



GUELPH SOCCER FESTIVAL/TOURNAMENT RULES 2023

1. Laws of the Game

- **U9-U12-** all games shall be small-sided soccer played under Ontario Soccer's Grassroots Soccer Rules.
- **U13+** - all games shall be played in accordance with the laws of the game observed by Ontario Soccer, Canada Soccer, and F.I.F.A.

2. Squad/Team Eligibility

Festival Teams (U9-U12)

- All squads must be registered with their Provincial Association or, in the case of squads from the USA, with the State Association.
- When applying to take part in a festival, each squad must attach to the Festival Application Form (FAF), written proof of **"Permission to Travel"** (ATF) duly authorized by its governing Association, when the squad is travelling from its District Association.
- In Inter-District Class Festivals, all squads from outside Ontario must supply proof of accident/injury/illness medical insurance to the Festival Host no later than seven (7) days prior to the festival.
- A squad may only use players who are registered with its Club.

Tournament Teams (U13-U18)

- All participating teams must be currently registered with their Provincial, State or National Association.
- All teams from outside Southwest Soccer must have proof of **"Permission to Travel"** (ATF), duly authorized by their governing association to the Tournament Host no later than seven (7) days prior to the event.
- All teams from outside Ontario must supply proof of **Accident/Injury/Illness Medical Insurance** to the Tournament Host no later than seven (7) days prior to the event. U13 and up may have a maximum of 20 players on their official roster and dress a maximum of 18 players for any one game.
- Teams will be accepted to play in the Festival/Tournament at the sole discretion of the Festival/Tournament Committee.

3. Teams and Player Registration

- Teams and players must be registered with the Festival/Tournament Committee at Festival/Tournament Headquarters on the prescribed date and time, unless otherwise approved.
- Teams which withdraw their application after **the deadline DATE** shall forfeit their entry fee.
- Teams must be registered before their first game is played. Teams failing to register by the time required may, at the discretion of the Festival/Tournament Committee, be dismissed from the Festival/Tournament, forfeiting their entry fee.
- A player card with photograph, duly authorized by the District Registrar, State or National Registrar, shall be presented at Registration. In those soccer jurisdictions where such cards are not available, a team card displaying the photograph, name and birth date of every player will be accepted, provided it is approved by the governing body of the applicant team.
- A valid copy of the team roster must be provided at registration. A copy of the team roster may be required to be presented to the field convener before the start of each game. No alterations to the original validation are permitted unless accompanied by the written authorization of the Festival/Tournament Committee.
- **U13+** teams may register a maximum of 20 players to their official roster and dress 18 players for any one game.
- **U13+** a maximum of 3 guest players is permitted with the above specifications. Guest players must be identified at registration and must conform to the Ontario Soccer Pyramid of Play Rules.

4. Age

Players must be born **on or after January 1st** of the following years:

U9	2014	U11	2012	U13	2010	U15	2008	U17	2006
U10	2013	U12	2011	U14	2009	U16	2007	U18	2005

5. Festival Format

The Festival shall consist of a series of games played under the following format:

- A Festival will be a one day event
- Played without the recording of scores and standings;
- Which prohibits the trophies or awards with the exception of participant mementos

Festivals will operate under rules in accordance with the relative Festival Checklist found in **Appendix A.**

Age	Pass in/Throw in	Offside	Field Dimensions	Ball Size
U9	Pass in/Dribble in	No Offside	30 to 36m Width x 40 to 55 Length	4 (or 4 light)
U10	Pass in/Dribble in	No Offside	30 to 36m Width x 40 to 55 Length	4 (or 4 light)
U11	Throw in	Offside	42 to 55m Width x 60 to 75 Length	4 (or 5 light)
U12	Throw in	Offside	42 to 55m Width x 60 to 75 Length	4 (or 5 light)

6. Substitutions

Festivals (U9-U12)

- There is no limit to the number of substitutions that may be made during a game.
- U9-U12 substitutions in Festival games may be made at any stoppage.

Tournament (U13+)

There is no limit to the number of substitutions during a game, but a substitution can only be made during stoppage in play, and only at the referee's discretion.

- When a goal is scored
- At the goal kick
- At the beginning of the first, or second half, or the beginning of overtime or half-time in overtime
- For an injured player at the referee's discretion
- Piggy-backing of substitutions will be allowed.

No substitution will be allowed for a player ordered from the field by the referee because of misconduct.

