



## **Kickers FC Champions Cup**

### **Rules**

#### **Players and Rosters**

All teams must register and pay in full to be scheduled for the tournament.

A pre-registration list will be opened, but teams are not fully registered until full registration with complete payment is made.

All players must be registered with the TCSL or affiliated soccer organization, must provide a valid current year players pass and must be properly registered on a team.

TCSL Club Pass Rules Do Not apply. Guest players must be at the same age and level, or lower age / level to participate. In cases of combined brackets, the age criteria for older age group will be applied for all teams in that bracket.

#### **Rosters Sizes & Game information**

Level	Players on Field	Max roster	Game Length	Half's	Half Time
U9 & U10	7v7	14 players	50 mins	25 mins	5 mins
U11 & U12	9v9	16 players	60 mins	30 mins	5 mins
U13 - U18	11v11	18 players	70 mins	35 mins	5 mins

Players may play on more than one team, but we ask to limit this in consideration of player health.

Over-rostering when registering for the tournament is allowed, but no more than the specified number of players will be allowed to dress for any specific game.

A determination will be made for proper placement of a team based upon the formation guidelines used. This may include moving up to a higher age bracket.

#### **Guest Players**

Each team may have up to three (3) guest players. A guest player is defined as anyone not listed on your Team Roster for League play, who is age-eligible, and who is rostered on a team playing at an equal or lesser level of competition in league play. Guest Players must be identified on the Guest Player Roster form and must have their own 2024 player pass.

## **Consent Form**

All teams are required to have medical authorizations i.e. (TCSL or MYSA Emergency Consent Form) if required by governing authority.

Player passes or Official Picture Match Line-up/Referee Report will be verified prior to the tournament via online check in. Rosters or player pass PDF forms must be submitted for approval by the end of day on the Tuesday prior to the tournament. There will not be an in-person check in for rosters prior to the tournament. Rosters are frozen upon verification.

Before each game players and coaches will be required to provide approved copies of the roster to each referee for player verification / check-in. If rosters / players do not match or are not available, the team forfeits the game. No exceptions will be made.

## **Divisions**

There will be separate boys' and girls' divisions. There will be U9 & U10 Jamboree / competitive divisions and U11 - U18 competitive divisions. Teams will be matched based on expected competitive levels. (Higher level teams vs higher level teams, and lower-level teams vs lower-level teams based on information provided at registration). The Tournament Committee reserves the right to place a team in the correct bracket or combine brackets if necessary.

## **In-Game Rules**

Home Team / Away Team Jersey

The first team listed in the schedule is the home team. The visiting team must have an alternate jersey and be prepared to change if, in the opinion of the referee, there is a color conflict.

If any team has questions about potential jersey color conflicts, those can be communicated through the tournament director prior to the tournament. Both teams should attempt to cooperate as much as possible to help avoid a potential conflict. (Home team not opting for an alternate kit when it could raise issue of a known conflict with that specific opponent).

The Home team is expected to provide a game ball (proper size, in good condition), although the Away team should have one if necessary.

## **Uniforms and Equipment**

All teams must be wearing the same uniforms, with all shirts tucked in at the start of the game. Casts to be wrapped with soft protective material. Judgment of the referee with player safety in mind. Glasses or sport goggles may be worn; however, they must have a strap and meet the criteria for safety.

U8 - Size 3 Ball

U9-U12 - Size 4 Ball

U13-U18 - Size 5 Ball

Home team must provide a game ball, but the visiting team is encouraged to have one on hand.

### **Referees**

Only registered USSF referees will be used. One referee will be used for all U8 - U10 games.

### **Game Schedule and Length General**

Weather and field conditions permitting, each U8 - U10 team will play three total games.

In most cases, teams will play a minimum of one game and a maximum of two games per day.

To accommodate travel, field availability, playoff format, and special scheduling requests, there may be a need to play three games in a day but will only occur as a last resort.

Round robin and festival / jamboree games that end regulation time in a tie will remain a tie.

Playoff games (non-finals) will proceed directly to Penalty Kicks to determine a winner. Finals will play two, five-minute OT's, (no golden goal), and proceed to Penalty Kicks if still tied after the Over Time periods.

If the weather or the field conditions make it impossible to carry out the tournament to its full extent, the Tournament Director and Committee will make the necessary decisions concerning the rescheduling or the cancellation of games for any reason (See Weather Rules).

Game length and times may be shortened or altered until the tournament is back on schedule. Games may also be rescheduled or cancelled but in most cases, affected games will be cancelled and schedule will continue when playable as originally scheduled.

It is essential that games begin on time. Games will be declared a forfeit if a team cannot field the necessary number of players within 10 minutes of the start time.

### **Substitutions**

All substitutions will occur based on TCSL rules for each age division.

Substitutes must be at the halfway line, prepared to play and will enter the field only when permitted to do so by the referee. The referee can refuse to allow a substitute at his/her discretion. Time will not be added to a game to account for substitutions.

### **Scoring for Bracket Play**

Scores will be reported. No scores with scoring margins greater than 5 will be published online.

Final score will reflect a margin of a maximum of 5 goals.

