



## Rules for the 2024 Louisville Soccer Club Memorial Tournament

### TOURNAMENT RULES

#### Player Identification

- Players must present picture identification cards issued by the team's Federation Organization Member (USYSA, AYSO, US Club, OSA, other).
- Teams from outside the State Association where the tournament is located must provide proof of permission to travel (except for US club teams).
- Teams must be in good standing with their Federation Organization.
- The team roster submitted during tournament registration will be the official team roster for the Tournament, and may not be altered after registration.
- Players may be rostered on multiple teams within their club, but may not be on more than one team within the same age group or division.

Age Groups	Number of Players	Max Roster size
Born 2014-2015 (U9-U10)	7v7	16
Born 2012-2013 (U11-U12)	9v9	18
2009-2011 (U13-U14/15)	11v11	20
2008-2006 (HS U16-U18)	11v11	20

#### Guest Players

- Four (4) guest players are allowed per team (rosters including guest players may not exceed the max roster size noted above). Guest players should be validated by your state Association.

#### Team Check-In Registration and Procedures

- Teams are required to be checked in online by 9:00 pm on Monday, May 20th, 2024. The following needs to be completed on the louisvillesoccerclub.net website:
  - **Team roster (including any guest players) (sign back in and add your players and coaches** [https://louisvillesoccerclub.demosphere-secure.com/\\_/\\_teams](https://louisvillesoccerclub.demosphere-secure.com/_/_teams)
- At check-in prior to your first game, you must provide the following items:
  - Coach and Assistant Coaches cards (w/pictures)
  - Coach and Assistant Coaches concussion certificate (Tournament rules allow up to 3 on the field and all must have concussion certificates)
  - [Participation tournament liability waiver](#)
  - Player cards w/pictures (coaches must have them available during all games)
- A full payment of tournament fees must be received by the tournament committee no later than Thursday, May 23rd, 2024, or the team will not be permitted to participate in the tournament.

- No refunds will be issued to registered teams that do not show up for scheduled games.

### **Teams**

- The “**Home Team**” will be the first team listed on the schedule.
- A maximum of three (3) coaches are permitted on the coach's side of the field. All coaches will remain within 20 yards of the centerline on their half of the field, on the side opposite the team's spectators.
- Field marshals will communicate which side is the coach's side if questions arise.
- Spectators are not permitted behind the goals, and must not be seated within five yards of the touchline to allow players space for throw-ins.

### **Uniforms/Equipment**

- **All teams must provide an alternate jersey.** In the event of a jersey color conflict, the home team (the first team listed on the schedule) will change uniforms.
- Shin guards are mandatory and must be covered by a sock.
- No metal cleats are permitted.
- All equipment is subject to the approval of the referee.
- Casts: Players with protective casts or braces must meet referee approval in order to participate. This is required by the referee of each game.

### **High School Division Age Group Rules:**

- Roster Rules-OHSAA Players: All 8th-grade and older High School registrants must ensure they are compliant with all OHSAA regulations. Louisville Soccer Club does not verify or enforce the policies of OHSAA, this is the responsibility of the declaring club, the adult players, and the youth player's guardian. Players, parents, and coaches understand that violating the OHSAA rules can put them in jeopardy of consequences from the OHSAA and their local school.
- Roster Rules-U18/U19 Players:
  - A U18 or U19 player is classified as an “Adult Athlete” on/after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
  - A U18/U19 player will be permitted to participate in the Louisville Soccer Club Memorial Cup Tournament HS Divisions, provided they are currently enrolled in high school and compliant with all USSF, US Club Soccer Health and Safety national requirements, and any other requirements mandated by federal and state laws.
  - The tournament may require current proof of their status as an enrolled HS student (the most recent report card would be one means of proof).
  - Players who are classified as “Adult Athletes” by USSF are required to comply with all US Club Soccer Health and Safety national requirements, mandated by federal and state laws. Refer to the following links:
    - [US Club Soccer Policy 13.08 Rule for Background Screening](#)
    - [US Club Soccer Policy 13.09 Rule SafeSport](#)
    - Senate Bill 252: [Lindsay's Law: Sudden Cardiac Arrest in Youth Athletes](#)
- No more than six (6) players may be rostered on a HS team from a single OHSAA school program that is considered a returning player.
  - A returning player participated in the prior Fall soccer season for their local school district.
  - Players that are in 12<sup>th</sup> grade (graduating seniors) do not count towards the returning player limit.
  - Female players from the same school district may play on a boys' team. Female players do not count in the returning 6-player rule if playing on a boys' team, provide they did not play on the OHSAA fall boys team in the prior scholastic year.
  - Note: 8th-grade students that DO participate on an interscholastic team in the same school district will count in the team limitation of that sport.

