



# 2024 OTTAWA TFC CAPITAL CUP *FESTIVAL* RULES

## June 15 (Girls) - June 16 (Boys)

The Tournament will be run in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the game and in accordance with Ontario Soccer (OS) and Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association (EODSA) published rules.

### 1. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The Festival Organizing Committee will be responsible for all matters pertaining to the organizing and running of this Festival. With respect to any question relating to the interpretation of these Rules and Procedures (other than matters that fall exclusively within the coverage of the Festival Discipline Committee) or for any matter not specifically addressed by these Rules and Procedures, the Festival Organizing Committee will, upon hearing a representation of no longer than five minutes duration from each of the teams that is affected by the issue at hand, make a final and binding decision. There will be no appeals from this decision.

### 2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY - PLAY FORMAT - ROSTER – DURATION AND NUMBER OF GAMES

Categories	7v7		9v9	
	U9 (2015)	U10 (2014)	U11 (2013)	U12 (2012)
Player format	6 + 1	6 + 1	8 + 1	8 + 1
Player roster minimum	10	10	13	13
Player roster maximum	14	14	18	18
Minimum player to play	5	5	7	7
Team officials maximum	4	4	4	4
Number of games*	3	3	3	3
Duration of games**	30 min	30 min	35 min	35 min

\* Some teams may play 4 matches to accommodate the needs of their division.

\*\* Subject to change depending on field availability.

All players on a team must meet the age and date of birth requirements for the age group for which the team is registered. Teams must provide proof of age for each player. Under no circumstances will players older than the age group level be allowed to play in that age group. Teams violating this rule will be expelled from further Festival play, their entry fee will be forfeited, and this violation will be reported to Ontario Soccer, which may exercise their authority to levy additional disciplinary action against the offending team.

Ontario Soccer Operational Procedure 5.11 of Section 5 - Registration which states A female player may register and play on a female team, male team or a mixed team. A male player may register and play on a male team or a mixed team. This rule is binding on all leagues, cup competitions, tournaments and exhibition games under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer and all of its member organizations. Unspecified gender may play on a team in accordance with the

Gender Diversity Procedure 5.13.

In each category, the duration of each game shall be as shown in the above table. Please note that there will be no time added to games in case of an injury. The referee is the only timekeeper of the game.

### **3. INSURANCE/LIABILITY**

Ottawa TFC will provide Trained Medical Staff on site to players however, The Committee and host club will not be held liable for any injuries to any participant in the Festival on or off the fields. All teams must carry and supply proof of personal injury liability insurance while participating in the event. The referee is the only timekeeper of the game.

### **4. GUEST PLAYERS AND PLAY UP PLAYERS**

All participating teams **MUST** be currently registered with their club and the Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association.

All players must be registered within their own Club. Teams are not permitted to use players from other Clubs. Play up players may not appear on the official team roster (TRR) required for Festival registration. The following documentation is therefore required for these players:

- Play up players require their player card/book indicating they are registered to a lower age division within the same club and require a validated Ontario Soccer Team Roster Report or equivalent to verify current registration information.
- Players without proper documentation or documentation considered to be suspicious will not be permitted to play.

### **5. DIVISIONS**

There are no divisions in Festival play.

The Festival Organizing Committee reserves the right to accept or to refuse the entry application of any team's participation in the Festival, depending upon the number of entries that are received for this Festival. In such cases teams will be contacted prior to effecting the change.

### **6. STANDINGS**

No scores will be recorded for Festival games.

### **7. MERCY RULES**

No scores will be recorded in Festival games. Coaches are reminded that in the spirit of fair play, they are to remain respectful and ensure their players abide by the spirit of the law.

### **8. FORFEITS**

If a team is unable to field at least five (5) players (U9-U10) or seven (7) players (U11-U12), ten (10) minutes after starting time, the game shall be forfeited.

A team failing to appear, without valid reason, shall be assessed a \$100.00 fine which shall be payable to "Ottawa TFC" within thirty (30) days. In the event the fine is not paid, the appropriate district association and the Ontario Soccer shall be notified of the team's performance and appropriate disciplinary action shall be taken.

Failure to appear, without valid reason, may also result in the expulsion of the team(s) from the remainder of the Tournament and for the forfeiture of the team's or teams' entry fee(s). In these instances, the Tournament Discipline Committee will be the sole judge as to whether the team or teams should be expelled from the remainder of the Tournament.

### **9. PLAYING RULES**

Games will be played in accordance with FIFA Laws of the game and in accordance with Ontario Soccer and EODSA published rules.

#### 9.1 Playing equipment

- All games shall be played with a size four (4) ball.
- All players must wear shoes which conform to the requirements of FIFA (Law 4).
- Shin guards are mandatory.
- Each team should have two sets of different colored jerseys. In the event of a conflict of jersey colors, the home team listed on the schedule shall be required to change.
  - The goaltender's jersey must be distinct from those of his team, the opposing team and the referee.

## 9.2 Throw ins and free kicks

- The FIFA Free Kick Law (Law 13) is in effect for all games, with the exception of U9-U10 where all free kicks will be indirect.
- U9-U10: Play will restart with a kick-in when the ball has gone out of play either in the air or on the ground by passing the touch line. Players may also dribble-in from the touch line, as per EODSA League rules.
- U11-U12: Play will restart with a throw-in (FIFA Law 15) when the ball has gone out of play either in the air or on the ground by passing the touch line.

## 9.3 Offside

- U9-U10: There will be no offside rule enforced.
- U11-U12: The FIFA offside rule (Law 11) is in effect for all games.

