

Sockers FC Chicago Spring Classic Rules

Tournament Requirements:

- All players and coaches participating must be registered and in good standing with their local US Club Soccer/USYSA/USSF/FIFA organizations.
- All teams must Register Online with their Official Roster from their Sanctioning Body as well as players and coaches passes. Passes and Waivers should be brought to all games and kept with coach or team manager in case of injury.

Generals:

- Teams of all levels may complete the application process and submit payment to be considered for this event.
- You will be notified of your acceptance no later than 20 days before the tournament. If you are not accepted, your entry fee will be returned.
- If a team cancels after acceptance into the tournament, the team will forfeit its entry.

ROSTER / PLAYER ELIBIBILITY

- No player shall be allowed to register for more than one team or switch from one team to another during the tournament, even in different age divisions.
 - 8U (5v5): The maximum number of players on roster is 12.
 - 9U & 10U (7v7): The maximum number of players on roster is 14.
 - 11U & 12U (9v9): The maximum number of players on roster is 16.
 - 13U-15U (11v11): The maximum number of players on roster is 18.
 - 16U-19U(11v11): The maximum number of players on roster is 22.
 - (A maximum of 18 players may dress for each game).

FEE:

- A full refund will be issued if the tournament is canceled and cannot be rescheduled for any reason. Partial refunds will be issued in a pro-rated basis if some of the games cannot be played for severe weather conditions.

MANAGERS / COACHES WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF THERE PARENTS & FANS.

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FORMAT:

- Each team will play a minimum of 3 games.
- All age divisions will be divided into groups of 4, 5, 6, or 8 teams.
 - Groups of 6 or 8: After pool play, the TOP two teams in points will advance to a single elimination game playoff/and or final.
 - Groups of 4 or 5: After pool play, champion will be determined by most points in group.
 - No playoffs or championship games will be played.
- We reserve the right to combine age groups if there is not enough teams in any category or age division. The coaches or team manager of any teams involved will be contacted prior to the tournament for their approval.
- We will be using licensed referees for all games as follows; however, we reserve the right to alter the format below based on referee availability:
 - Three-man system for all 11v11 age groups (**13U-19U**).
 - Two-man system for all 9v9 age groups (**11U-12U**)
 - One -man system for **8U-10U**.
- The Tournament Committee will rule on all protests. All protests must be submitted in writing immediately after the game. The coach is the only person who may file a protest and may do so at the tournament HQ tent along with \$200 cash. Referee decisions and judgement calls are final and cannot be protested.

GAME PROCEDURES:

- All rules of play will follow FIFA Laws of the Game unless stated otherwise in the tournament rules.
- Both teams will check in with Field Marshal no fewer than 20 minutes before kickoff. All players should have passes present (physical or electronic). No Pass = No Play.
- If tournament officials confirm that a team has used or attempted to use an ineligible player, that team/club may be removed from the tournament, forfeit its full entry fee, and be reported to that clubs sanctioning body for further penalties.
- Both teams should be on the opposite sideline as the spectators.
- Home Team has 1st half kick-off and Away Team has choice of side.
- In case of jersey color conflict, the Home Team changes jerseys.
- **Forfeits:** A team forfeits its match if it is not present or cannot field an eligible team more than 10 minutes after the scheduled game time. A minimum of 7 players is required to start the game. **A forfeit is recorded as a score of 3-0.**
- **Substitutions** shall be unlimited in for all age groups. Both teams may sub at any stoppage except for corner kicks.
- The Referee will not stop his/her watch for substitutions - only for serious injury or time wasting. Stopping watch or adding time is at the sole discretion of the center referee.
- **No heading for age divisions 11U and younger per USSF guidelines.**
- Buildout lines shall be utilized for ages 10U and younger, and U.S. Soccer rules related to buildout lines shall be enacted for the tournament (including offsides rules related to buildout lines to determine offsides).
- In the event that adverse conditions and/or weather necessitates rescheduling, curtailment, or cancellation of games, the tournament directors shall have absolute authority to make these changes to best serve the interests of the tournament as a whole, keeping in mind the need to successfully identify winners within a certain time period.
- All schedule changes will be communicated via email to the responsible party listed in GotSoccer on each team's registration.

