

Tournament Rules 2009 – Johnston Fall Soccerfest

A) Tournament Committee

A Tournament Committee shall be established and consist of two co-Tournament Directors and the following: the Assistant Director of Coaching, Director of Operations, Club President, Club Secretary and Recreational Program Director. All decisions of the Tournament Committee relating to the Tournament are final and binding on all parties.

B) Team Participation

The Tournament shall be open to any properly registered team in good standing with its State Association and must be coached by a person over the age of 21. All players on a team must be born on or after August 1st of the following years for participation in the age groups listed:

U8-2001 U9-2000 U10-1999 U11-1998 U12-1997 U13-1996 U14-1995 for Recreational
 U11-1998 U12-1997 U13-1996 U14-1995 U15-1994 U16-1993 U17-1992 U18-1991 for Select

C) Team Composition and Placement

Team rosters shall be limited to 18 players for U13-U18 divisions, 14 players for U11-U12 divisions, 10 players for U9-U10 divisions, and 8 players for U8 divisions. The first weekend of the tourney (October 3-4) will be for recreational teams and the second weekend (October 10-11) will be for select teams.

A recreational team is defined as a team that participates in a recognized recreational league. Recreational teams are restricted to the players listed as 'primary players' on the team's state-sanctioned roster and may include up to three guest players.

Select teams are those classified as "select", "premier", "competitive", "classic", or "traveling" within their respective clubs. In addition, the Johnston Fall Soccerfest will allow tournament teams put together for the sole purpose of playing in a tournament or other sanctioned non-league competition or a team whose roster includes players who are members of more than one team. Tournament teams must be properly registered with their respective state. Furthermore, Select teams may add up to four guest players to their official roster.

Where possible, the tournament committee will be looking to create multiple flights in each age group for the Select weekend based on ability and performance. Registration forms will allow teams to request particular flights; however, final placement of a team in a particular division/bracket is at the sole discretion of the Tournament Committee.

D) Check-In

Team officials should present themselves and required documentation at the Tournament Director's tent no less than one hour prior to their team's first match. Local teams from the Greater Des Moines area will be asked to check-in their teams on the Friday of the tourney weekend. At check-in a team representative must present: 1) Valid Player Passes, 2) Copy of official state-approved roster, 3) Guest Player form (if applicable), 4) Travel papers (if applicable), and 5) Medical Release (Signed by each participant's parent/guardian) forms covering each player participating in the tournament. Player passes and tournament-confirmed rosters will be checked on the field by the assigned field marshal or game official prior to the start of each match.

E) Length of Matches/Ball Size/Format

Each team should be able to furnish a regulation game ball to the referee prior to each match. The referee's choice of ball is final.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Length of Period</i>	<i>Format</i>	<i>Ball</i>	<i>Interval</i>
U-8	(2) 20 Minutes	4v4	3	5 Minutes
U-9	(2) 25 Minutes	6v6	4	5 Minutes
U-10	(2) 25 Minutes	6v6	4	5 Minutes
U-11	(2) 30 Minutes	8v8	4	5 Minutes
U-12	(2) 30 Minutes	8v8	4	5 Minutes
U-13	(2) 30 Minutes	11v11	5	5 Minutes
U-14	(2) 30 Minutes	11v11	5	5 Minutes
U-15	(2) 35 Minutes	11v11	5	5 Minutes
U-16	(2) 35 Minutes	11v11	5	5 Minutes
U-17	(2) 40 Minutes	11v11	5	5 Minutes
U-18	(2) 40 Minutes	11v11	5	5 Minutes

Shoot-outs will be used in semi-final and final games when these games are tied at the end of regulation play.

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Shoot-out procedure:

- 1) Each team will select five players to kick, only players on the field at the end of the game may be selected.
- 2) Teams will alternate (first to kick is determined by referee coin toss.)
- 3) If score remains tied after five kicks, the teams will select five new players to participate in a 1v1 format until a winner is determined (Make and a Miss).
- 4) Keepers may be changed after each shot.

F) Start of Game

Home team is team listed first for the scheduled game. The winner of a coin toss before the start of the match will be given the decision of kick-off or goal to defend in the first half.

G) Tournament Scoring

Division standings for each age group will be decided by the following point system.

