. In the further event of a tie, accumulated goals against determines placement, favoring the teams that allowed the fewest goals.
8. Finally, teams will conduct a Kicks from the Penalty Mark Shootout. Should a team fail to show up for the scheduled shootout, the tiebreaker will be awarded to the team prepared to participate.
 - a. Each team will designate eleven players to take shots including one goalkeeper.
 - b. As necessary - Shootouts may be assigned to a designated goal/field location, different from where the game was played on, for tournament schedule purposes.

7. Communications

- a. The official Tournament website is found at “www.edpsoccer.com/tournaments”.
- b. Teams are responsible for accessing the website for schedules and other relevant information. Note that upon accessing a frequently updated webpage, individuals should click Refresh on their web Browsers to ensure that the information being accessed is the most current.
- c. Teams must leave a cell phone number at the registration desk at the start of each weekend event, at check-in, as well as the name of their hotel if requested, to assist in communications in the event of weather-related issues. The Team Contact’s cell phone must be in operation over the course of the event.
- d. Event officials will attempt to update the website, email and text team members and call cell phone numbers to provide necessary information, but are not responsible for any failure to reach any given team or its members, during the course of an event. Alerts during an event may also be sent via Twitter, for those signed into @EDP_soccer

8. Inclement Weather

- a. All teams and coaches must show up at the scheduled field and time regardless of weather conditions, unless otherwise notified by a League Official. Failure to appear may result in a forfeit, which is scored as a two to zero loss, and may result in the rescheduling or loss of a team’s future games at the Tournament.
- b. In the event of stoppage of play due to severe weather conditions, teams should retreat to a safe location; teams should ensure in advance that there is a means to communicate with team members in the event of stoppage. One team representative is required to report to the venue HQ fifteen minutes after stoppage has occurred, at which time notice will be provided whether the remaining schedule will be resumed, cancelled, modified or further postponed for another defined length of time, pending receipt of information allowing formulation of a definitive resolution. Do NOT assume comments by anyone other than Tournament personnel at HQ are authoritative on issues regarding the resumption or cancellation of the schedule in the event of stoppage.
- c. In the case of inclement weather, the Tournament Committee has the authority to change, cancel or reschedule any game and / or its format.
- d. **The determination of the Committee is final.**

9. General Information

- a. Coaches, players and their fans are expected to conduct themselves within the Spirit of the game. In this regard the Tournament Committee reserves the right to take disciplinary action as necessary.
- b. All teams shall shake hands at the end of each game as a gesture of friendship and sportsmanship.

- c. **Final Referee decisions may not be protested or disputed.**
- d. Teams, players, coaches and team officials acknowledge, by their participation in the event, that they have reviewed these rules and regulations as instructed in several communications and postings prior to the event, and that they will abide by said rules and regulations.
- e. Only individuals with a valid Driver's License may operate a golf cart or other motorized vehicle at the event. No unauthorized use is permitted.
- f. The Tournament Committee may photograph and / or video participants and spectators at the event, on the playing fields, in areas adjacent to the fields, at the medal stand and in food and event courts adjoining the event. Such images may be posted on websites and in social media, and used in connection with providing information about, and coverage of the event. No individuals will be identified by name in connection with such images, without their consent.
- g. All participants will adhere to the EDP Respect & Etiquette Policy

10. Abusive Behavior:

While at the fields, any coach, parent, team official, player or spectator threatening violence or engaging in verbal abuse will be subject to ejection from the tournament and the team may be ejected from the tournament as well if appropriate. This type of behavior is not acceptable at this event and will not be tolerated.

11. Discipline

- a. Coaches, players and spectators are required to conduct themselves within the Laws of the Game.
- b. All disciplinary measures imposed by the Tournament Committee shall NOT necessarily be limited to participation in the Subject Tournament but in egregious instances may extended to future EDP tournament or EDP league play
- c. Player cautions and ejections OR coaches or team personnel dismissals beyond the normal course of play (such as violent conduct, referee assault, outrageous behavior, racial, ethnic or sexual abuse) may be referred to, and in some cases are required to be referred to the appropriate league or governing body, which may pursue their own sanctions. This includes referral to the host league sponsoring the event.
- d. A **PLAYER** receiving a red card send-off in a game will normally be suspended for one game. Violent conduct; using offensive, insulting or abusive language/gestures; and spitting/biting may subject a player to multiple game suspensions or ejection from the tournament. A player receiving a single yellow card in multiple games will not be subject to a yellow card accumulation penalty. Suspended players will not be permitted within the team technical area during the next match(es). They are permitted on the opposite side of the field and may watch the game as spectators, unless notified otherwise.
- e. A **COACH** who is dismissed from any game will normally be suspended for one game. Violent conduct; using offensive, insulting or abusive language/gestures or any other outrageous irresponsible behavior the coach to multiple game suspensions or ejection from the tournament. Suspended coaches will not be permitted within the team technical area during with the team during the next match(es). They are permitted on the opposite side of the field and watch the game as spectators (no coaching), unless notified otherwise.
- f. **Spectators** removed from the field must leave promptly, and failure to do so may result in forfeiture of the game in which their team is participating and / or resort to civil authorities.
- g. Additional penalties may be imposed, as deemed fit and necessary by the Tournament Committee.
- h. Appeals and protests may be filed with the Tournament Committee immediately after the incident in question, and in all events before the next game involving the team in question is played. Such notices

shall be lodged at the HQ station designated at each venue. **The determination of the Tournament Committee, should a review be granted, is final.**

Addendum

All participants will adhere to the EDP Respect & Etiquette Policy (REP).

CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY (when applicable)

- Team standings based on won-lost record.
 - Wins count for three points, ties for one point.
 - Forfeits are recorded as a 2-0 score.
- In the event of a 2-way tie only, head-to-head is determinative, if applicable.
- In the further event of a tie, goal differential is determinative, with up to plus-4 or minus-4 units awarded per game.
- In the further event of a tie, goals for (max 4/per game) followed by goals against will be used to determine the winner.
- Finally, shots from the Penalty Spot shall be used.
- Playoff Games ending in a tie score at the end of regulation time shall proceed directly to a Penalty Spot Shootout.

PENALTY SPOT SHOOTOUT PROCEDURE

- 5 initial shots per team, in an ABABABAB pattern, until a decisive result is reached.
- If still tied, single alternating penalty kicks, in an AB/AB pattern, until a decisive result is achieved.
- Only players on the field at the end of the game can kick.
- All players must kick before any can kick a second time.
- Shootouts may be moved to a designated area.

WEATHER ISSUES; GAME STOPPAGE / RESUMPTION

- If weather concerns exist just prior to the event, the online Schedule Homepage will provide updates the evening before the first day, and updates as warranted.
- TWITTER will also be used to send updates. Follow @EDP_soccer.
- Teams should have a pre-determined communications procedure as their Team Contact is informed of determinations about weather delays, playoffs, etc.
- During play, games may be interrupted by the referee or field marshal for lightning or severe downpour.
- Twenty minutes after game interruption, the Team Contact must report to HQ, for announcement of game resumption, game cancellation or postponement of final decision until a subsequent check-in time. Decisions as to new time slots and game lengths may also be announced.
- Generally, games that have reached halftime will not be resumed, and their result will be final.

CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS, STAFF AND FANS

- Obey all traffic directives and speed limits. Park in designated spaces only. No parking on grass.
- No smoking on or near playing fields.
- No alcoholic beverages on premises.
- Use only designated sanitary facilities.
- No pets on grounds.
- Use trash receptacles & clean up after your team.

ONSITE CONTACT CELL PHONE NUMBER

- HQ has a printout of the mobile numbers entered for the Team Contact on the online Registration. Each team should ensure that its Contact's mobile phone number has been correctly provided and that it is in operation during the event.
- If possible, the Committee will attempt to contact that number in the event of schedule or field changes, shootouts needed to determine group winners, inquiries about game results, etc.

APPEALS; SIGNING GAMECARDS

- Coaches should ensure that they sign off on Gamecards in the possession of the game Referee upon the conclusion of each game. Scores should be checked to ensure they were recorded and totaled correctly, and teams identified properly.
- In the event of a dispute, signed Gamecards will usually be deemed dispositive.
- In certain cases, appropriate appeals will be considered only upon the concurrence of both team's coaches.
- Appeals and scoring concerns should be reported to the field HQ as soon as possible.
- Timely appeals will be considered by the Tournament Committee, and its decision will be final. At that point, no further protest will be tolerated.
- Untimely appeals (such as after the start of a playoff game or after an event has concluded) will not be heard.

SUBSTITUTIONS

- Unlimited substitution with the referee's permission, at every stoppage in play (e.g., throw-ins by either team, free kicks, corners, etc.). Free substitution is allowed for all age groups, unless notice is provided in advance.
- Players must be clearly standing and waiting AT THE MID-FIELD LINE to be substituted (and not merely waiting "in the vicinity of mid-field").
- The referee's assistant should be alerted, to the extent possible, of the request to substitute at the next stoppage of play.
- Players standing at midfield should be substituted into the game at the next stoppage of play, unless they step away from the mid-field position prior to stoppage of play.

IN ANTICIPATION OF A FORFEIT

- **In the event that a forfeit is anticipated, teams will NOT release their players until the team manager has conferred with the Tournament Director / Committee.** Teams must recognize that the cancellation of a competitive game is disrespectful to teams that travel significant distances to attend the Tournament.
- The Tournament Committee will consider numerous possibilities for allowing game play, including the availability of guest players, mutual agreements to play 10v10, 9v9 or 8v8, or declaring a forfeit but then scrimmaging with guest players supplied by the opponent.