## 9.4 Retreat line

- Retreat line will be enforced for all games; one third (1/3) of the field for U9-U10
- No retreat line for U11-U12

## 9.5 Substitutions

- There is no limit to the number of substitutions that may be made during a game.
- Substitutions in Festival games may be made at any stoppage.

## 9.6 Injured players

- In the event of an injury, substitution will be allowed for the injured player only. A player who is bleeding must leave the field for treatment and will not be allowed to resume playing until after the Referee and Medical Staff has verified that the area of the body (other than the inside of the nose or mouth) from which the player was bleeding has been properly covered and that the bleeding has stopped. In the case of a nose-bleed or an internal mouth injury, it will be sufficient for the Referee Medical Staff to ascertain that the bleeding has stopped in order for the player to be allowed to reenter the game.

## 9.7 Technical area and spectators

- Teams (players, coaches and managers) will take position on the player side of the field. There shall be no more than a maximum of four team officials permitted on the player side of the field (ex.: Coach, Assistant Coach, Trainer and Manager). Teams shall restrict their movement within a technical area along the touchline.
- All spectators will take up position on the opposite side of the field across from their respective team. All players, coaches, managers and spectators shall remain two (2) meters back from the touchline during play.

## **10. REFEREE AND ASSISTANT REFEREES**

One Central Referee will be assigned by Ottawa TFC for all games. Assistant referees will not be assigned to games at this level and only the Central Referee assigned will call any stoppage of play.

## **11. WEATHER**

Due to the possibility that severe thunderstorms may occur during the Festival, it is necessary that all attending teams understand the procedures to be followed:

- Only the referee and/or the Festival Organizing Committee are authorized to suspend, postpone, or cancel a game.
- Coaches and their teams must present themselves to a Festival official in the vicinity of their playing field on half hour before scheduled game time, regardless of weather conditions, or they will forfeit the game.
- If playing conditions may be hazardous to the players and spectators, the referee or the Festival Organizing Committee reserves the right to suspend play until conditions permit a safe continuation of the schedule.
- If the game has not begun or was suspended before half time due to hazardous weather, the Festival Organizing Committee will endeavor to reschedule or resume the game at a later time. - The referee or the Festival Organizing Committee reserves the right to terminate a game after the first half due to severe weather conditions.
- Further, if necessary due to extreme weather conditions, the Committee may cancel any game.

## **12. GAME REPORTS**

Coaches/Managers are responsible for submitting the stamped OTFC Festival Participation Form to the Referee prior to the commencement of the game. It is to be signed by the team's Coach or Manager prior to being submitted. This becomes the Game Report. The Game Report will remain with the Referee from the start of the game and will be returned to the Field Coordinator at the end of the game by the referee. The Referee indicates all cautions and ejections

on the Game Report. The Referee will also describe and explain all Cautions and Ejections on the appropriate Ontario Soccer Caution and Dismissal Forms. The Referee will verify the correctness of the Game Report by signing it at the end of the match. Misconduct reports will be forwarded to EODSA within 48 hours of the completion of the game.

### **13. CONDUCT OF FESTIVAL**

#### 14.1 Decisions

- The referee's decision in matters concerning the application of the rules of the game, and the decision of the Festival Organizing Committee regarding conduct of the Festival shall be final and with no appeal rights.

#### 14.2 Hearings

- Hearings will be heard where warranted and all players have the right to request a hearing by written request within 10 minutes of the completion of the game. Decisions by hearing can be appealed to the EODSA. All requests must be accompanied by a \$50.00 bond, which will only be refunded if the player is found not guilty.

#### 14.3 Protests

- All protests must be in writing and submitted to the Festival Headquarters (as designated by the Festival Organizing Committee) together with a cash fee of \$100.00 within one hour of the game to which the protest relates. No protests on the referee's decision shall be entertained, protests are not appeals. Fees will be refunded only where a protest is upheld.

#### 14.4 Discipline

- The Ontario Soccer Published Rules on Discipline at Festivals will apply. Discipline for player misconduct will be done by Discipline by Review (and Discipline by Hearing where necessary or requested).
- Players and Team Officials (Coach, Assistant Coach, Trainer or Manager) that are dismissed during Festival play shall serve a mandatory minimum one game suspension immediately following the game in which the dismissal was issued.
- In cases of "game official assault", the player, team official, or administrator alleged to have committed "game official assault" shall be immediately suspended from all soccer activities and the discipline shall be handled by an EODSA Discipline Hearing Panel, in accordance with the Ontario Soccer Published Rules.
- All Misconduct Reports involving player dismissal will be dealt with by the Discipline Board in accordance with OS Published Rules. Further game suspensions may be issued depending on the ruling of the Board. Where permitted, requests for hearing will be accepted within 15 minutes of the completion of the game. In accordance with Ontario Soccer Published Rules all decisions made by review are final. All Decisions made by hearing can be appealed to the EODSA.

#### 14.5 Behavior

- The Festival Organizing Committee relies upon the coaches and team officials to set an example of conduct and sportsmanship and to exercise all the necessary control over their players and associated parents and spectators.

### **15. FESTIVAL CANCELLATION**

Ottawa TFC, the Festival Organizing Committee, the Festival Discipline Committee and the Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association will not be responsible for any expenses that are incurred by any team or any person, if the Festival is canceled in whole or in part.

If the Festival is canceled in its entirety, the Festival will refund each team's paid entry fee. Teams that of their own accord withdraw from the Festival after May 31, 2024, will not be granted a refund.

Unless otherwise indicated within these rules, all FIFA laws apply.

The Festival Organizing Committee reserves the right to eject ANY person (player, coach, team official, parent or spectator) exhibiting inappropriate behavior from the immediate playing areas.