



# 2024 OTTAWA TFC CAPITAL CUP TOURNAMENT RULES

## June 15-16

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 Tournament Organizing Committee will be responsible for all matters pertaining to the organizing and running of this Tournament. 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 Tournament Discipline Committee) or for any matter not specifically addressed by these Rules and Procedures, the Tournament 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**

	11v11
<b>Categories</b>	<b>U13 (2011) – U14 (2010) – U15 (2009) – U16 (2008) – U17 (2007) – U18 (2006)</b>
<b>Player format</b>	10 + 1
<b>Player roster maximum</b>	20
<b>Minimum player to play</b>	7
<b>Team officials maximum</b>	4
<b>* Number of games</b>	3
<b>** Duration of games</b>	2 x 25 min

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

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 Tournament 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.

Each player 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 Tournament play, their entry fee will be forfeited and this violation will be reported to the team's home association, which may exercise their authority to levy additional disciplinary action against the offending team. 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 to the Gender Diversity Procedure 5.13.

All games shall consist of two (2) halves with a five (5) minute half time. 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 Tournament on or off the fields. All teams must carry and supply proof of personal injury liability insurance while participating in the event.

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

All participating teams MUST be currently registered with their provincial association. All teams from outside the jurisdiction of the Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association must present an authorized travel permit from their governing association. Participating teams are required to submit a District approved Team Roster Report (TRR)/player list or equivalent prior to the start of the Tournament.

If guest players and/or play up players do not appear on the official team roster presented at Tournament registration. The following documentation is therefore required for these players:

- Guest players from another club require a Temporary Eligibility Permit as well as their player card/passport.
- Play up players require their player card or passport indicating they are registered to a lower age division within the same club and require a recognized OS Team Roster Report or equivalent to verify current registration information.

Players without proper documentation will not be permitted to play.

### **5. DIVISIONS**

The Tournament will consist of two divisions of play. Not all age categories will include both of these divisions.

- Tier 1 ("Elite Tier"):
  - Ontario: EODSA District Regional or equivalent
  - Québec: LDIR
- Tier 2 ("Challenge Tier"):
  - Ontario: EODSA District Competitive or equivalent
  - Québec: LDR
  - And recreational level teams carded to play competitive may also participate

The Tournament Organizing Committee reserves the right to accept or to refuse the entry application of any team to participate in the Tournament. Depending upon the number of entries that are received for any particular age group or Division, the Tournament Organizing Committee may decide to combine age groups and/or divisions. The Tournament Organizing Committee may also place individual teams in appropriate age groups or competitive divisions in order to offer a fair and competitive event. In all such cases teams will be contacted prior to effecting the change.

### **6. TOURNAMENT STANDINGS**

Standings of teams will be established by points awarded as follows:

- Win: 3 points
- Tie: 1 point
- Loss: 0 points

#### **Tie Breaking Procedure**

If at the end of the round-robin series, there is a tie, the ranking of teams will be determined according to the following ordered criteria:

1. Winner of the game between the two teams;
2. Team with the most wins;
3. Team with the better goal differential (goals scored minus goals against) to a maximum of five (5) goals per game;
4. Team with the most goals for;
5. Team with the least goals against;
6. Team with the least red cards;
7. Team with the least yellow cards;
8. Penalty kicks (FIFA).

If more than two teams are tied after round-robin play, the above tie breaking procedures will be adhered to in order, and without interruption until only one team remains. If, for example, three teams are tied and rule (3) eliminates one

of the three teams, the process does not start over at (1) but continues through (4) etc., until the next team is eliminated.

In the event of a tie-breaker during round-robin play for 7 team divisions to determine the schedule for the third game, the first rule (1) does not apply.

## **7. MERCY RULES**

All games will be subject to a mercy rule of a minimum five-goal differential after the first half. The mercy rule will be imposed in one of two ways:

1. The coach of the losing team indicates to the referee that they wish the mercy rule applied; or
2. The referee, in his/her opinion, decides that the game is lost (normally after an eight-goal differential but never less than a five-goal differential).

The winning team will be awarded 3 points in this eventuality.

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 seven (7) players ten (10) minutes after starting time, the game shall be forfeited and the game will be recorded as a 3-0 victory for the opposing team.

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 5 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.
- 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

- The FIFA offside rule (Law 11) is in effect for all games.

### 9.4 Substitutions

To replace a player by a substitute, the following conditions must be observed:

1. The referee is informed before any proposed substitution is made;
2. A substitute only enters the field of play after the player being replaced has left the field of play and the substitute only enters the field of play at the halfway line;
3. All substitutes are subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referee, whether called upon to play or not;
4. Once one team has requested to substitute players, the other team shall also be permitted to substitute players if desired; and

9.5 Unlimited substitutions shall be allowed at the following times with the approval of the referee:

1. On goal kicks;
2. After a goal has been scored;
3. At the beginning of the second half; and
4. On the attacking team's own throw-in.

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**

A referee will be assigned for all games. Ottawa TFC will provide assistant referees for as many tournament games as possible, with priority given to older divisions and playoff games.

## **11. WEATHER**

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

- Only the referee, head referee, or tournament marshall are authorized to suspend, postpone or cancel a game.
- In the event of conditions that may be hazardous to the players and spectators, the referee or the Tournament Organizing Committee will suspend play until conditions permit a safe continuation of the schedule.
- During the round-robin series, the Tournament Organizing Committee reserves the right to shorten the length of any game to ensure that all games are played. Further, if necessary due to extreme weather conditions, the Committee may cancel any game.
- Coaches and their teams must present themselves to a Tournament official in the vicinity of their playing field one half hour before scheduled game time, regardless of weather conditions, or they will forfeit the game.
- If the game has not begun or was suspended before half time due to hazardous weather, the Tournament Organizing Committee will endeavor to reschedule or resume the game at a later time. For round-robin games, the Committee reserves the right to cancel a game. In instances where the game cannot be played or rescheduled appropriately, the result will be determined by FIFA penalty kicks, at a location and time to be determined by the Committee. The result will be recorded as 1-0 victory regardless of the score in the FIFA penalty kick shootout.
- Should a game in progress be terminated due to weather conditions after the first half of play has been completed, the game shall be considered complete and the score at termination shall stand.

## **12. AWARDS**

The details will be communicated to the Head Coach and/or Manager.

## **13. GAME REPORTS**

A Field Official will ensure that each team has submitted a properly stamped Tournament Game Sheet and will hand it 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 will record goals scored in regulation time and during any shoot-out and indicate 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.

#### **14. CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENT**

##### 14.1 Decisions

- The referee's decision in matters concerning the application of the rules of the game, and the decision of the Tournament Organizing Committee regarding conduct of the Tournament 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 Tournament Headquarters (2075 Trim Road, K4A 3R2) 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. Fee will be refunded only where a protest is upheld.

##### 14.4 Discipline

- The OS Published Rules on Discipline at Tournaments 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 Tournament 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 OS Published Rules.
- \*All misconduct Reports will be dealt with by the Discipline Chair in accordance with Ontario Soccer Published Rules. 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 Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association.

##### 14.5 Behavior

- The Tournament 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.
- The Tournament Organizing Committee reserves the right to eject ANY person (player, coach, team official, parent or spectator) exhibiting inappropriate behavior from the immediate playing areas.
- When a game is abandoned for disciplinary reason(s); all round-robin games played or to be played in the Tournament by the offending team shall be eliminated and all of their opponents will receive a 2-0 victory and three (3) points.

#### **15. TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION**

The Ottawa TFC, the Organizing Committee, the Tournament 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 Tournament is canceled in whole or in part.

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

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