7. Number of Players Dressed in Each Game Day Roster

- The following number of players may dress and play in each Game Day Roster of Festival:
 - Under-9 Festival 7v7 (with GK) maximum of 12 players in each game
 - Under-10 Festival 7v7 (with GK) maximum of 12 players in each game
 - Under-11 Festival 9v9 (with GK) maximum of 16 players in each game
 - Under-12 Festival 9v9 (with GK) maximum of 16 players in each game
 - Under-13 plus teams may dress 18 players for any one game
 - Under-13 plus players are not permitted to be rostered to more than one team within the same tournament

8. Duration of Games

- a) U9-U10 all games will be 2 x 20 minute halves
- b) U11 & U12 all games will be 2 x 25 minute halves
- c) U13-U18 all games will be 2 x 25 minute halves
- d) There must be a minimum of 30 minutes rest between each game played by Festival teams (U9-U12)
- e) U13 and U14 not to exceed 150 minutes per day. Under 15 and older may not exceed 180 minutes per day
- f) U13 and up – there must be a minimum of 60 minutes between each game played by any team

RETREAT LINES WILL BE IN EFFECT FOR THE U9-U13 DIVISIONS TO KEEP IN LINE WITH RESPECTIVE LEAGUE PLAY FOR THESE AGE GROUPS.

4-up-1-up for the U9-U12 will be applied

Duration of all games may be shortened by tournament officials, and half-time in all games shall be five minutes in duration.

Please see Rule 14 for Extra Time Specifics (for Quarter-final, Semi-final and Final games).

9. Game Sheets and Referees' Reports

- All game sheets and referee reports must be returned to Festival/Tournament Headquarters, by the Field Conveners, as soon as possible after the completion of a game.
- Game sheets must be signed by the referee and one official from each team.
- If a player or team official is ordered from the field by the referee for misconduct, or any player or team official is cautioned by the referee during the course of a game, is it essential the referee's report and game sheet be delivered to the Festival/Tournament Headquarters within 1 hour after the end of the game.

10. Discipline Festivals/Tournaments

All discipline shall be subject to Ontario Soccer Discipline Policies by Review (DBR) and heard by the Festival/Tournament Discipline Committee (TDC) provided by SWRSA.

- a) A player accumulating a 2nd caution in a game (red card) or a team official ordered from the field shall be subject to discipline under the DBR system. The player or team official shall receive a suspension from the team's next scheduled game.
- b) A player receiving two yellow cards during the Festival/Tournament will be suspended from the next game.
- c) Any player red-carded by the referee or coach ejected will be suspended from the next game. The Festival/Tournament Discipline Committee will review the referee report and the

appropriate suspension will be rendered in accordance with Discipline Section 9- Tables 5-12 & Policy 14.0 (Standard Fees, Bonds and Penalties) for the Ontario Soccer's Published Rules.

- d) A player receiving two red cards during the Festival/Tournament will be suspended from the Festival/Tournament.
- e) In the case of a Referee Assault, the accused is immediately suspended from all soccer related activity until the case is heard by the appropriate District Association.
- f) If a team official or player is ejected from the final game, the discipline report will be sent to their District Association for processing.
- g) Festival Discipline is done by DBR.
- h) A DBR decision can be appealed, in writing, under the following 4 appeals criteria, within 45 minutes after a Decision has been rendered, and accompanied by a \$100.00 cash fee. This fee is refunded if the appeal is successful.

Appeal Criteria:

- New Facts (that did not exist when hearing was convened or could not be found via due diligence);
- Procedural Errors (exact errors or reference to the Published Rules);
- Incorrect Interpretation of the Published Rules (which rules and rationale); and/or
- Excessive Fine, Fine, Bond or Penalty (state why excessive).

IN ACCORDANCE WITH FIFA RULES, NO PROTEST ON A REFEREE'S DECISION WILL BE ENTERTAINED.

11. Extraordinary Weather

- a) In the event of severe weather (e.g. continuous heavy rain, lightning, excessive heat), the Festival/Tournament Committee has the authority to change the duration of games or any other function of the Festival/Tournament, including such things as the following:
 - Relocate and/or reschedule any games.
 - Reduce, by up to 50 percent, the scheduled duration of any game (including playoffs).
 - Cancel any game (includes for the U13 and up in the preliminary round that has no bearing in deciding group winners).
- b) A game is considered complete when 50 percent or less of the playing time remained when the game was terminated by the referee.
- c) In the event of a total cancellation of the Festival/Tournament, the Festival/Tournament Committee reserves the right to refund a portion of the registration fee.

12. Scheduling

Scheduling and refereeing are the responsibility of the Festival/Tournament host. Schedules will be posted a minimum of ONE week prior to the Festival/Tournament on the Guelph Soccer and First on the Turf websites.

13. Determination of Group Winners for U13 and Up Teams

Each team will be awarded:

3 points for a win

1 point for a tie

0 points for a loss

At the end of the preliminary round, the group winner shall be the team with the most points. If teams are tied on points, the following criteria shall be used to determine the winner:

- a) Head to Head Competition winner
- b) Goal Differential (goals for minus goals against)
- c) Most Wins
- d) Least Goals Against
- e) Coin Toss

There will be no standings and trophies or medals for the U9-U12 divisions.