## Laws of the Game

- All matches must be played in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game except as specifically modified for youth play by USSF, US Youth Soccer, and US Club with certain Amendments as follows:
  - **Substitutions:**
    - Substitutes must be at the midfield line. Unlimited substitutions for all age groups will be allowed with the consent of the referee.
    - Either team may substitute at any stoppage of play, with the referee's permission. (this is FIFA).
    - When a player has been cautioned – recommended but not required - this would be a good teaching moment.
    - Substituted players may return to play in the game.
    - There is no substitution limitation
  - **Offsides**
    - In the U9 and U10 divisions, offside will be called from the Blue Build-out Line.
    - **Blue Build-out Line**
      - This line is to go from sideline to sideline equidistant between the center circle and the arc at the top of the penalty area. Attacking teams must withdraw behind this line when a keeper takes possession of the ball either with his/her hands or feet. Once the keeper has released the ball opposing players may cross the line. The build-out line also serves as an offside line for the attacking team. A player can't be penalized for an offside offense between the halfway line and the build-out line.
    - Offside will be called for U11 and above.
  - **Duration of Games:**
    - Preliminary Games will consist of two halves of equal length

Age Groups	Duration of game	Ball size
U9/U10	25 minutes per half	Size 4
U11-U12	25 minutes per half	Size 4
U13, & U14/U15	30 minutes per half	Size 5
HS	35 minutes per half	Size 5

    - No overtime periods will be played for preliminary games.
    - The Committee/Director reserves the right to adjust the game length for conditions beyond their control. See Inclement Weather Procedures below.
  - **Procedures for Determining a Winner**
    - At the end of each game, either the referee or designee should deliver the completed game card to the tournament headquarters after each game. Scores will then be posted as quickly as possible.
    - Coaches should report any discrepancies to Headquarters prior to their next game.

**Points will be awarded as follows:**

- 3 points for a win
- 1 point for a tie
- 0 points for a loss

**In the event of a tie in the point standings, the following sequence will be used:**

1. Head-to-head (in case of a 3-way tie proceed to #2)
2. Goal Differential (max 5 goal difference)
3. The least goals allowed
4. Most goals scored
5. FIFA Penalty Shootout

**Penalty kick elimination:**

- Each coach will choose five players to kick, which may include the goalkeeper. These five players must be on the field of play when the game ends.
- Those five players shall shoot, alternating teams.
- If the score is tied after the first five kicks, then the remaining players on the team shall shoot, alternating teams until there is one unmatched goal between the two opposing teams.
- No player shall kick twice before each player has kicked once.
- In the event that the teams remain tied, coaches may select any five players to continue in a sudden-death shootout.

**Championship Games:**

Final games will consist of two halves of equal length.

Age Groups	Duration of Game	Ball Size
U9/U10	25 minutes per half	Size 4
U11 - U12	25 minutes per half	Size 4
U13-U14/U15	30 minutes per half	Size 5
HS	35 minutes per half	Size 5

**In the event of a tie at the end of a Championship or Semi-final Game, winners will be determined as follows:**

- The FIFA laws of the game for Penalty Kicks apply as follows:
  - A coin flip will determine who will go first (visiting team calls).
  - Five penalty kickers are allowed per team (only the players on the field at the end of the overtime period are eligible).
  - The most goals scored after five kicks for each team wins the game.
  - If the score remains tied, teams will alternate shooters until there is an unmatched goal between the teams.
  - After all eligible players on the field of play have taken kicks, teams will start with their first kickers again and in the same order.

### **Specific Laws of the Game**

- Red cards will be administered as per FIFA laws of the game.
- A player or coach sent off for a second caution will not be allowed to play for the remainder of that game and their next game.
- Un-served Red cards and a game report will be forwarded to their appropriate State or National organizations.

### **Forfeits**

- A maximum 5-minute grace period will be allowed after the scheduled kick-off time before a game is awarded to an opponent.
- A team failing to field five (5) players for U9-U10 or seven (7) players for U11–U14 at that time shall forfeit the game. Forfeits will officially be scored as 4–0.
- A team that fields an ineligible player shall forfeit all tournament games.
- There will be no refund for any team that fields an ineligible player

### **Match Schedules:**

- Each team will play a minimum of 3 games depending on the bracket.
- Referees will be USSF certified.

