



AC DOUGLAS SOCCER TOURNAMENT



AND FESTIVAL

U8-U11 A.C. Douglas Festival Rules

Each Team is responsible for ensuring that they are aware of their schedule or any schedule changes. Team coaches or managers are responsible for communicating schedules and/or playoff designations to their players. Coaches/managers should check with tournament headquarters, or field convenors, periodically for any changes or updates, especially at the end of the day and at the beginning of each day. A set of updated rules will be available in hard copy, on the day/night of team registration. Unless your scheduled field is not in use, players should only warm up on any adjacent field space. Teams must be prepared to play immediately following the end of the previous game.

PLEASE NOTE: SCHEDULES WILL NOT BE RELEASED UNTIL THE WEEK OF THE TOURNAMENT

The Niagara Falls Soccer Club's annual A.C. Douglas U8 to U11 Festival is to provide playing opportunities for the Soccer Clubs and Teams based in the Niagara Region and around Ontario, and also to offer a friendly playing atmosphere, without the pressure of a tournament format.

1. Laws

All Games will be played in accordance with the Ontario Soccer Association Grassroots Soccer Rules and LTPD Matrix.

2. Home Team Responsibilities

Teams are listed on the schedule as Home or Away teams. The Home team will supply the game ball. If players' colours clash, it will be the responsibility of the Home team to change distinct colours. Pinnies are permitted.

3. Game Sheets

Both teams will complete their game sheet, signed by a Team Official, and present it to the game official prior to each game. Each team shall provide their own game sheets, which can be found on our website at www.nfsc.ca.

Game sheets must be handed to the Field Convenor by the Game Official after each game.

4. Offside

No Offsides



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5. Number of Players (as per Ontario Soccer Development Matrix)

- U8 - U9 may register up to 10 players and will play with 5 players a side (with GK)
- U10 - U11 may register up to 16 players and will play with 7 players a side (with GK)

Division	Maximum Playing Time - per Day - per Player
U8/U9	80 minutes
U10/11	100 minutes

No player may be registered for more than one team

- ❖ The Festival Convenor, prior to the commencement of the game, must approve any changes to a team roster.

6. Duration of Play

Each team entered will play 2 games. **NO SCORES OR STANDINGS WILL BE KEPT.**

Division Game Duration

2 x 20-minute halves

All divisions will play with a size 4 ball.

7. Referee Fees

U8/U9 - Head Match Official \$25.00

U10/U11 - Head Match Official \$35.00

8. Substitutions

Substitutions are unlimited and permitted at any stoppage of play with the permission of the referee.

9. Coaching

Teams (players and coaches) will take up positions on opposite sides of the field from spectators. All players and coaches shall restrict their movements to an area along each touchline and within ten (10) meters of either side of the centre line.



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10. Abandon Games

The A.C. Douglas Festival Committee shall review the circumstances of any game abandoned by the referee. The finding of the committee and subsequent decision shall be final and not subject to any appeal.

11. Protests

No Protests

12. Scheduling

Scheduling and the assignment of referees are the responsibility of the A.C. Douglas Festival committee.

12. Extraordinary Weather

In the event of severe weather (i.e. continuous heavy rain, flooding, lightning, excessive heat or humidity), only a Festival official or the City Parks Department may cancel a game. The Festival Committee has the authority to change the duration of the games or any other function of the festival, including such things as the following:

- (a) Relocating and/or rescheduling game(s)
- (b) Reduce, by up to 50%, the duration of any scheduled game;
- (c) Cancel any game

*** The Niagara Falls Soccer Club shall not be responsible for any expenses by any team if the Festival is cancelled or shortened ***

*** The Niagara Falls Soccer Club and the Festival Committee reserve the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the event**

General Information

1. Headquarters and Registration

Teams and players must be registered with the Tournament/Festival committee at NFSC Headquarters on the Friday before your first game from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm or 1 hr. prior to your first game at Club Headquarters (3800 Springdale Ave., Niagara Falls), unless otherwise approved by the Tournament/Festival committee. Team registration will not take place on the playing fields.

Teams are accepted **ONLY** upon receipt (prior to/at the published deadline), of the full Festival registration package, registration fee, and proof of permission to travel (Niagara Soccer Association Teams excluded). Teams will be considered "Pending" until payment is received in the office.

Teams that withdraw their applications after the closing date (**July 1st, 2025**) of the application shall forfeit their entry fee in full. This is non-negotiable.



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Teams that have not provided the entry fee payment in full (online, cheque, cash, or money order) are not considered registered ("Pending") until the full payment is actually received. Teams registering late (after the closing date) may only be accepted upon specific approval of the Festival committee and may only pay via credit. All payments/cheques should be made out to Niagara Falls Soccer Club only.

The following will be required at Registration:

- A fully completed Festival Team Roster form
- Completed Permission to Travel form from your District Association (teams from outside the Niagara region only)
- All Team Officials and Players must have, and present OS Books, player cards, or an approved photo roster at the time of registration.

2. Player/Team Eligibility/Proof of Age

- All players **must** be registered with their participating club, and only OS carded players may participate in this Festival. Any violation of the listed rules will result in dismissal from the Festival and forfeiture of any Festival fees.
- All players must be registered as Recreational, Mini or All-Star players with the participating Club. • Each team is allowed 3 guest players for whom the team will provide a TEP (Temporary Eligibility Permit) for the player approved by the District if the player is called up from outside your Club. If the player is registered within your Club, they do not require a TEP.

3. Medical Assistance

All Fields will have telephone contact through a Field convenor.

The nearest Hospital/Medical Facility is located at;

Greater Niagara General Hospital

5546 Portage Rd, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6X2