

2017 ECSL Kickoff Cup Rules

1. LAWS OF THE GAME

a. All games shall be played in accordance with FIFA rules.

2. ELIGIBILITY

a. Teams and players must be registered with ECSA.

b. ECSA team rosters will be frozen two days prior to the kickoff cup tournament.

Coaches must provide tournament officials with a copy of the ECSA validated team roster one hour before their first tournament game.

Only players on the ECSA validated (stamped) team roster sheet are eligible to play in the tournament.

Tournament officials will compare the submitted team roster sheets with the versions on file provided by the ECSA registrars.

c. Coaches must bring player registration books to the tournament.

The player/coach book will be inspected if necessary and returned after inspection.

d. All youth teams may register eighteen (18) players and dress eighteen (18) players for each game. Only players listed on the ECSA validated team roster form submitted prior to start of the first game may participate in the tournament. Players listed on the game sheet are deemed to have played in the game.

e. A team will not be allowed to add players to the team roster form during the tournament.

f. Players are not allowed to register with more than one team or to change teams during the tournament.

h. A team may bring up a maximum of three (3) players per game, providing that the player(s) is/are registered as a competitive player on a lower/younger level team within the same club, notwithstanding either Article 9.7 or OS player movement policies.

3. DURATION OF GAMES

- a. Duration of all games (preliminary, quarter-finals, semi-finals and final games) shall be 25 minute halves, for all divisions.
- b. Games will be scored: three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie.
- c. In the event of inclement weather, poor field conditions, or unforeseen circumstances, the tournament committee shall have the authority to change the above format as follows:
 - i. Relocate and/or schedule any games
 - ii. Reduce duration of any game
 - iii. Cancel games in preliminary rounds, which have no bearing in deciding group winner
- d. In the event that a game has to be abandoned for reasons of Mother Nature, the score at the time will be upheld as a final score if at least 1/2 of the game has been played.

4. TIE-BREAKING AND OVERTIME RULES

- a. In the event of teams being tied in preliminary round standings, the following procedure will be used to declare group winners:
 - i. Winner of game between tied teams
 - ii. Most wins during preliminary round
 - iii. Goal difference (goals scored minus goals against)
 - iv. Least goals against
 - v. Most goals scored
 - vi. The winner of a coin toss conducted by tournament officials
- b. In the event of a tied game in quarter-final, semi-final or final rounds, the following procedure will be used to declare the winner:
 - i. Best of five penalty kicks by five players from each team
 - ii. Alternate penalty kicks by balance of teams until decision has been reached

Note: Only players on the field at the end of the match are eligible to take penalty kicks.

5. SUBSTITUTIONS

- a. There shall be no limit to the number of substitutions in a game, however substitutions can only be made at the following times and upon proper notification to the referee.
 - i. When a goal is scored
 - ii. At the beginning of second half
 - iii. At the beginning of the first and second half of extra time
 - iv. At a goal kick
 - v. On own throw-in. When the team with possession makes a substitution, the opposing team may also make a substitution up to the same number of players.
 - vi. At referee's discretion or in the event of injury
- b. No substitution will be allowed for a player ordered from the field by the referee. Any player or team official ordered from the field by the referee shall be suspended for the next game. The tournament committee may request the player or team official to appear before the committee for a hearing.

6. THE GAME

- a. Should two teams present themselves in the same colors, it shall be the responsibility of the away team to use its alternate colors. Only the referee can determine if there is a conflict. All player equipment is subject to the referee's approval.
- b. In all games, the first named team according to the official schedule will be considered the home team.
- c. The home team will be responsible for providing four (4) corner flags for each game.
- d. Two game balls are to be supplied by the home team to the referee prior to each game.
- e. All games are to be played with a suitable and appropriate size game balls (U13 to u18 – Size 5 Ball).
- f. The referee shall report the game result at Tournament headquarters immediately after each game. When a referee is not able to report the game result due because of scheduling demands, he/she will call in the game result to a specified cell phone number provided at the start of the tournament.

7. Referee Fees

a. Referee fees are split 50/50 between the teams and are to be paid to the referees prior to start of each game. The referee fees are as following;

i. Preliminary round and all quarter & semi-finals and final round games: \$30 Referee and \$ 25 Assistant Referee.

8. FAILURE TO SHOW AND FORFEITED GAMES

a. A team shall be allowed a ten (10) minute grace period from the scheduled kick-off time if there are less than seven players present before the game is awarded to their opponents.

b. If a team forfeits a game, their opponent will be awarded a win of 3-0, given 3 points and the game will be subject to a \$100 fine and will be reported to their District Association

9. Disciplinary Action

a. Any player red carded by the referee will be minimally suspended from the next game. The tournament Discipline Committee will review the referee report and the appropriate suspension will be rendered in accordance with Policy 9.0 “Standard Penalties for misconduct” of the Ontario Soccer Association’s Published Rules.

b. Any team official ordered from the field for misconduct will be minimally suspended from the next game. The tournament Discipline Committee will review the referee report and the appropriate suspension will be rendered in accordance with Policy 9.0 “Standard Penalties for misconduct” of the Ontario Soccer Association’s Published Rules.

c. Players or team officials ejected from their final game will be reported to the District Association for disciplinary action.

d. Tournament Officials will perform random inspections of team rosters and players throughout the tournament to validate eligibility and compliance with registration rules. A team playing an ineligible player will be subject to the following:

- First offence: Forfeiture of game (3-0) and fine of \$100.00
- Second offence: Forfeiture of game, fine of \$200.00, and expulsion from the remainder of the tournament.

e Where it is not possible to complete the necessary disciplinary action within the playoff cup a report will be submitted to ECSA Discipline & Appeals Committee for the balance of disciplinary action to be served in regular league play.

10. PLAYER VALIDATION

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TEAM OFFICIALS TO CHECK THE OPPOSING TEAM PLAYER REGISTRATION BOOKS PRIOR TO THE START OF EACH GAME

11. PROTESTS

- a. All protests must be submitted in writing and delivered to the Tournament Headquarters as designated by the tournament committee, together with a non-refundable cash fee of \$100 within 30 minutes of the completion of the game to which the protest relates.
- b. The referee is the sole timekeeper of each game. No protests of a referee's decision will be entertained.
- c. The decision of the Tournament Committee will be final.
- d. No protest will be entertained concerning a players eligibility if the opposing team officials failed to Check the opposing teams player books to verify their eligibility to play.

12. GENERAL

- a. The tournament committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the tournament.
- b. Harassment or intimidation of the referees or discipline committee will not be tolerated. Failure to comply with this could result in team official, players and/or the team being suspended from further play. A written report will be sent to the District Association.
- c. The tournament committee and the ECSL will not be liable for any injuries sustained by any participant in the tournament on or off the field.
- d. Failure to complete the games sheets accurately will result in a fine, as stipulated in ECSL Schedule of Fines.