



## Festival Rules and Regulations

### 1.0 Eligibility and Registration Requirements

1.1 All participating teams must be currently registered with their provincial organization. All teams from outside the Eastern Ontario Soccer (EOS) MUST provide, by email submission, no later than one week before the festival date, an authorized travel permit from their governing association. Any team from outside of Ontario must have proof of adequate travel, injury, and liability insurance. The Festival Committee and host club will not be liable for injuries to any participant on or off the fields during the tournament.

1.2 All teams must bring with them a copy of their official team roster validated by their governing organization. This should be presented at the festival check-in and kept available by the team at every game during the festival. Failure to meet this requirement could result in sanctions including dismissal from the festival and forfeit of the team entry fee.

1.3 No team will be considered officially registered until their entry fee payment, in full, has been received. Any team that withdraws from the festival after the registration deadline will not be entitled to a refund of their entry fee. Withdrawals prior to the deadline will get a refund of the entry fee minus a \$50 administrative fee.

1.4 Team registration will be done through electronic submission of the official team roster no later than one week before the festival. A team official must check in at the festival desk no later than one hour before their first game. Players are not required to be present at check-in. The team manager/representative will be required to have:

- A copy of the fully completed Festival Roster form.
- Authorized player books for all players and coaches (or player cards as applicable);
- Teams from districts that do not issue cards/books for developmental ages need only present the official, validated team roster.
- A copy of the team's official Team Roster validated by the team's governing body (for presentation and inspection only);
- Three completed festival game sheets.

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The manager must keep the documentation to be available at each game the team plays in case it is needed for verification purposes. Game sheets are to be provided to the referee prior to each game.

## 2.0 Team Roster

2.1 Game rosters will be limited to a maximum of twelve (12) players for U-8, U-9 and fourteen (14) players for U-10 and U-11 teams, and four (4) team officials. Players may play on multiple teams during the festival.

2.2 A team may register "call-up" players if those players are registered to the same Club as the participating team and are at the same age level as the team. No guest players from other clubs are permitted. All players being called up must have properly validated player ID (book/card) as well as evidence of the club they are registered to.

2.3 The age groups and their corresponding birth dates for the tournament are as follows:

### AGE DIVISION BIRTH YEAR

U-11	2015
U-10	2016
U-9	2017
U-8	2018

2.4 Player and coach ID documents (books, cards, roster) must be available at each game the team plays. A player or team official without proper documentation will not be eligible to participate.

## 3.0 Team Official Registration

3.1 All coaches and Assistant Coaches must be fully certified as per the Canadian Grassroots Standards.

3.2 All Coaches and other team officials must be registered with their governing body as per their provincial operating procedures.

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3.3 Every team must have a Head Coach on the Team's TRR. All team coaches on the bench during a festival game must be on the Team's TRR.

3.4 Every team must have a certified coach as per 3.1 above on their bench for every festival game.

### 4.0 Game Abandonment

A team that is unable to field at least four players (U-8 and U-9) or five players (U-10 and U-11) within ten minutes of the official start time will force abandonment of the game unless the team can provide the Festival Committee with a satisfactory reason for the lateness. The offending team may be liable for a fine of \$100 payable within 30 days. There will be no refund of entry fees due to abandoned games.

### 5.0 Protests

All protests must be in writing and submitted with a \$100 cash bond to the Tournament Control Centre within 30 minutes of the finish of the game to which the protest relates. The Tournament Discipline Committee will rule on all protests, and the cash deposit will be refunded only if the protest is upheld.

All referees' decisions are final. No protests will be allowed based on referee decisions.

### 6.0 Home Team

The team listed first on the schedule shall be considered the home team. If there is a color clash with team jerseys, it will be the home team's responsibility to change colors. Each team should have two sets of jerseys in anticipation of possible color clashes. Each team is responsible for having an appropriate game ball available if required.

### 7.0 Festival Format

7.1 All U-8 and U-9 teams will play three twenty-five (25) minute games on the festival day. U-10 and U-11 teams will play three thirty (30) minute games on the festival day. The number of minutes played by a team per day will not exceed the maximum, as per Ontario Soccer rules, of 80 minutes for U-8/9 teams and 100 minutes for U-10/11 teams.

7.2 As per Ontario Soccer developmental guidelines, no scores or standings will be kept, and no trophies or medals will be awarded based on results.

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7.3 Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage in play with the approval of, and at the discretion of, the referee.

7.4 U-8 and U-9 teams will play 5v5 with a size 4 ball. U-10 and U-11 teams will play 7v7 with a size 4 ball.

7.5 For U-8, U-9, U-10 and U-11 games, there will be no offside rule. U-8, U-9 and U-10 games will use "kick-ins" and/or "dribble-ins". U-11 will only use kick-ins.

### **8.0 Spectator/Team/Coach Positioning**

Coaches must stay within the technical area that extends one yard either side of the team bench and one yard from the sideline. Coaching outside of this area will not be permitted. Only team officials are allowed in this area. Team officials are reminded that they are not allowed on the field of play without the referee's permission. A MAXIMUM of four team officials is permitted on the bench (coaches, trainers, etc.).

Parents and other fans are not allowed in this area and must remain on the opposite side of the field from the players' benches. This rule will be strictly enforced. No exceptions. Spectators must always remain at least two meters back from the touchline.

### **9.0 Discipline**

9.1 If a player receives a red card, he/she will be ejected and automatically suspended for the next game. A red card for violent conduct will result in a three-game suspension. If a player receives two yellow cards during the same game, he/she will be ejected and suspended for the next game. Three yellows during the festival will result in a one-game suspension. If a team official is asked to leave the field of play, he/she will automatically receive a next-game suspension. All suspensions will be reported to the team's home District Association and to the Ontario Soccer Association (and/or appropriate provincial association).

9.2 Any team official, parent, or spectator of a team who is ejected from the field for unruly or abusive behavior will automatically be ejected from the remainder of the festival.

### **10.0 Equipment**

Shin pads and proper uniform attire are mandatory. 'Hard' casts, even if wrapped, are not permitted. Referees have the final determination over issues involving potentially 'unsafe' equipment (eyeglasses, 'soft' casts, etc.).

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## 11.0 Game Sheets

Both teams must submit their completed game sheets to the referee prior to kick-off. Players' uniform numbers must correspond to numbers/names on the game sheet.

## 12.0 Substitutions

Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage in play with the referee's permission. Coaches should ensure substitutions do not delay the game unnecessarily.

## 13.0 Match Official Fees

13.1 All match official fees will be paid by the festival organizers.

13.2 Referees will be paid for their services via the EOS Match Official Payment Policy.

## 14.0 Festival Committee

14.1 The Festival Committee will be responsible for team acceptances, Festival format, game scheduling, and assignment of referees.

14.2 The Festival Committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the festival.

14.3 The Festival Committee reserves the right to rule on all matters pertaining to the festival, including interpretation of the foregoing rules and regulations.

14.4 The Festival Committee reserves the right to change the format of the festival due to unforeseeable circumstances.

14.5 The Seaway Valley Soccer Club will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team if the festival is canceled or shortened.