



## International Rush Cup Tournament Rules

### **LAWS OF THE GAME**

All matches shall be played in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game except where interpretations are provided for Youth Matches within USYSA.

*These rules may be modified before the beginning of tournament play.*

### **TEAM, PLAYERS AND COACHES ELIGIBILITY**

All teams and players must be affiliated with the USYSA or a sanctioned affiliate.

Teams must be registered and in good standing with their US Youth Soccer/US Club Soccer affiliated state/provincial association. All players from each team must be registered by the same sanctioning organization. No combination USYS/US Club Soccer teams will be allowed.

Coaches are responsible for ensuring the eligibility of their players. Player and coach passes (US Club Soccer or USYS) must be present and available at all matches. Any team participating must carry valid player's passes. If a player or coach does not have a pass, he/she will not be allowed to participate. A player can play for only one team and a team can be entered only in its age-appropriate division. No double rostering allowed. Any ineligible player discovered will cause the team on which he played for to forfeit any game. The Director(s) may declare a forfeit. Any team that forfeits a game will not be allowed to advance out of their group to the finals.

Teams may have up to 6 guest players; guest player forms will be required.

Teams must comply with US Youth Soccer travel procedures. All teams must follow the applicable procedures of the US Youth Soccer Travel Policy. Out of state teams must have US Youth Soccer Permission to Travel papers on file at your state association office (if applicable).

All teams are also required to carry written medical releases from parents/guardians in case emergency medical care is necessary.

Foreign teams or a team coming from a CONCACAF nation: Players must present passports at registration or, if from a nation that the United States does not require a passport, proof of entry into the United States that is required by the United States. Teams are also required to have player picture identification cards. You must also have the required completed form from your Provincial or National association approving the team's participation in the tournament.

### **CHECK-IN PROCEDURES**

Check-in procedures will be completed online prior to the tournament weekend. There will NOT be team check-ins at the event.

A roster certified by your state association must be submitted before the tournament begins and to complete online check-in. After check-in, teams may not alter their rosters or make additions/subtractions at any time.

Managers/Coaches need to provide a copy of an approved stamped roster to the referee prior to each game. Only the approved stamped roster can be accepted. Electronic copies will not be accepted on site.



Referee is not to collect player passes but they may be checked prior to each match. Referee will keep the approved stamped roster and turn it in with a game card.

### **BIRTH YEAR CHART**

SEASON	2023-2024
<b>BIRTH YEAR</b>	
2016	U8
2015	U9
2014	U10
2013	U11
2012	U12
2011	U13
2010	U14
2009	U15
2008	U16
2007	U17
2006	U18
2005	U19

BIRTH YEAR CHART

### **EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS – SHIN GUARDS ARE MANDATORY**

The home team is required to wear white or light-colored uniforms while the away team must wear dark colored uniforms.

The home team will be responsible for wearing an alternate color jersey, if necessary, as determined by the referee. The team listed first in all rounds shall be the home team.

Each player on a team shall wear the same uniform, to consist of a jersey with different number, shorts, socks and shin guards. Goalkeeper must have a different color, preferably not black. The jersey may not be exchanged with another player for the duration of the game. Long sleeve shirts may be worn under the jersey.

The assigned referee will conduct a pre-game inspection of players and their equipment. All player equipment is subject to referee approval.

### **COACHES**

There must be at least one registered coach of the same affiliation as the team present at each game. Coaches may not enter the field of play once the game begins unless summoned by the referee. All other spectators must remain at least two (2) yards from the touchlines and ten (10) yards away from the area behind goal lines. Teams use the side of the field with team benches and spectators shall use the opposite side of the field.

Coaches shall conduct themselves in a manner becoming of their respective organizations.

**Negative comments and complaints about the referees will not be tolerated. This will be strictly enforced. Coaches who violate this rule will be carded.** Coaches shall be responsible for the words and actions of their players, parents, and spectators. Verbal abuse of the opponents or referees by players, coaches or spectators will not be tolerated. Violations may result in forfeiture of the game and/or expulsion from the tournament. Coaches shall encourage clean competition and good sportsmanship and participate in



# RUSH SOCCER

positive coaching. Coaches shall abide by and uphold the Rules and Regulations of their respective organizations and FIFA's Laws of the Game.

## FIELD MARSHALS

If you have any questions before, during or after games, please contact a field marshal on duty at your field. The field marshal will be wearing appropriate identification.

## TOURNAMENT AGE GROUPS

The tournament will be by age groups, boys and girls using the following:

Age Group	Format	Game Length	Guest Players	Min/ Number of Players Needed	Max Roster Size
U13-U15	11v11	35 min halves	6	7	22
U16-U19	11v11	40 min halves	6	7	22

If there are not enough teams to form an age group (at least 4 teams), the entered teams will be given one of two options:

Option (1) - Tournament Committee will recommend an alternative placement.

Option (2) - Withdraw from the tournament and the entry fee will be refunded.