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POOL PLAY POINTS SYSTEM:

- 3 points for a WIN
- 1 point for a TIE
- 0 points for a LOSS
- – 3 points for Forfeit
- 1 extra point for shutout (*no point awarded for 0x0 tie*)

POOL TIE BREAKERS:

- The following tiebreakers will be used to determine standings within groups, or to determine wild card winners among groups or wild card:
 - A. Points
 - B. Head-to-Head
 - C. Net goal differential - Goals Scored - Goals Against. (Max 3 goals per game).
 - D. Goals Against
 - E. Goals Scored
 - F. Coin Toss
- The Tournament Director will make all determinations of teams advancing.
- The Tournament Director, to ensure that two teams from the same group will not play each other in the opening game of the subsequent round, will adjust schedules.
- In playoff games, if the game is tied at the end of regulation time, games will be decided by penalty kicks according to FIFA rules.

GAME DURATION:

- 8U: 2 x 20 minutes
- 9U – 10U: 2 x 25 minutes
- 11U – 12U: 2 x 30 minutes
- 13U-19U: 2 x 35 minutes

PLAYERS EQUIPMENT:

- All equipment must conform to USSF rules due to insurance regulation.
- Casts and braces: The referee for each match will be the sole judge as to whether a playerwearing an orthopedic cast or braces shall be eligible to participate.

Protective equipment:

- All players in every age group will be required to wear FIFA approved protective shinguards at all times, while actively participating in a game.
- The Tournament endorses FIFA Law 4 on Safety which states “A player must not use equipment or wear anything which is dangerous (including any kind of jewelry)”. “FIFA notes that, under the “Powers and Duties” of the referee in Law 5 - The Referee, he or she has the authority to ensure that the players’ equipment meets the requirements of Law 4. Modern equipment such as headgear, facemasks, knee, and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight, padded material are not considered dangerous and are therefore permitted.” Medical bracelets or necklaces must be taped or otherwise secured so as not to present a hazard and in a manner that the medical message can be clearly seen.

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PLAYERS, COACHES AND SPECTATORS CONDUCT:

- Red Carded players will be disqualified for the next scheduled game.
- **MANAGERS / COACHES WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF THERE PARENTS & FANS.**
- Any serious complaint or misconduct of a team, its players, coaches, or fans will be reported to the respective organization and any referee assault will be dealt according to USSF Rule and Disciplinary Committee of their Sanctioning Body.
- The site directors have the authority and responsibility to remove any person(s) from the tournament for abuses of good conduct, in addition to any specific disciplinary action brought by any other authority.
- Tournament Directors may suspend any offending manager/coach/players for the duration of the tournament if further disciplinary action is appropriate.
- If a coach has multiple teams in the tournament, any suspension shall be applicable to each age group in which the infraction occurred unless further disciplinary action is taken against this individual.

GENERAL:

- The Tournament Committee will not be responsible for any expense incurred by any team due to the cancellation in whole or part of this tournament.
- The Tournament Committee's interpretation of the foregoing rules and regulations shall be final.
- The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on all tournament matters.
- Violation of tournament rules may result on immediate elimination from tournament competition.
- Drones are prohibited – the City of Schaumburg ordinance prohibits the use and oroperations of drones over all government owned, operated and affiliates properties.
- Teams are to book the tournament-mandated partner hotels by utilizing the link provided by Sockers FC. For any hotel questions, please contact Refine Travel and Events at info@refinetravelandevents.com.

GENERAL / MISCELLANEOUS:

- The tournament committee will not be responsible for any expense incurred by any team due to the cancellation in whole or part of this tournament.
- The tournament committee's interpretation of the foregoing rules and regulations shall be final.
- The tournament committee reserves the right to decide on all tournament matters.
- The tournament committee has the right to provide for special dispensation. If special dispensation is needed, please email the Tournament Director at tournaments@sockersfcchicago.com
- Violation of tournament rules may result in immediate elimination from tournament competition.
- We are guests at the facilities that host our tournaments.
- Drones are prohibited – The city of Schaumburg ordinance prohibits the use or operation of drones over all government owned, operated, and affiliated properties.
- Olympic Park is a tobacco and alcohol-free facility.
- Pets are prohibited in the turf soccer complex at Olympic Park.
- No driving of stakes or other items into the turf is permitted at Olympic Park.
- We are guests at the facilities that host our tournaments. Please be courteous, follow facility rules and clean up after yourselves.

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