Win	3 points (forfeit or scheduled bye recorded as a 3-0 win)
Tie	1 point
Loss	0 points

H) Tie Breaker Criteria

- 1) Fewest red cards (This includes coach expulsions)
- 2) Head to head (not used if more than 2 teams involved)
- 3) Goal differential (Goals scored less goals allowed-Maximum 4 goal spread per game)
- 4) Fewest goals allowed
- 5) Most goals scored (No maximum)
- 6) Penalty kicks from the mark (Refer to Shoot-out procedure)

I) Substitution/Ejection

Substitution shall be unlimited and may be made with the consent of the referee at the following times:

- 1) Prior to a throw-in in your favor
- 2) Prior to a throw-in for the opposing team provided they are making a substitution.
- 3) Prior to a goal kick by either team
- 4) After a goal by either team
- 5) At the interval
- 6) Substitution for an injured player/Opposing team may also sub one.

A player or team official who is ejected from a game will be suspended for the next tournament game for that team. An individual may receive more than a one-game suspension if deemed appropriate by the Tournament Director. No substitution will be permitted for an ejected player.

Anyone involved in a fight will be immediately expelled from the tournament site. Any player or coach who is expelled in this manner will not be allowed further participation in the tournament.

Any player or coach expelled from a match will leave the pitch area to the full satisfaction of the referee. If not done within a reasonable period of time and without incident, the opposing team will be granted a win by forfeit and the match will be concluded. Players and/or coaches who are expelled will be reported to the Tournament Director immediately where the severity of the card will be determined for possible further sanctions per FIFA/USYSA. The tournament committee shall have the authority to remove any person from the tournament for unsportsmanlike conduct.

J) Forfeit of Match

There will be no grace period beyond the scheduled starting time for any match. Any team unable to field a team shall forfeit by a score of 3-0 to the opposing team. A match may be played by a minimum of 8 players per side for U13-U18 matches, 6 players per side for U11-U12 matches, 4 players per side for U9-U10 matches, and 3 players per side for U8 matches. Any team that withdraws from a match for any reason will forfeit that match and the following scheduled match by a score of 3-0.

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K) Spectators

Spectators shall be on the opposite side of the pitch from where the teams are benched and shall not remain standing beyond the goal line. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their team's fans throughout the Tournament. Abusive language and actions by spectators towards the officials or member of any team will not be tolerated. The referee has the authority to warn, caution, or eject the coach for the conduct of the spectators. Every team is requested to help ensure that the pitch and surrounding area is left clean and litter free. Alcohol in any form or any other controlled substance will not be allowed on any playing field or area within the Johnston Soccer Complex or Johnston High School Stadium. Pets will not be permitted on the grounds at any time.

L) Home Team/Visitor

The home team is always the first team listed and will bench themselves to the East (or North) of the visitor. The home team shall change jerseys if so requested by the referee in the event of color conflict. Furthermore, the home team will provide the ball used during the match (Referee has final decision in ball used).

M) Eligibility of Players

All players in the tournament (including guest players) must be members in good standing with their state/national governing bodies. All players must have a valid player pass which the coach must present at check-in and prior to each match. To be eligible, players must be on the team's tournament-confirmed roster to participate. Violation of this rule will result in the forfeiture of all games played by the offending team. A player may only play for one team throughout the tournament. Any ineligible player discovered shall cause the team on which he/she played to forfeit that and all previously played matches.

N) Cancellation/Alterations

Should inclement weather or uncontrollable situations prevent the tournament from commencing or being successfully rescheduled, the amount of the tournament registration fee refunded to teams will be at the sole discretion of the Tournament Committee.

If any matches are cancelled/shortened due to inclement weather, darkness or other uncontrollable situations once tournament commences, there will be no refund of any portion of tournament entry fees. Every possible effort will be made to ensure all matches are played. Teams will be expected to play regardless of conditions based upon the decision of the Tournament Director.

The Tournament Director shall have the authority to:

- 1) End matches after the completion of the first half and record scores at that time
- 2) Reschedule or relocate matches
- 3) Shorten playing time by as much as 50%
- 4) Cancel any match in preliminary rounds that have no bearing on tournament outcome
- 5) End the tournament and declare 'bracket winners' with placement and granting of awards at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director
- 6) Determine match results on the basis of a shootout.
- 7) Cancel all or part of the Tournament without penalty.

O) Equipment

All player equipment shall be in accordance with the laws of the game as amended for youth. All player equipment is subject to approval of referee who shall have final authority for that match. Teams shall be prepared to provide another color uniform or pinnies if necessary. Secondary uniforms may be numberless but should only be worn if there is a color conflict.

P) Protests

The tournament committee will not authorize nor accept any protests. All decisions of the referees or tournament staff are final and binding on all parties and the match will stand as played.

Q) General

Other than as defined above, all FIFA/USYSA rules will be applied to the tournament. Every player and coach is participating at his/her own risk. Referees will report scores to the Tournament Director following each match. Official standings will be posted at the Tournament Director's tent. It is the coach's responsibility to check these standings to determine their team's schedule in the Medal Round of the tournament.