



2018 Charleston Battery Challenge Cup

TOURNAMENT RULES

I. GENERAL RULES

1. **FIFA's "Laws of the Game"** shall govern all tournament play except as modified for the tournament.
2. **U8-U12 teams** must complete online registration no later than **Thursday February 8th, 2018**.
3. **U13-U18 teams** must complete online registration no later than **Thursday February 15th, 2018**.
4. **Payment:** Full payment must be made online at the time of registration.
5. **Eligibility:** U8-U18 boys/girls recreation, academy, classic, select, challenge, or premier teams.
6. **Rosters:** USYS Rosters and US Club Soccer Rosters are both accepted. Players may only be registered with one team participating in the tournament.
 - 7v7 (U8, U9, U10) teams are limited to 14 players on the roster
 - 9v9 (U10-U12) teams are limited to 16 players on the roster
 - 11v11 teams are limited to 18 players on the roster

NOTE: *Any changes to roster need to be approved by Tournament Committee.*

7. Protests are not allowed.
8. The Tournament Committee, Charleston Battery Soccer Club and/or any affiliated organizations, organizers, support staff, or sponsors are not responsible for expenses incurred by any team or individual if the tournament is canceled in whole, or in part, for any reason. This includes but is not limited to tournament registration and online check-in expenses/fees.
9. In unusual situations not provided for in these rules, the Tournament Committee and the Charleston Battery Soccer Club will make decisions regarding the tournament.

II. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AT REGISTRATION

Team check-in must be completed online at the time of registration.

USYSA:

1. **Roster:** Each player must be properly rostered with the team they are playing on as evidenced by a current team roster, guest player roster, tournament team roster or permission to travel roster signed by their appropriate state officials. At the tournament, teams will provide four (4) printed copies of their official, state-approved roster.
2. **Player Pass:** Players must have current laminated player passes or electronic player passes, as generated by South Carolina Youth Soccer Association (SCYSA), or their applicable state soccer organization.
3. **Travel Permit:** Each out-of-state team must have a travel permit issued by the respective state association, as required.

US Club Soccer:

1. **Roster:** Each player must be properly rostered with the team they are playing on as evidenced by a current US Club Soccer Team Roster, Guest Player Roster or Tournament Team roster. At the tournament, teams will provide four (4) printed copies of their official, state-approved roster.
2. **Player Pass:** Players must have current US Club Soccer laminated Player Passes or electronic player passes as generated by their US Club soccer affiliate.

III. FORMAT

1. All teams are guaranteed three (3) games.
2. When possible divisions will play a round robin format with four (4) teams. Champions will be determined by points.
3. Games will abide by the following formats:
 - U8, U9, U10 will play 7v7, with two (2) x 25-minute halves
 - U10, U11, U12 will play 9v9 with two (2) x 30-minute halves
 - U13-U18 will play 11v11 with two (2) x 35-minute halves
4. A "running clock" will be kept except in unusual circumstances (i.e., no time added for injuries, delays).
5. Forfeits are awarded if a team is not ready to play five (5) minutes after the scheduled start of the match.

Match Point System

Points will be recorded as follows:

- Win = 3 points
- Tie = 1 point
- Loss = 0 points
- Forfeit matches will be recorded as 1-0, for 3 points

In the case of a tie, to determine final standings, the following tie breakers will apply, in sequence, until standings are determined:

1. Head -to-Head competition, unless more than two teams are tied, in which case proceed to #2. Once back to two teams, the tie-breaker system starts again with #1.
2. Goal Differential, with a maximum differential of +3 or -3 per match.
3. Most goals scored.
4. Fewest goals allowed.
5. Penalty kicks per FIFA guidelines.

