

# Recreation Tournament

## Tournament Rules & Regulations

- 1. RULES:** FIFA rules will apply to all games with the exceptions noted in this set of tournament rules.
- 2. PLAYER AND COACH CONDUCT:** Coaches and players are expected to conduct themselves within the spirit of the laws of the game. A player that is sent off (Yellow, Yellow/Red Card) for persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game will have to sit out the next game. A player/coach that is sent off (Red Card) for serious foul play, violent conduct, or foul or abusive language will have to sit out the rest of the tournament. Any player, coach, assistant coach, manager or trainer that has received a red Card during the tournament and did not sit out the required number of game(s) during the tournament, must sit out the required number of game(s) starting with his/her next League game. All Red and Yellow Cards will be reported to the State Association pursuant to MSYSA tournament rules.
- 3. LENGTH OF GAMES:** All preliminary games, will be of the following durations by age group:  
9 and Under: 2, 20 minute halves, 12 and Under: 2, 20 minute halves.  
  
There will be five (5) minutes between halves and 15 minutes between games. The clock will start as stated in the schedule of games. Teams **MUST** be prepared ready to take the field and **PLAY** the game at the scheduled start time – please warm up off the field while the previous game is concluding!
- 4. UNIFORMS AND GAME BALL:** Home team (1<sup>st</sup> team listed on the schedule) will change uniforms in case of conflict in colors. All STSA players must wear an official red and white reversible jersey. All players **MUST** wear shin guards, which will be covered by their socks. No hard billed hats may be worn by players. The home team will provide a game ball. 9U will use a size 4 ball, 12U will use a size 4 ball. 15U will use a size 5 ball.
- 5. ELIGIBILITY:** Teams will register in the age division that they are registered in for the current season and must be Saginaw Township Recreation Teams.
- 6. RISK MANAGEMENT:** All coaches, assistant coaches, and managers must supply the Tournament Committee with proof of compliance with the MSYSA risk management mandate. This proof can be in the form of a risk management pass card, or letter from the MSYSA or similar state organization verifying clearance. No Coach, Assistant Coach, manager or team administrator will be allowed on the team sideline without such proof.
- 7. TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITY:** The tournament director and tournament committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the operation of the tournament and their judgment is final.
- 8. REGISTRATION:** There is **NO** registration at the tournament, please proceed to your games as normal. You do **NOT** need to put corner flags out.
- 9. FORFEITS:** A maximum of five (5) minutes grace period will be allowed after scheduled kick-off time before a game is awarded to an opponent (weather or other tournament delays such as for medical attention not included). A minimum of 4 players constitutes a team on rosters of 11 players, a minimum of 6 players constitutes a team on rosters of 14 players, and a minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a team on rosters of 18 players, and if seven (4,6 or 7) players are present, the game will not be delayed. Any team leaving the field during play will result in a forfeit. In no case shall a team, which has forfeited a game, be declared a bracket or wild card team winner. All forfeited games will be recorded as a 2 to 0 win for the opposing team.
- 11. SPECIAL RULES for a 3 team Flight:** If there are **ONLY** 3 teams in a bracket (e.g. Boys 12 and Under, Flight A), the following playing format will take place: All three teams will play each other (for 2 games each); the standings after two games will show who is number 1, 2 & 3 based on the other tournament rules, including tie breaker rules; the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams will play a **BRACKET** semi-final game to decide who plays the 1<sup>st</sup>

team to win the BRACKET. The winner of this 3 team BRACKET will then play the winner of a different bracket in either a semi-final game or a championship game depending on the number of brackets in the age division. The 2<sup>nd</sup> vs 3<sup>rd</sup> team BRACKET semi-final and BRACKET final games will be subject to all regular rules for a semi-final game, including overtimes and taking of penalty kicks to break ties. With this manner of playing, all three teams will still get to play the guaranteed three games.

**12. PROTESTS:** No protest or appeals will be allowed. In all cases, the ruling of the referee is final.

**13. SUBSTITUTIONS/RULE EXCEPTIONS:**

- A. Goalkeepers may not be charged while ball is in their possession.
- B. Substitutions may be made:

- 1. Before a throw-in in your favor or when the other team is substituting on their throw in.
- 2. Before any goal kick.
- 3. After any goal scored.
- 4. At the beginning of either half.
- 5. Any time in case of injury.
- 6. On yellow card to replace a cautioned player.

**14. INCLEMENT WEATHER:** Unless tournament play has been suspended due to severe weather conditions, coaches and their teams **MUST** appear on the field of play ready to play as scheduled. Failure to appear will result in forfeiture of the game. Only referees and/or the Tournament Directors can cancel or postpone a game.

