



**FSC Winter Cup
Tournament Rules**
January 15-17, 2010



FSC WINTER CUP 2010 Tournament Rules

I. TOURNAMENT FEES

- Fees = \$220 Team Fee (\$260 after November 25, 2009).

II. ELIGIBILITY

- The FSC Winter Cup is open to all boys' and girls' teams who are registered and in good standings with their USSF or FIFA affiliated association.
- If teams are not registered with a USSF or FIFA affiliate, they may register as a US Club Soccer tournament team. See www.usclubsoccer.com for more information on "Tournament Team Registration" or "Tournament Team Insurance".
- Teams will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis. Once an age group fills, teams will be placed on a waiting list and duly notified of their acceptance.

III. GAME FORMAT

- Up to and including U12
 - Maximum number of 6 players on the field: 5 field players and a goalie.
- U13 and above
 - Maximum of 5 players on the field: 4 field players and a goalie.
- All age groups
 - 3 game guarantee.
 - Scores and standings will be kept.
 - Field and goal size are those provided at the facility.
 - One referee per game.
 - Offsides is not in effect.
 - Ceiling and ceiling supports are out of bounds.
 - Lights and other ceiling fixtures are out of bounds.
 - Non-goal nets are out of bounds.
 - Side boards and side walls are in bounds.
 - 2 24-minute halves, 1 2-minute halftime.
 - Teams must check-in 20 minutes prior to each game with passes.
 - Throw-ins will be from the side-boards.
 - Plays that would normally result in corner kicks will result in an indirect free kick at the midfield (center) spot.

IV. PLAYERS AND RESERVES

- All teams may roster and dress an unlimited number of players.
 - Awards will be given to up to 12 (U12 or below) or 10 (U13 and above) players.
- Teams must have a minimum of 6 players to start a game.

- All players must meet the age requirements and be listed on the team roster.
- Girls may roster on boys' teams; boys may not roster on girls' teams.
- Shin Guards must be worn by all players.
- Hard casts are not prohibited, but they must receive "explicit" approval from the referee before a player wearing such a cast is allowed to play in the game. All casts must have the approval of the Referee. It is not a given that soft casts will be approved.

V. PLAYER PASSES

- Approved player passes are checked at Final Team Check-in and by the officials prior to the start of each game.

VI. GUEST PLAYERS

- Teams may roster an unlimited number of guest players.
- Guest players may come from any FIFA or USSF affiliated association/team.
- If age eligible, players may play up or down.
- Players may not play on two teams in the same age division.

VII. SUBSTITUTION PROCEDURE

- All teams are allowed unlimited substitutions with their entire roster.
- Unlimited substitutions may be made at the following times:
 - Prior to a goal kick by either team.
 - After a goal by either team,
 - At half-time,
 - Prior to any throw-in
 - At any stoppage due to an injury, if approved by the referee, and
 - At a free kick, if approved by the referee.

VIII. HOME TEAM JERSEY

- The first team listed in the schedule is the home team.
- The home team must have an alternate jersey and be prepared to change, if, in the opinion of the referee, there is a color conflict.
- Team jerseys must match with unique numbers for each player as submitted on the Official Tournament Roster.
- No sharing of jerseys permitted.

IX. LENGTH OF GAME PER AGE GROUP MINUTES

Age and Gender	
Boys & Girls	48 minutes

X. SCHEDULES, RESULTS AND STANDINGS

- Official scores are kept.
- Schedules are posted at www.fargosoccer.org and at the MetroRec.
- Six points is awarded for a win, 3 points for a tie and 0 points for a loss. A shut-out earns an additional point. Each goal scored by a team earns that team an additional point, up to 3 points. A forfeit is officially recorded as a 3-0 game. A mutual forfeit is officially recorded as a 0-0 game except that neither team earns any points. Each red card received by a team or its coach will result in the loss of 1 point for that team.
- Tie-breaking procedure: (1) head-to-head, (2) goal differential, (3) fewest goals allowed and, ultimately (4) first registered.

XI. OFFICIAL GAME BALL

- The home team is responsible for providing a game ball which shall be used.
- If additional balls are needed, they may be provided by either team.
- U12 teams and younger shall use a size 4 ball. All other teams shall use a size 5 ball.

XII. PLACEMENT OF TEAMS AND SPECTATORS

- Teams and coaches shall position themselves in the player boxes on the side.
- No person may be within 5 yards of the goals and goal nets.
- Spectators for both teams will be positioned anywhere in the facility except the player boxes
- Parents/Guardians are responsible for supervision of their children at all times.

XIII. REFEREE SYSTEM

- Referees must be currently registered with USSF if at all possible. Otherwise, a coach or other volunteer may referee.
- Referees are assigned for all matches; however, all teams must be prepared to provide a referee if necessary.

