

West Houston Soccer Club Tax Time Tournament

RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. FIFA Rules will apply except as noted.
2. **Eligibility:** All players must be registered on the team making application and have the proper USYSA ID Card (2000/2010). A proper ID card has the player's signature and picture attached to the back and is laminated. A maximum of four (4) guest players will be allowed **a player roster signed by Club Registrar is required. Medical Release forms are required for each player.**
3. **Protests:** All Referee decisions are final. No protests are permitted.
4. **MATCH FORMAT – ROUND ROBIN QUALIFYING GAMES -**
 - A. **Pool Play Playing Time:** All U11 and U12 games will consist of two thirty (30) minute halves and five (5) minute half-time. All U13 and above games will consist of two thirty five (35) minute halves and five (5) minute half-time. All Div. IV U 9 and U10 (recreational) games will be mini-games of two (2) twenty five (25) minute halves with a five (5) minute half-time. U8 and below will be two (2) twenty (20) minute halves with a five (5) minute half-time
 - B. **Scoring:** Round Robin games will be six (6) points for a win, three (3) points for a tie, zero (0) points for a loss, one (1) bonus point for a shutout, and one (1) bonus point per goal scored by each team, with a maximum of three (3) goal points per game. A Max total point per mini-game is ten (10). A zero to zero (0-0) tie will be scored as four (4) points for each team.
 - C. **Forfeits:** A forfeit of a non-started game or where the forfeited winner has 1 or 0 goals will be scored as a one to zero (1–0) game or eight (8) points. A team abandoning a game in progress will automatically forfeit that game with the winning team receiving credit for any goals scored and the forfeiting team will always be awarded zero (0) goals. Example 2-0 forfeit will be worth 9 points (6 win, 1 shut-out, 2 goals)
 - D. **Advancement:**
 - 1) The team with the highest point total in each division advances to the next round (semi-final or final).
 - 2) In brackets with only one (1) division, the teams with the two highest point totals advance to the final round, if they have a Final scheduled.
 - 3) Some brackets will advance wild card teams. The team with the highest number of points after the division winners are determined, is the wild card team.
 - 4) U8 Teams do not advance or keep track of standings. All U8 players receive a participation trophy.
 - E. **Tie Breakers:** In case of a tie, the division winners and/or wild card teams will be determined per the following order:
 - 1) Results of head-to-head competition.
 - 2) Goal Difference: Goals for minus goals against (maximum three (3) goals per game for or against).
 - 3) Total Goals Scored (maximum three (3) goals per game for or against).
 - 4) Total Goals Against (maximum three (3) goals per game for or against).
 - 5) If more than two teams are in the tie, the tie breaker rules will be followed as above until teams are eliminated down to two remaining teams and then tie-breaker model reapplied.
 - 6) Coin Toss by Tournament Director or Field Supervisor assigned to field site.

CHAMPIONSHIP (Semi-Finals and Finals) GAMES

- A. **Playing Time:** All U11 and above games will be thirty (30) minute halves and a five (5) minute half-time period. All U13 and U14 will be 35 minute halves with 5 minute half time, all U15 and above will be 40 minute halves and 5 minute halftime. All U9 and U10 are twenty (25) minute halves with five (5) minute half-time period. U8 and below teams do not advance to playoffs as described above.
- B. **Scoring:** In semi-final game, winning team advances to final.
- C. **Forfeits:** A team abandoning a championship game will automatically forfeit that game.
- D. **Tie Breakers:** If a semi-final or championship game results in a tie, two (2) five (5) minute overtime periods will be played, switching directions between halves. If still tied, FIFA Penalty Kick Rule will be applied immediately following overtime play.

5. **Field Players: Recreational Play:** U-13 and above will play eleven (11) a-side. U12, U-11, U10 and U9 play (8) a-side, U-8 and U7 will play seven (7) a-side in single sided games. Standard HYSA rules for a minimum number of players to start apply.
6. **Substitutions:**
 - A. Prior to a throw in by **either** team.
 - B. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
 - C. After a goal by either team.
 - D. After an injury by either team when the Referee stops play.
 - E. At half-time.
 - F. When the Referee stops play to caution a player, only the cautioned player may be substituted. The opposing team can also substitute up to one person but only if the cautioned player is substituted.
7. **Discipline:** Each Red Card will mean any ejected player, coach, assistant coach or manager must not participate in the next scheduled game, even if said game is a Championship Game. The person sent off must leave the field area within two (2) minutes of receiving the Red Card or the game will be abandoned by the Referee and will be scored as a forfeit. Any player receiving two (2) Red Cards will be suspended from further participation in the tournament. Any player receiving 2 yellow cards a game will get a red card for that game and not be able to play the next game.
8. **Illegal Players:** A team playing an illegal player will be disqualified and not permitted to continue tournament play. All prior and future tournament games involving the team will be scored as forfeits. An illegal player is defined as one not listed on the initial roster or revised roster approved at check-in at the Coaches meeting prior to tournament play. **No Division I players are allowed to play in Recreational Play!**
9. **Schedule:** The schedule is final as published. No changes will be allowed.
10. **Team Rosters:** Rosters are limited to the following maximums: Eighteen actives (18) players for **U-13 and ABOVE**, 22 roster players for U16 and older (18 active per game), and fourteen (14) for U11 and U12, and twelve (12) players for all **U-10 and BELOW teams**. These limits include up to four (4) guest players.
11. **Game Time:** Teams must be at the field at least thirty (30) minutes prior to their scheduled starting time. If a team is not ready to play at the scheduled time, the team will forfeit that game. If both teams are not ready, then both teams will forfeit the game.
12. **Uniforms:** In the event of a uniform color conflict, the team listed first is the designated home team and must change jerseys.
13. **Score Cards:** The winning coach (or team representative) is responsible for turning in the game score card to the site headquarters. In the event of a tie, the home team coach is responsible for turning in the score card. The score card must be turned in within thirty (30) minutes of completion of the game. If a score card has not been received for a game after two (2) hours, the game will be scored as a forfeit for both teams.
14. **Rain-Out Procedures:** The Tournament Director will have jurisdiction over field playability, cancellations and rescheduling. Every effort will be made to play as many games as possible. In the event of a total rain-out, no make-up date will be set. A partial refund will be given equal to the team's entry fee less an allowance for administrative costs. In the event of a partial rain-out, matches will be rescheduled or shortened at the discretion of the Tournament Director. It will be the individual responsibility of the coach to check at Tournament headquarters to learn of schedule changes. If at least half of a game has been completed and conditions prohibit continuation, that game will be considered complete and the score at the time of the stoppage will be the final score. Trophies will be awarded based on games completed. No refunds will be given once the tournament games begin.
15. **No scores or standings will be kept for U-8 and U-7 teams.** All U-8 and U-7 teams will receive participation awards. Awards will be available after these teams play their last game.
16. **Other Items:** No alcoholic beverages or glass containers are permitted at any of the Tournament Sites. Park only in designated areas. Help keep the grounds clean –

DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS—put litter in the trash containers. Have fun and good luck to all the teams.

**** ENTRY DEADLINE IS April 15th, 2010***