

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Player Registration:

This event is sanctioned by the EPYSA. All teams, players and coaches must be in good standing and registered with a State or National Association. Everyone is welcome and we have an easy way for those who wish to participate to become properly registered.

Teams will not be considered fully registered and eligible for play until payment of \$150 and all documentation required by the Tournament Director has been completed (this includes team Tournament Roster, individual Medical Release & player passes). All forms are available on the website ukrainiannationals.com/4v4 All teams must submit all documents in pdf form to <mailto:usda@ukrainiannationals.com>. Only Valid State or Club passes are acceptable. Rosters are final at registration and cannot be changed after submission (absent extraordinary circumstances as recognized by the Tournament Director). The deadline for registration is Sunday June 11th at midnight. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS.

Number of players/ Roster size:

- U8 - U11 4v4 with no goalkeepers. Roster size: 4-6 players - minimum of 4 required to start play
- U12 and Up 4v4 plus goalkeepers (5v5). Roster size: 4-7 players - minimum of 4 required to start play
To avoid a forfeit you must field the minimum required for every game.

Combining of age groups will be done at the Tournament Committee's discretion, if needed.

Rain or Shine – Unless otherwise determined by the tournament director the tournament is a rain or shine event. No refunds will be issues for weather related cancellations.

Winners:

A clear winner will be recognized from each competition division. Medals will be given to each age group champion.

Team Uniforms:

All players must wear numbered jerseys/shirts during play and each team must bring both a light and dark colored jersey/shirt or numbered pinnies. If both teams are wearing the same color, the team designated as the visiting team will change their jersey. Jerseys/shirts must be tucked in shorts or pants. Athletic trainer and referee must approve players wearing proactive cast; hard cast will not be allowed. No jewelry will be allowed, including earrings of any type, rope necklaces, or bracelets. The only exception will be players wearing medical bracelets.

Field Dimensions:

The playing fields will be 20x30 and all games will be on Turf.

The Goal Arc:

The goal arc is located in front on each goal. This will be the box where hands can be used by the goalie (ONLY) in the older age groups.

Tournament Equipment:

All players must wear shin guards. Any player without shin guards will not be allowed to play. There will be NO exceptions. Cleats with metal spikes will NOT be allowed.

Duration of the Game: One (1) 25 minute game

Game Clock Format:

The game shall consist of one 25 minute game. The listed Home team will determine direction and possession before the start of the game. Games tied after regulation play shall end in a tie, except in the playoffs or finals. If a team is not present five (5) minutes after the scheduled game time start, a 3-0 forfeit win will be recorded for the opposing team. Teams are responsible for waiting until the seed for playoffs has been determined. No timeouts in 4v4 soccer. If a tie exists during a final or playoff match the game will go into golden goal sudden death overtime. First team to score wins regardless of time.

Substitutions:

Players may enter the field:

- 1) Any time the ball leaves the field of play, regardless of possession.
- 2) After a goal is scored.

Players/coaches must receive the referee's approval, and must enter and exit from midfield.

Forfeits:

Any team forfeiting two consecutive games will be disqualified and removed from the tournament. Any team forfeiting one game in the playoffs will be removed from the tournament. If a team is not present five (5) minutes after the scheduled game time, a 3-0 win will be recorded for the opposing team.

Offsides: There Are No Offsides In 4v4 Soccer

Five Yard Rule:

In all dead ball situations, including kickoffs, defending players must stand at least five yards away from the ball. If the defensive player's goal area is closer than five yards, the ball will be placed five yards from the goal area in line with the place of the penalty.

Kick-Ins:

The ball shall be kicked into play from the sideline instead of thrown in. The ball is considered in play when the ball is touched with a foot and moves one full rotation. All dead ball kicks are considered Indirect Kicks.

Goal Kicks:

Goal kicks will be taken from anywhere inside the goal arc and are Indirect Kicks.

Kick Off:

The start of play will be from the midpoint on the centerline. The kick-off is an Indirect Kick and may be taken in any direction. The ball must make one full rotation before another player touches it.

Penalty Kicks:

Shall be awarded if, in the referee's opinion, a scoring opportunity was nullified by an infraction (the infraction does not automatically result in a red card).

- 1) U11 and under penalty kicks will be taken from the midfield line with no goalkeeper.
- 2) U12 and up penalty kicks will be taken from the top of the penalty box with a goal keeper.

Delay of Game:

Any player may be cautioned with a yellow card, if it is deemed by the referee that the player is intentionally wasting time (for example, a player intentionally kicking the ball long distances away from the playing field in order to waste time).

Cautioned Players (Yellow Card):

A player receiving two yellow cards in one game will result in a red card (please see Player Ejection-Red Card section below). Any player accumulating three yellow cards during a tournament will automatically be suspended for their next game (no exceptions). All fouls are subject to further review and subsequent action as may be imposed by the Tournament Directors.

Player Ejection (Red Card):

Referees have the right to eject a player or coach from the game for continual disobedience or as a result of an incident that warrants sending off. The team may then continue with their remaining, two, three, or four players; however, if the player receiving the card was on the field of play, the team must complete the entire game a player short. The player receiving the red card will automatically be suspended for their next game (no exceptions). Players that are red-carded need to leave the immediate playing area, including the fan and team areas. All such fouls are subject to further review and subsequent action as may be imposed by the Tournament Director in his sole discretion.

Point System: Win 3 points / Tie 1 point / Loss 0 points

Divisional Tiebreakers:

When two teams are tied for one place in the preliminary games, the following criteria will be used to determine seeding for the playoffs:

- 1) Head-To-Head Competition
- 2) Most Wins
- 3) Goal differential (max. four goals per game)
- 4) Least Goals Allowed
- 5) Penalty Kicks*- see penalty kick rules above.

Overtime (playoffs only):

Overtime will be a golden goal sudden death situation. First team to score wins regardless of time.

NO PROTESTS ARE ALLOWED**Tournament Director:**

SITUATIONS OR OCCURRENCES THAT THESE RULES DO NOT ADDRESS SHALL BE LEFT TO THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR.

Sportsmanship:

Players, coaches and spectators are expected to adhere to principles of good sportsmanship at all times. Fighting will not be tolerated! Players, coaches, and fans guilty of fighting will be banned for the duration of the event. Abuse of the referee, coaches and fellow players, verbal or otherwise, will not be tolerated.

Trash Talking Will Not Be Tolerated!

Addressing the Officials:

Verbal and/or physical abuse of any of the Tournament staff or officials may result in an ejection from the property and/or arrest. If abuse happens during a game, the official has sole discretion to have your team lose by forfeit. Officials and players are to show respect for each other. Repeated poor sportsmanship from the officials or players will not be tolerated by the Tournament Director. Officials will be replaced and players will be ejected.

Keep in mind: The intent of this tournament is to create a fun environment. The 4V4 format promotes creativity and individual technical skills. These are fun, fast-paced games for all to enjoy. So enjoy them!

Weather Related Issues:

The Ukrainian Nationals 4v4 Soccer tournament reserves the right to modify, reschedule, or cancel the tournament due to inclement weather. The Tournament Director has the right to move or reschedule any game, as well as the right to shorten game time. In case of bad weather all information can be found on the website at www.ukrainingnationals.com. If weather cancels the tournament prior to the start of the first game of the tournament, 50% of the teams' entry fee will be retained by the event organizers to cover the startups. The remaining 50% will be returned to the teams.