*If the minimum number of players is not met, the offending team will forfeit the game by a score of 3-0.*

## GAME BALL

13U-19U: Size 5

If the ball is provided by the tournament, the referee will pick up the ball when he checks in for the game and return the ball after completion of the game. The referee's acceptance of the game ball is final and may not be questioned. If not available, the game ball shall be provided by the home team.

## GAME LENGTH

(Ten minute break between periods)

U13-U15	Two 35-minute halves 11v11
U16-U19	Two 40-minute halves 11v11

The Tournament Director may shorten the time of any game. Games shall be played as scheduled (there is no excuse for late or non-appearance). Only the referee in charge of the game, with concurrence of the Tournament Director, has the authority to cancel any game.

A team is allowed a fifteen (15) minute grace period from the scheduled time before awarding the game to the opposing team. A minimum of eligible players (7 for 11v11) must be present, dressed, and ready to play within the grace period, to constitute a "team." The game will be scored as 4-0.

If the scheduled time is revised from the printed schedule, Page 4 of 4 coaches/managers will be notified by email, tournament website, phone or in person by a Tournament Official of the new game time.

## SUBSTITUTIONS

Teams may substitute only with the referee's permission at any stoppage in play, unless otherwise specified. Unlimited substitutions allowed at the discretion of the referee.



# RUSH SOCCER

## **DIVISION STRUCTURE**

- 4-teams – Each team will play the other three teams in the group round robin style. Team with the most points wins.
- 5-teams – On Saturday, each team will play two group games (opponents determined at random). On Sunday, #4 will play #5 in the Consolation. #2 will play #3 in the Semi-Finals. The winner of the Semi-Final will play #1 in the Final.
- 6-teams – Two groups of three. Each team will play the other two teams in their group and one team from the other group (opponent in other group determined at random). Bracket A #1 will play Bracket B#1 in the Final.

## **POINT SYSTEM**

The Tournament Committee will determine the competition format subject to the amount of teams entered. Teams may be seeded in pool play. There will be no overtime in pool play. Ties will be recorded as such. The greatest number of points determines pool standings.

Points are awarded as follows:

- Win = 3 points
- Tie = 1 points
- Loss = 0 points

A team that forfeits a game will give up 3 (three) points to the declared winner of the game and shall not advance to a final match. The match will be scored as a 3-0 win for the declared winner.

Scoring issues should be reported immediately to the Tournament Director for re-verification. All scores will be verified and signed off on by the winning coach.

## **POOL PLAY STANDINGS - TIEBREAKERS**

If at the conclusion of bracket play, two or more teams have the same point total, advancement to the semifinals will be determined using the following tiebreakers in the order listed until a team is eliminated. If more than 2 teams are tied, proceed to step 2.

1. Head-to-Head (disregard if more than 2 teams are tied)
2. Goal Differential (maximum four (4) per game)
3. Goals For (maximum four (4) per game)
4. Goals Against (maximum four (4) per game)
5. Most Wins
6. Most Shutouts
7. Penalty Shootout

In single pool competitions that end in a tie after all tie breakers have been considered, there will be a shootout. In the event three or more teams are tied, the above tie breakers will be applied simultaneously to all teams and are to be used only once.

## **SEMI-FINAL AND FINAL MATCHES - KICKS FROM THE MARK**

**In case of a tie at the end of regulation time, teams will go directly to kicks from the mark.**

Kicks from the mark are used in semi-final and final matches will be run in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game. The referee chooses the goal at which the kicks will be taken. The referee tosses a coin and the team whose captain wins the toss will take the first kick. Both teams take five kicks; kicks are taken alternately by the teams.



# RUSH SOCCER

If before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken. If after five kicks the score is tied, kicks continue until one team has scored a goal more than the other (sudden death) from the same number of kicks.

Only the players on the field at the end of the match are allowed to take kicks. A different player must take each kick and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick. If the player is under suspension, they may NOT participate in the kicks.

## **AWARDS**

In the 13U-19U divisions, medals will be awarded to 1st place teams and pictures can be taken hoisting the International Rush Cup. Additional awards may be made at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

## **INJURIES**

Any injury to a participant, or property damage caused by a participant, must be reported to the Tournament Director. The costs of all injury treatments are the sole responsibility of the injured player, coach, sanctioning national association, or their health plan insurer.

## **WEATHER AND REFUND POLICY**

After a team has been accepted into the competition, NO REFUND WILL BE GIVEN should the team decide to withdraw from the event. Tournament entry fee returns/refunds will be granted, as follows:

- Within five (5) days after notification that the team has not been accepted.
- Within five (5) days of cancellation of the tournament.
- Within ten (10) days of request of withdrawal of the application by a team before acceptance of the application by the tournament.

The tournament cannot be responsible for matters outside of its control. Weather or natural disasters may cause the cancellation of the tournament or prevent its continuation. Other unforeseen events may interfere with the orderly conduct of the tournament or with the enjoyment of the participants in the tournament.