**Tournament Points for U11 and older will be awarded as follows: 3 Points for a win, 1 Points for a tie.**

One point will be deducted for each Red Card received by a player and/or each time a coach is dismissed.

## **Tie Breakers for Bracket Play**

**The following criteria, in order, will be used to break all ties:**

- Winner of head-to-head competition. **If three or more teams are tied within a group or bracket the head-to-head tiebreaker will not be used.**
- Highest goal differential (maximum of five (5) goals per game).
- Fewest goals allowed per game.
- Most goals scored (5 Goal Max per Game)
- Team with earliest registration date will advance if online check-in was completed by deadline.
- Team with earliest registration date of teams who submitted last roster after online check-in deadline.

In determining the total number of points to advance to the championship game, if tied teams have played an unequal number of games, a calculation will be made to compensate for the number of games played. Total number of points will be divided by the number of games played. The resultant higher number will be declared the winner and advance.

## **ALL FINAL SCORES WILL BE REPORTED TO TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS**

### **Fouls and Misconduct and Behavior**

TCSL Rules governing Cautions and Send-offs will apply. Specifically, any player receiving a second yellow card, or a red card will be sent-off and not allowed to play in his/her team's next game, depending on the offense.

The issuance of red and yellow cards, and other matters involving the conduct of a team, its players, coaches, or supporters, will be recorded and reported as required to TCSL. A referee may request the coach to leave before a game continues. If a coach is asked to leave a game, the referee will retain the member's pass and will send it to the MYSA / TCSL office along with the appropriate game report. The coach will serve the required and applicable suspension.

Coaches are responsible for the words and actions of their players and spectators. Verbal abuse of opponents or officials by players, coaches or spectators will not be tolerated. Violations may result in forfeiture of the games and/or expulsion from the tournament. Players receiving a red card will be recorded and suspended based on league rules. Player will be ineligible until proper suspension is served.

In matters concerning the conduct of games, the referee's decision is final. Protests will not be allowed. Questions regarding player eligibility must be made prior to the beginning of the game. Player eligibility questions must be presented in writing. In all other matters concerning the tournament, protests must be in writing and the Tournament Director's decision is final.

### **Medical Attention**

Every player participates at his or her own risk. Players who are bleeding must leave the field of play and can re-enter with the referee's permission. Each team / coach is responsible for their medical supplies and for the treatment of injuries. Kickers FC Champions Cup will have licensed medical personnel

available on site for this event during all hours of competition, however teams should be prepared for unforeseen circumstances should medical personnel be busy or unavailable.

### **CONCUSSION POLICY**

This Tournament, held by Kickers FC Champions Cup and sanctioned by the Twin Cities Soccer League (TCSL) and US CLUB requires compliance with Minnesota Statute 121A.37 in accordance with the BYSC and TCSL Concussion Policies. All participating coaches and referees are required to take concussion training.

The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention has a free, online course entitled "Concussion Training for Coaches (and Referees), accessible by the following link:

[www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/onlinetraining.html](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/onlinetraining.html)

Copies of the US Club policies are available at <https://usclubsoccer.org/head-injuries/>.

Trainers or similar may be available to assist coaches and parents with injury assessment.

They are not the primary care givers of first aid. Directions to hospitals and other clinics will be available.

### **Spectators and Field Usage**

Where possible, both teams will be on the same side of the field and fans on the opposite side.

Teams are asked to assist in ground maintenance by picking up trash at the end of each game.

Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, drug or tobacco usage is allowed on tournament grounds.

Animals are not allowed at the Kickers FC Champions Cup playing field locations.

APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR IS EXPECTED. INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR SUCH AS YELLING, ARGUING, OR SWEARING BY PARENTS, PLAYERS, COACHES, AND BYSTANDERS TOWARD REFEREE OFFICIALS DURING GAMES IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. THIS CAN LEAD TO IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL OFF THE FIELD. COW BELLS OR LOUD HORNS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT THE KICKERS FC CHAMPIONS CUP. FAN BEHAVIOR POTENTIALLY AFFECTING THE OUTCOME OF A GAME WILL NOT BE TOLERATED (BLOWING OF LOUD HORNS DURING PENALTY KICKS OR OTHER UNSPORTING BEHAVIOR) CAN LEAD TO DISMISSAL.

### **Weather Rules**

TCSL Weather Rules will apply. If threatening weather occurs, play will be stopped at the direction of the referee. If play is stopped, team coaches or managers must check with headquarters to receive final instructions.

If a game has started and is terminated, the score of the game will be reflected as final regardless of whether the game has reached halftime. If the weather or conditions of the fields make it impossible to carry out the tournament to its full extent, the Tournament Director and Committee will make the necessary decisions concerning the rearrangement or cancellation of games for any reason.

Game length and times may be shortened or altered until back on schedule, or games may be rescheduled or cancelled.

**Cancellations and Refunds**

Once your registration is received and confirmed, no refunds will be made unless we can find a replacement team. Fees are non-refundable if games are cancelled for any reason including due to weather related cancellations regardless of number of games being played.

**Medal & Cup Presentations**

Medals will be presented to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams.

The award ceremonies will be at the Noble Soccer field Tournament HQ or near wherever the Championship game was played.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Kickers FC Champions Cup Tournament Director.

**Tournament Director**