### **Protests and Disputes**

- **No Protests will be heard**
- There will be no protests of referee decisions. All referee decisions are final.
- Either the referee or Tournament Directors have the ability to end any game that is disrupted by protests or disputes.
- **ALL REFEREE DECISIONS ARE FINAL**

### **Standards of Conduct**

- All participants will be expected to maintain high standards of conduct during the tournament. These standards are expected of players, referees, and spectators.
- There shall be no dissent between players and/or coaches and the referee. Questioning a referee is considered dissent. All coaches are responsible for the actions of his or her spectators, specifically verbal abuse of referees. Such abuse will not be tolerated! Violation may result in forfeiture of the game and/or expulsion from further play.
- Any player or coach ejected from a game will be ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game. The player/coach pass is to be turned in to the referee headquarters immediately following the initial suspension game. Any serious or violent infraction may result in more than a one-game suspension (to be determined by the tournament referee committee).
- Any player or coach who receives an accumulation of two (2) yellow cards or a red card in a game must sit out the next game.
- All coaches will remain within 20 yards of the centerline on their half of the field, on the side opposite both teams' spectators.
- Spectators may be ejected from the park for improper conduct, at the discretion of the tournament officials.

### **Awards**

- First and second place will be awarded after the championship game for all ages. Only team members and registered guest players will receive an award. Coaches are not eligible to receive an individual award.

### **Inclement Weather Procedures**

- Only the tournament committee/director has the authority to postpone, shorten, or cancel a game due to inclement weather. The safety of players and spectators is the top priority.
- In the event that a game is stopped because of lightning or severe weather, teams shall take cover but remain at the tournament site for the duration of the scheduled game. If this occurs, the tournament directors have the final decision in all matches.
- If a match is canceled due to weather, the score at the time of the cancellation will be recorded.
- The tournament committee/director reserves the right to make whatever adjustments may be necessary in-game length to proceed with the tournament schedule following any delays due to inclement weather.
- Under no circumstances will a game extend beyond the scheduled game time. ○ If weather conditions or the state of the fields make it impossible to carry out the tournament to its full extent, it is up to the organizers to make the necessary decisions concerning the rearrangement or cancellation of games for any reason.
- Fees are non-refundable if games or the tournament are canceled for any reason.

### **Cancellations**

- If the Tournament is canceled due to events beyond the control of the Tournament Committee, ***the Tournament will not be required to make any financial remuneration.***

### **Waiver**

- By entering this tournament, every participant agrees to accept the jurisdiction of the Tournament Committee or its members, the Soccer Club, its Board of Trustees, the United States Soccer Federation, OSA, and US Club in all matters of dispute.
- No official, coach, club, league, referee, player, or representative, may invoke the aid of the Courts of any political or governmental entity without first exhausting all available remedies within the appropriate affiliated soccer organizations as set forth in these rules, the Constitution, and Bylaws of the Louisville Soccer Club, the Constitution and Bylaws of the United States Soccer Federation, the Constitution and Bylaws of the United States Youth Soccer Association, and the Constitution and Bylaws of the US Club.
- For violation of this rule, the offending party shall be subject to all expenses incurred by these associations and/or their officers, as appropriate, in defending each court action, including, but not limited to, court costs, attorney(s) fees, and reasonable compensation for all time and expenses.

### **General**

- If a game is temporarily suspended due to weather, field conditions, or other situations beyond the tournament's control, each team (coach) involved must check with their site's tournament headquarters. Have players go to their cars during a weather delay. No one will be allowed on the fields until the weather conditions are favorable to resume.
- The tournament committee/director's interpretation of the foregoing rules/regulations shall be final.
- The tournament committee/director reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the tournament.
- ALL participating coaches must be in compliance with the State of Ohio Return to Play Concussion Law.
  - Starting April 26th, 2013, individuals are not allowed to serve as a coach or referee for a youth sports organization, whether volunteer or paid, without; 1) successfully completing, every three years, an online training program in recognizing the signs and symptoms of concussions and head injuries provided by the Ohio Department of Health -OR- 2) holding a Pupil Activity Permit (PAP) from the Ohio Department of Education. ALL coaches will be required to provide proof of certification at the time of tournament registration.

**Heading Rule per US Youth Soccer Association**

- Per USYSA, no heading is allowed for U11 and under and it will be limited to U12 and above. We will follow the rules in place per US Club's guidelines.
- **No Heading is permitted for any U9, U10, or U11 teams.**
- **In U12 division - headers are allowed (unless player is 10 or younger). It is the coach's responsibility to instruct their players accordingly for proper safety concerns.**
- An indirect free-kick will be awarded to the other team for intentional headers. Headers in the box will result in an indirect free kick outside the box.