



# 2024 Ottawa TFC Invitational Showcase Rules

## U13 Boys & U13 Girls November 23-24, 2024

The event will be run in accordance with Ontario Soccer's Youth Tournaments Guide, Game Format and Development Matrix and in accordance with Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association (EODSA) published rules and FIFA's Laws of the Game.

### **1. ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

The Event Organising Committee will be responsible for all matters pertaining to the organising and running of the event(s). 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 Event Discipline Committee) or for any matter not specifically addressed by these Rules and Procedures, the Event Organising 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**

<b>Game format</b>	<b>11v11</b>
<b>Categories</b>	<b>U13 Boys &amp; U13 Girls (born 2012)</b>
<b>Event format</b>	2-day Tournament
<b>Number of games</b>	3
<b>Duration of games*</b>	50 min straight with no halftime
<b>Player roster minimum</b>	11
<b>Player roster maximum</b>	20
<b>Minimum players to play</b>	7
<b>Team officials maximum</b>	4

\* The referee is the only timekeeper of the game.

Please note that there will be no time added to games in case of an injury, due to facility restrictions.

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. 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.

Ontario Soccer Operational Procedure 5.11 of Section 5 - Registration which states: 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 organisations. Unspecified gender may play on a team in accordance with the Gender Diversity Procedure 5.13.

### **3. INSURANCE/LIABILITY**

The Committee and host club will not be held liable for any injuries to any participant in the Invitational on or off the fields. All teams must carry and supply proof of personal injury liability insurance while participating in the event.

### **4. PLAYER REGISTRATION**

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 authorised travel permit from their governing association. Participating teams are required to submit a district/regional approved Team Roster Report (TRR)/player list or equivalent prior to the start of the festival.

#### **4.1 GUEST PLAYERS AND PLAY UP PLAYERS**

All players must be registered within their own club. Teams are not permitted to use players from other clubs. All players must appear on an official and current Team Roster Report (TRR), or an equivalent document from their province.

In some clubs' cases, "play-up players" may not appear on the official TRR required for Tournament registration. The following documentation is therefore required for these players (if they do not appear):

- "Play-up players" require the official TRR (or provincial equivalent) where they are rostered, indicating they are registered to a lower age division within the same club.
- Players without proper documentation or documentation considered to be suspicious will not be permitted to play.

If a "play-up player" already appears on the team's TRR just like the other players, no additional documentation is required.

### **5. DIVISIONS AND ENTRY**

Two divisions, U13 (2012) Boys and U13 (2012) Girls. Teams will not play across divisions during the event. The event remains invitation-based, which means participation of teams in any division is under the purview of the Event Organising Committee. The Committee reserves the right to accept or to refuse the entry application of any team's participation in the Invitational, depending upon the number of entries that are received for each division and the level of the teams present at the event in relation to that of an applicant.

### **6. STANDINGS AND FORMAT (3 games maximum)**

- **6-team showcase:** 2 pools of 3 teams each. All teams play the other two teams in their pool. From these games, group stage rankings are finalised. Final matches are played across pools (1st Pool A vs. 1st Pool B, 2nd vs. 2nd, etc)
- **4-team Showcase:** 1 pool of 4 teams, every team plays each other once and final rankings are determined as in a group stage.
- **Group stage Tie-breakers (in order)**
  - Points
  - Head-to-head
  - Wins
  - Goal difference
  - Goals for
  - Fair play (less yellow and red cards)
  - Coin toss
- **Finals Tie-Breakers**
  - No extra time
  - Penalty Shootout (Best of five shooters, then sudden death)

### **7. MERCY RULE**

U13 Invitational Showcase: No mercy rule exists for the U13 Invitational Showcase.

## **8. FORFEITS and FAILURE TO APPEAR**

If a team is unable to field at least seven (7) players, ten (10) minutes after starting time, the game shall be forfeited.

A team failing to appear, without valid reason, shall be assessed a \$400.00 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 Association 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 event and for the forfeiture of the team's or teams' entry fee(s). In these instances, the Event Discipline Committee will be the sole judge as to whether the team or teams should be expelled from the remainder of the Festival.

## **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 coloured jerseys (dark and light kits). In the event of a conflict of jersey colours, 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 (all appropriate free kicks will be direct).
- When the ball goes out of play either in the air or on the ground by passing the touch line, play will restart with a throw-in.

### 9.3 Offside

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

### 9.4 Retreat line

- No retreat line will be enforced.

### 9.5 Substitutions

- There is no limit to the number of substitutions that may be made during a game.
- Substitutions may be made at any stoppage, but not on the fly while the ball is in play.

### 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/or 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 and/or 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 positions on the opposite side of the field across from their respective team. All players, coaches, managers and spectators shall remain two (2) metres back from the touchline during play.

## **10. REFEREE AND ASSISTANT REFEREES**

One centre referee and two assistant referees will be assigned by Ottawa TFC for all games.

- Match Official Fees:
  - Referee: \$40
  - Assistant referee: \$27

## **11. GAME REPORTS**

Coaches/Managers are responsible for submitting the OTFC Invitational Game sheet 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. A fillable template of the game sheet will be shared ahead of the festival. Teams are to fill in their game sheets before the first game (1 sheet per game). The Game Report will remain with the Referee from then on. The Referee indicates 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.

## **12. CONDUCT OF FESTIVAL**

### 12.1 Decisions

- The referee's decision in matters concerning the application of the rules of the game, and the decision of the Event Organising Committee regarding conduct of the Festival/Tournament shall be final and with no appeal rights.

### 12.2 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.

### 12.3 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.

### 12.4 Discipline

- The Ontario Soccer Published Rules on Discipline at Festivals 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 Festival 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 Ontario Soccer Published Rules.
- All Misconduct Reports involving player dismissal will be dealt with by the Discipline Board in accordance with OS Published Rules. Further game suspensions may be issued depending on the ruling of the Board. 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 EODSA.

### 12.5 Behaviour

- The Event 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.

### **13. SHOWCASE CANCELLATION**

Ottawa TFC, the Event Organising Committee, the Event 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 event is cancelled in whole or in part.

If the Festival is cancelled in its entirety, the event will refund each team's paid entry fee.

Teams that of their own accord withdraw from the event within 21 days of the event, will not be granted a refund.

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

The Event Organising Committee reserves the right to eject ANY person (player, coach, team official, parent or spectator) exhibiting inappropriate behaviour from the immediate playing areas.