XIV. FACILITY

- No use of drugs and alcohol by players, team officials or spectators. Players in violation will be ejected from the tournament. Others will be asked to leave if they persist in using the drug or alcohol after being warned.
- FSC Winter Cup is committed to promoting an environment that is free from harassment and violence in any form; verbal or physical intimidation; vandalism; drug, alcohol or tobacco use; gambling and inappropriate language. These policies apply to all players, coaches, referees and spectators. The FSC Winter Cup adheres to the NO SMOKING POLICY.
- Teams and spectators should clean their respective areas after every game, disposing of all trash in the receptacles.

XV. UNSPORTSMANLIKE BEHAVIOR

- Unsportsmanlike behavior is not tolerated on or off the field.
- Know and understand the laws of the game. Educate players on the technical/tactical/physical demands of the game.
- Zero tolerance for fighting or heckling. Persons exhibiting these behaviors will be asked to leave the premises.
- Be a positive role model. Set the standard for sportsmanship with the opponents, referees and spectators.
- Encourage moral and social responsibility.
- Encourage players to have fun and to keep a positive attitude about winning and losing.
- Show pride and support for your club, state and country, but be respectful of other nation's customs and traditions.
- Any player, coach spectator or participant who is ejected from a game or participates in any misconduct will be contacted by Tournament Headquarters; the local authorities may be called if necessary. Misconduct by any of the above listed may result in a warning, game forfeit, tournament disqualification or other action if necessary.

XVI. FIELD MANAGERS

- A field manager system is utilized to keep the games on time and as a first line of communication in the event of a problem.
- There will be one field manager for the FSC Winter Cup.

XVII. FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME

- FSC Winter Cup will be played under the FIFA Laws of the game in effect January 1, 2010.
- There may be no pre-game warm-up on the field. Plan your pre-game warm-up in an adjoining area or on the sideline.
- Red cards will be administered as per FIFA laws of the game.
 - A player sent off will not be allowed to play for the remainder of that game and the next game at a minimum.
 - Violent conduct may result in more than a one game suspension at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
 - If a player receives a red card, the player pass will be retained by the referee and forwarded to the Tournament Headquarters.
 - After the suspension is served, the coach may pick up the pass at Headquarters.
 - A coach who is removed from a game must leave the facility.
 - Player passes for unserved red cards will be recorded by the tournament and forwarded to the appropriate governing affiliate within 48 hours of the end of the tournament.

XVIII. PROTESTS

- No protests will be heard on any judgment calls by the referee. All decisions by the referee are final. Protests on misapplication of a rule will be heard immediately by the Tournament Director.
- Protests on player eligibility must be stated prior to the start of the game.
- Protests on other technical matters may be made in writing and submitted to Tournament Headquarters within one hour of the conclusion of the match.
- Express concerns regarding violations prior to the start of the game or at the time the incident occurs.
- If you have a problem regarding the rules or procedures at your game, take the following steps:
 - Notify the referee immediately so that a correction can be made, and
 - If the situation is not resolved, notify the Tournament Director.

XIX. SCHEDULING

- Schedule change requests may be made and will be considered if BOTH coaches agree to the proposed schedule change.

XX. AWARDS

- Participation awards are given to all players.
- Additional awards are given to all championship teams.

XXI. WEATHER PROVISIONS

- Severe weather is a possibility. All weather decisions are the sole decision of the tournament director.
- If weather or the condition of fields makes it impossible to carry out the tournament to its full extent, the tournament director will make the necessary decisions concerning the rearrangement or cancellation of games for any reason. Every effort is made to play all games in their entirety. Fees are non-refundable, if games or the tournament are cancelled for any reason.

The tournament director has the right to:

- Shorten the length of games.
- Suspend, postpone or cancel games due to weather conditions or warnings.

XXII. INJURIES

- Coaches are considered guardians for underage participants when the parents are unavailable, and for all players regardless of age, when impairment of mental status renders the player incapable of making an informed decision. As such, they have a responsibility to make decisions in the best interest of the health and safety of the player.
- If the coach is under the legal age, the team is required to have an official representative of legal age at the field who will serve as the legal guardian.
- Coaches are responsible for having emergency medical information for all players in their possession at all games.
- Referees are responsible for summoning the coach onto the field, in the event of an injury.

XXIII. TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS

MetroRec Indoor Soccer Facility
3110 – Main Avenue
Fargo, ND 58103
Tournament Director: Matt Noah, 701-541-6809

XXVI. FINAL TEAM CHECK-IN

- Fargo Area Teams: January 14, 6-8 pm, West Acres Shopping Center Food Court
- Non-Fargo Area Teams: 1 Hour prior to your first game, Tournament Headquarters.
- A team representative may check in the team. Players do not attend Final Team Check-in.
- Team Rosters, Birth Certificates and medical release forms, may be mailed or emailed (PDF format only) to the **Tournament Director at: Matt Noah, 4910 Meadow Creek Drive South, Fargo, ND 58104 or matt@fargosoccer.org** by January 8, 2009. Otherwise, bring these to your final team check-in. Email is preferred and will greatly speed up your final team check-in when you would only need to show player passes.
- Laminated FIFA, US Club, NSC, USYS, SAY or AYSO player passes.
- Your Official Tournament Roster will be frozen and no changes will be made to your roster for the remainder of the tournament.