IV. GENERAL PLAY

- **Age Divisions:** The Tournament Committee reserves the right to combine age groups if a smaller number of applicants are received for a particular age group.
- **Home team:** In all matches, the designated home team is the team listed first on the schedule and will provide a game ball, if one is not provided by the tournament. All 11v11 groups shall use a size 5 ball. All age groups U12 and under shall use a size 4 ball.
- **Red/Yellow Cards:** The referee will report any cautions or ejections on the Match Report. For any team affected, cautions and ejections will also be reported at the end of the tournament to the appropriate state organizations.
- **Roster/Passes:** USYS and US Club Soccer rosters are both accepted. Team Rosters/Guest Player Rosters/Tournament Team Rosters and Player Passes shall be available for review at every match.
- **15 Minutes:** Teams are asked to be at the field no later than 15 minutes prior to game time.
- **Opposite Sides:** As practical, players and spectators must remain on opposite sides of the field.
- **Matches that cannot start on time:** If the tournament or a field is running behind schedule, both teams should remain at the field ready to begin play immediately upon conclusion of the previous match.
- **Match Termination:** A match is considered official if one half has been completed. However, should a match be terminated for any reason other than inclement weather or poor field conditions, the Tournament Director and Committee will review the referee's report and any other information available in order to render a decision.
- **Match Reporting:** It is the responsibility of the "home" team to sign the match report card. The referees will turn in all match report cards to the site headquarters tent.
- **All judgment decisions** of the referee are final and binding.
- **Refunds:** The Tournament Committee, and all sponsors and organizers, are not responsible for any expense incurred by any team or club if the tournament is canceled in whole or part; nor will any refunds be made. We have NO refund policy.
- **The Tournament Committee** reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the tournament and its judgment is FINAL.

Small Sided Rules

- **No deliberate heading** at U12 and under (all small sided games). Deliberate Heading Violation
- Restart: indirect free kick at spot of violation
- **No Punting** in U8, U9, U10 (All 7v7 matches): Restart: Indirect Free Kick at spot of violation
- **U9/U10 divisions** (and up): Offside as per normal rules.

Substitutions

Unlimited substitutions, with the referee's consent, are allowed AT ANY STOPPAGE.

NOTE: *We encourage "sensible" substitution of players and encourage every team to allow each player good playing time over the course of the tournament.*

Player Equipment

In general, Law IV of FIFA Law applies.

- **Safety:** The referee will determine if a player is properly equipped. Metal braces and hard casts are allowed at the referee's discretion and if safely covered.
- **Jerseys:** All teams shall wear matching uniforms consisting of jersey, shorts and socks. If, in the referees' judgement, jerseys are too similar in color, the home team will change jerseys.

V. MISCONDUCT, CAUTIONS AND EJECTIONS

- **Spectator Behavior:** Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their teams' spectators. Referee Abuse: Cases of referee abuse will not be tolerated. In accordance with USSF Rule 3042, any case of referee abuse will result in notification to the South Carolina Youth Soccer Association (SCYSA), or the team's home state association.
- **Ejections:** Players and/or coaches ejected are not allowed to participate in their teams' next match. Players receiving a red card for fighting will not be eligible for the remainder of the tournament. Players receiving two (2) cautions followed by an ejection are suspended from playing in their next match. For coaches with multiple teams, the coach will not be allowed to coach any team until having sat out the next match for the team that he was ejected from.
- **Teams will** forfeit a game in which an ineligible player and/or coach participates.

VI. INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In an effort to be as proactive as possible regarding inclement weather, the Charleston Battery Soccer Club would like to communicate our weather policy:

- Match postponements and/or cancelations are made by the tournament referees, in coordination with our Tournament Staff, and will be done so in a timely manner if the weather so dictates, especially if there is lightning in the area.
- Regardless of weather, except for lightning, teams should appear on the field ready to play as scheduled.
- If the radar has the possibility of a lightning strike within a ten (10) mile radius, teams will be asked to leave the fields.
- There will be a 30 minute delay (or longer) to allow the area to be free of lightning.

NOTE: *We will reach out to all of our teams and families in the event we have to run on a modified schedule. Any modified schedule will not jeopardize the integrity of the competition and we will strive to be as fair as possible to all parties involved.*

The following game scenarios will apply in the case of inclement weather:

- Matches terminated after the first half has been played will be considered complete at the point terminated.
- If a game is terminated prior to the half it will be recorded as a 0-0 draw.
- If a game is cancelled due to weather, best efforts will be made to reschedule.
- If matches cannot be played, champions will be determined on points to date.

Methods of communication for all changes to the schedule, venue, field number changes, match cancellations or postponements:

- For weather alerts and updates, managers and coaches are asked to provide their phone numbers and emails at the time of registration.
- Our staff will communicate in a timely manner through text, email and phone with the person(s) listed as primary contacts.

All changes will also be communicated as follows:

- During the day, the main event tent will have the most up to date changes.
- Tournament Website
- CBSC Website
- CBSC Twitter
- CBSC Instagram
- CBSC Facebook

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED at any of the tournament complexes. Please refrain from bringing your pet to the fields as you will be asked to remove them immediately. Please ensure all parents, fans, supporters, and spectators are aware of this rule.