**Severe weather before games:** In cases of severe weather conditions before play, Tournament Directors may reduce the length of the game by game by 50 %.

**Severe weather during games:** Should a game's progress be terminated due to severe weather conditions after 20 minutes of play, the game will be considered official and the score at the time will stand.

**Notification of severe weather:** Should severe enough weather occur during tournament play that the tournament committee suspends play, a **Seek Shelter Warning** will be issued by the sounding of air horns with **MANY SHORT BURSTS. WHEN THE SEEK SHELTER WARNING IS ISSUED, ALL FIELDS MUST BE CLEARED IMMEDIATELY.** For your players and spectators safety, please adhere and clear the fields safely and quickly, keeping in mind that we are equipped with an accurate lightning detector and internet radar as well as television warnings on site at tournament headquarters.

In case the tournament should have to be cancelled due to weather for either it's entirety or partially, refunds will be issued to all teams based on the following. If **NO** games were played, a 75% refund will be issued. If 1 game was played, 50% refund. If 2 games were played 25% refund. If 3 games were played, no refund will be issued.

**15. RECREATION TEAM AWARDS:** Champion TEAMS in all divisions will receive individual trophies for each player. These trophies will be awarded near the scoreboard on the east side of the building unless there is bad weather. All players will receive soccer medals for the season – coaches please come pick up your medals at the board room on the east side of the building.

**16. SCORING TO DETERMINE BRACKET WINNERS AND WILD CARD TEAMS:** The teams will be ranked in order of points earned for wins and ties: Three (3) points for each win, one (1) point for each tie, and zero (0) points for each loss. There is a **MERCY RULE** in effect: once a 6 goal differential is achieved the match shall be deemed as complete with the given score, although the **PLAY** will continue until time has elapsed.

**17. TIES:** Ties will be allowed in preliminary rounds but will not be allowed in semi-finals or finals. During semi-finals or finals, if two teams are tied at the end of the game, two five minute overtime periods will be played in their entirety. (No sudden death endings). If the score is still tied at the completion of the second five (5) minute overtime, penalty kicks will be taken according to FIFA rules to decide the game.

**18. PERFORMANCE RANKING CRITERIA:** Among teams with the same number of points, final placing will be determined by the following tie breaker rules which will be applied in order:

**FIRST TIE BREAKER:** Head to head competition (not applicable if the tie involves more than two teams). This DOES apply where there will be no semi finals or finals played – where there is only a 4 or 5 team tournament with no playoffs.

**SECOND TIE BREAKER:** If the teams are still tied after head to head competition, the tournament will use a bonus point system. A team will receive a bonus point for goals scored up to and including the third goal for each game. No team can receive more than three (3) bonus points per game. However, goals allowed in a game will be subtracted from a teams bonus point total. For Example:

- A. If team A beats team B by a score of 3 – 0, team A receives three (3) bonus points.
- B. If team A beats team B by a score of 3 – 2, team A receives one (1) bonus point.
- C. If team A beats team B by a score of 6 – 3, team A receives zero (0) bonus points.

**THIRD TIE BREAKER:** In cases where the above goal spread does not differentiate between teams, goals against each team will be totaled for the first three (3) games. The team having the fewest goals against them will be determined as having the better record.

**FOURTH TIE BREAKER:** Goals scored by each team will be totaled for the first three (3) games. The team having the most goals will be determined as having the better record.

**FIFTH TIE BREAKER:** Penalty Kicks. Time and field location will be determined by the Tournament Director.

**19. REPORTING SCORES:** Referees will be turning in all game reports.

**20. COACHES AND TEAMS:** Coaches and teams must be on one side of the field and spectators on the other side. Where there are bleachers present, those are for spectators. A maximum of three (3) coaches per team is allowed. Coaches may not cross the center line.

**21. GAME CLOCK:** The referee will keep the official time of games. The game clock will not be stopped because of an injury to any player unless, at the discretion of the referee, the injured player must be removed from the field by medical personnel. Due to the time allowed for completion of all games, the clock runs continuously.

**22. TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS:** The tournament headquarters is located at 3575 McCarty Road , Saginaw , MI 48603 . For further contact or rules questions contact Jack Burd directly at (989) 295-1945 (C) or email: [soccerburd@yahoo.com](mailto:soccerburd@yahoo.com)

**23. ANIMALS:** All pets MUST be on a leash at ALL times during the tournament. Owners are expected to bring proper equipment with them to pick up their pet's excretions. The woods on and surrounding the property is NOT a bath room for pets. Please be advised that the tournament site is a PUBLIC park and therefore no alcohol is permitted on the premises.