14. Extra Time Rules for U13 and Up

In the event of a tied playoff game (quarter-final, semi-final, or final rounds), the following procedure will be followed to determine the winner:

- Penalty kicks as per FIFA (Five kicks per team).
- If still tied, alternating penalty kicks by the balance of the team until an outcome is decided.

There will be no extra time for the U9-U12 divisions.

15. Failure to Show

A team shall be allowed a 15- minute period of grace after the scheduled kick-off time before it is considered that they have failed to show.

- A minimum of seven players for U13-U18, a minimum of six players for U11-U12 and a minimum of five players for U9-U10, constitutes a team and the game shall be started if a team has at least this number of players, even if it must play shorthanded against its opponent. The period of grace may be allowed only if there are less than the minimum players required.

In the event of a failure to show, the offending team shall forfeit the game. If both teams fail to show, the Festival/Tournament Committee will make a ruling.

16. Abandoned/Forfeited Game

- The Festival/Tournament Committee will review the circumstances of any team that abandons (quits) a game before it is completed and decides whether or not the team shall forfeit the game.
- At the discretion of the Festival/Tournament Committee, teams that abandoned (quit) a game, failed to show, or otherwise forfeit a game will be subject to a dismissal from the Festival/Tournament and all entry fees and bonds forfeited without appeal. Furthermore, such action will be reported to the governing body of the team involved.
- All opponents of a team in the U13 and up ages who have forfeited a game will be awarded a win and three points in the preliminary standings (score recorded as 2-0).

17. Arrival Time for Tournament Finals U13 and Up

- Teams qualifying for the finals of a division shall be prepared to kick-off 30 minutes before the scheduled time. Kick-off times may be changed at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

18. Player Uniforms and Equipment

- Players must wear a number on the back of their shirts. Each player on a team shall have a different number and this number must coincide with the player's name and number as shown on the game sheet.
- If the colours clash, the **home team will change colours** (the home team is the first team listed on the schedule).
- At the Festival/Tournament Committee's discretion, a team that does not observe the colour change or short requirements of this rule may forfeit the game.
- The Home Team shall supply the game ball.

19. Field Supervision

- Persons acting in the capacity of Field Convener reserve the right to check player cards before all games.

20. Protests

- All protests will only be entertained if received within 1 hour after the completion of the game in question. All protests must be written and accompanied with the protest fee of \$100.00 payable by cash or money order only. Protest fee will be refunded if the protest in question is deemed to be valid.
- No protest regarding the referee's decisions will be accepted. The Discipline Committee's decisions will be final.

21. General

- The Festival/Tournament Committee will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team if the Festival/Tournament is canceled in whole or in part.
- The Festival/Tournament Committee and/or Southwest Soccer reserve the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the event.

Ontario Soccer's Procedure 12.7 – Discipline at Tournaments

12.7.1 The governing organization responsible for the Tournament shall ensure the Discipline Chair has current Discipline Certification level 1 status.

12.7.2 Alleged offenders must be dealt with by The Panel under the DBR system or DBH system as appropriate directly after the game in which the misconduct was reported. REVISION DATE: JANUARY 2017 ONTARIO SOCCER ASSOCIATION 111

12.7.3 The Panel may, where justified, suspend any person dismissed during, or after, a game, from all further participation in the tournament. This is mandatory for any "A" misconduct type

12.7.4 if the Panel is unable to deal with an offence in a satisfactory manner after the game in which the alleged misconduct occurred:

- a) The offender shall not be permitted to participate any further in the Festival/Tournament;
- b) Within 48 hours after the completion of the Festival/Tournament, the Festival/Tournament's Host Organization must forward the Match Official's report, together with any other reports, to its District Association;

12.7.5 In the case of a Match Official assault in a Festival/Tournament, the offender shall be immediately suspended from all soccer related activities, pending a hearing by an OSA Discipline Hearing Panel.

- a) The Match Official shall submit his/her report to the District Association in which he/she resides and to Ontario Soccer;
- b) The Festival/Tournament's host organization shall immediately (after the completion of the Festival/Tournament) notify its District Association;
- c) Within 24 hours after receipt of notification of the Match Official assault, the District Association shall notify the District Association with which the offender's club is affiliated who will in turn notify the accused, the club of the accused and the league which he/she plays, that the accused is suspended from all soccer related activity until being dealt with by an Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel.

12.7.6 The Festival/Tournament's Host Organization shall forward to its governing organization:

- a) Within two days after the completion of a Festival/Tournament, copies of all misconduct reports, including, dismissal and special incident reports, and the "list of cautions report"; and
- b) Within seven days after the completion of a Festival/Tournament, a summary report about the discipline rendered to each person.
- c) Who will in turn forward for each person registered with another District Association the misconducts reports and summary report(s) to the appropriate District Association and shall forward a copy of such to Ontario Soccer.