Teams will be expected to play according to the schedule of games regardless of weather. Only the Tournament Director(s) may reschedule games or alter the competitive format because of inclement weather or other just cause. Games shall be considered complete if one half has been completed and play is stopped by the Field Representative or Referee, Commissioner of Referees, or the Tournament Director(s). When necessitated by playing conditions or just cause, the game format may be altered to include shortening of games, penalty kicks or coin tosses.

## **HEADING POLICY**

Deliberate or accidental heading is not allowed in 11U and below games. If a player deliberately or accidentally heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate or accidental header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the offense occurred.

Heading is allowed in games 12U and older without limitations. Heading is only allowed by players that have turned 11-years-old. If a 10-year-old is playing in a game, he is not



allowed to head the ball, and it is the responsibility of the coaches and club to make sure this is clearly communicated prior to each game.

### **JEWELRY POLICY 402.3**

It is the policy of FYSA that no player be allowed to wear ANY jewelry while participating in any FYSA sanctioned match. The only exception that may be allowed is a medical alert bracelet or necklace when taped to the body.

The referee shall make the decision as to the safety of the player and the referee's decision is final. (The taping of any earring shall not be permitted under any circumstances.) If the referee notices a player wearing jewelry while the match is under way at the next stoppage of play, the referee will instruct the player to remove the item.

If the referee deems the jewelry to be dangerous to any player, the referee must stop the match to correct the situation.

### **CONCUSSION POLICY, PER FLORIDA STATUTE FS 943.0438 (enacted 2012)**

Pursuant to Florida Statutes (FS 943.0438) Florida in 2012 enacted a very stringent Head injury and Concussion Law. If the referee (or assistant referee) believes that, in her/his opinion, a player has suffered a head injury or possible concussion, the match must be stopped IMMEDIATELY.

The injured player, if able to leave the field on their own must be escorted to their coach, and the coach must be told that the player cannot return for the duration of the match. If a trainer is brought onto the field because the player is incapacitated, the referee must still notify the coach that the player cannot return to the game. It is the responsibility of the coach and the player's parent(s) or legal guardians to seek medical attention.

The player may not resume participation until he/she has been cleared by a medical doctor. The Referee HAS NO FURTHER responsibility beyond removing the player from the match in which the player was injured. The referee crew must ensure, that UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES or due to the appeal from any coaching staff that the player is allowed to return to the game.

### **ORTHOPEDIC POLICY 402.2**

Orthopedic casts can be worn at any sanctioned FYSA tournament with written approval from a doctor and written permission from a tournament official, final judgement as to its safety is at the discretion of the referee.

Soft braces can be worn with written approval from a doctor, and judgement as to safety is at the discretion of the referee.

### **CONDUCT 502 AND DISCIPLINE 504.1 POLICY**

It shall be solely the team's responsibility to determine the status of its players and coaches. Any suspension from a tournament, local league, etc., is the responsibility of the team to notify the Tournament Director of this suspension at the time of the player's check-in.

Per FYSA Rule 504.1, red card suspension or send off suspensions can only be served with the team with which the suspension was earned in games played by their team. Players may not serve suspensions as "guest players."



## RUSH SOCCER

The Tournament Committee shall have a Discipline Committee of three (3) members. This committee will review and rule on all reports of unacceptable conduct by players, managers, coaches, referees, spectators, etc. using the FYSA standards as set by Rules Section 502.

Any player or manager/coach ejected (red carded) will not complete the game in which the ejection occurred. The ejected player or manager/coach will not participate in the next scheduled tournament game regardless of the cause.

Depending on the severity of the unacceptable conduct, the Discipline Committee may recommend the suspension of up to the duration of the tournament in accordance with FYSA requirements. The committee's recommendations must be available to the affected parties no later than following the next scheduled match.

At the conclusion of the tournament, passes will be returned to the coach, even if the suspension has not been completed. A complete discipline report will be sent to the FYSA office within 72 hours of the tournament's conclusion for possible further discipline.

### **REFEREE ABUSE**

Referee abuse will not be tolerated during the tournament. Referee abuse by the player, coach or fan will be reported to their home state association. The player, coach, or fan will be removed from the field.

### **DISQUALIFICATIONS, CAUTIONS, AND EJECTIONS**

If a team uses a player deemed to be ineligible, that team shall forfeit all games in which that player participated. The Tournament Director may disqualify any team, at any point in the tournament if the team refuses to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the tournament.

All players and coaches sent from the field (red card) or cautioned (yellow card) must be reported to the Tournament Director immediately after the end of the game by the game referee.

The player(s) receiving the red card and the coach or team manager must report to Tournament Headquarters following the game. Players will be suspended for a minimum of 1 game. The suspension may be increased depending on the severity of the incident. If a red card is received in a Final Match, the player will have to serve suspension in the following year's event.

### **PROTESTS**

No Protests. The game official shall consist of a center referee who shall be responsible for making all decisions as related to the game. All decisions of the tournament director are final.

**The tournament director and/or tournament coordinators will decide upon any situation or subject not covered by the aforementioned rules and regulations. All decisions by the Tournament Director are final and are not subject to appeal. To contact the Tournament Director, please visit Tournament Headquarters and they will locate the Director for you.**