



2019 MFC Spring Invitational TOURNAMENT RULES



TOURNAMENT ONLINE CHECK-IN (MANDATORY)

All participating teams must provide proper credentials using mandatory online check-in, by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, April 24, 2019.

Only players listed on your GotSoccer Check-In Roster will be allowed to play.

For online check-in procedures, [click here](#) ...

CREDENTIALS – US CLUB SOCCER REGISTERED TEAMS

All US Club Soccer registered teams are eligible to participate in our tournament, unless banned by the Tournament Director, their club, or US Club Soccer.

Note that players may only be rostered with one team for the entire event, regardless of position.

Official Team Roster: Each participating team must provide a US Club Soccer official team roster.

Player Loan Forms: Up to 5 guest players from other US Clubs are permitted (guest players from other affiliates such as CYSA or AYSO are not permitted). A completed player loan form #R007 must be provided for each guest player, with signatures of representatives of both the loaning club and receiving club.

Medical Authorization Forms: Each participating athlete must have a completed official US Club Soccer player registration and medical treatment authorization form #R002 ... that includes a parent's signature if under age 18.

Laminated US Club Soccer Player Passes: Each participating player must have a valid laminated US Club Soccer player card with a photograph. Cards that appear to have been tampered with may not be accepted.

Laminated US Club Soccer Staff Passes: Each participating team must have at least one (and no more than three) properly credentialed adults present on the sidelines of each game, with a valid laminated US Club staff card with a photograph. Cards that appear to have been tampered with may not be accepted.

CREDENTIALS – NON US CLUB SOCCER REGISTERED TEAMS

All non US Club Soccer registered teams that belong to another USSF affiliate (such AYSO or CYSA) may participate in our tournament, unless banned by the Tournament Director, their club, or their USSF affiliate.

Teams that do not belong to a USSF affiliate may not participate in our tournament.

Note that players may only be rostered with one team for the entire event, regardless of position.

US Club Status: Each participating team must obtain US Club status and medical insurance just for our tournament, if their USSF affiliate does not provide insurance for travel tournaments. Goto the US Club website for the [online application for US Club status and insurance](#).

CYSA-North teams in good standing are no longer required to obtain travel authorization for this event. CYSA-South teams must provide travel authorization.

Official Team Roster: Each participating team must provide an official team roster from their member USSF affiliate.

Player Loan Forms: Up to 5 guest players are permitted, if so permitted by the USSF affiliate of the participating team. Guest players must be from a club within the same USSF affiliate (example: a CYSA team may not have a guest player from a US Club or AYSO team).

A completed player loan form must be provided for each guest player ... from the USSF affiliate of the loaning team, with signatures of representatives of both the loaning club and receiving club.

Medical Authorization Forms: Each participating player must have a completed official medical authorization form ... from their USSF affiliate ... that includes a parent's signature if under age 18.

Laminated Player Passes: Each participating player must have a valid official player card with a photograph, from their USSF affiliate. Cards that appear to have been tampered with may not be accepted.

Laminated Coaches Passes: Each participating team must have at least one (and no more than three) properly credentialed adults present on the sidelines of each game, with a valid official coach/admin player card with a photograph, from their USSF affiliate. Cards that appear to have been tampered with may not be accepted.

AGE GROUPS / NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Age Group	# Players	Minimum # Players	Max Roster / Game	Max Roster / Event
U9/2010 U10/2009	7v7	5	14	18
U11/2008 U12/2007	9v9	6	16	22
U13/2006 U14/2005 U15/2004 U16/2003 U17/2002 U18/2001 U19/2000	11v11	7	18	26

The event roster is frozen once a team has completed their mandatory online check-in.

The game roster is frozen once a team has completed their game check-in.

Players may only be rostered with one team for the entire event, regardless of position.

NUMBER OF GAMES

All teams will be guaranteed a minimum of three games. A championship game and a consolation game will be played for each age/gender division (except 5 team flights).

REST PERIOD

Teams will be given a minimum scheduled rest period of 2 hours between games. The rest period will begin when a team's game ends, and will end with the team's next game begins.

GAME CHECK-IN

Players will be checked in before each game by the referees.

Player uniforms, equipment and player and coach/admin passes will be checked, and passes returned to the coach. Passes may be requested for review and returned to the coach during or after the match in the event of Caution or Send-Off.

GAME RULES

The tournament shall be governed by FIFA Laws of the Game as modified by USSF and US Club Soccer and as described herein.

PLAYER EQUIPMENT

Cleats: Players shall only wear soccer cleats or turf field shoes.

Shin guards: Shin guards are required for all tournament play. They must be worn properly and shall be professionally manufactured and unaltered. Shin guards must cover a minimum $\frac{3}{4}$ of the shin.

Casts and Splints: Players wearing any dangerous equipment or device including orthopedic casts, air splints, or metal splints, shall **not be eligible to participate in any tournament game.**

Braces: Braces may be allowed at discretion of the referee if in his opinion, does not pose danger to players. The brace must be properly covered for the duration of the game. Elastic-type supports without any metal, carbon fiber, and hard plastic or like devices are permitted provided the Referee does not deem the support to be potentially harmful to other players.

Eyeglasses: Players who must wear eyeglasses are encouraged to wear sports goggles. Players must wear glasses that are safe. Lenses must be unbreakable and frames must be unbreakable plastic or sturdy material.

Jewelry: Absolutely no jewelry may be worn while participating in any tournament play. Only Medical Alert Warning Bracelets may be worn; which are to be taped as necessary.

GAME BALLS

Three (3) game balls are to be provided by the Home Team. However, if the Home Team is unable to provide game balls, the Visiting Team can supply game balls subject to Referee approval. U9-U12 shall use a size #4 ball; U13-U19 shall use a size #5 ball.

LOGISTICS

Teams will play from the same side of the field, with the spectators on the opposite side.

LENGTH OF GAMES

Halves are 25 minutes for 7v7 and 9v9, 30 minutes for 11v11.

No extra time will be added for lost time during matches regardless of reason, due to schedule requirements.

HALFTIME

Halftime will be exactly 5 minutes. The Tournament Director reserves the right to extend the halftime under special circumstances.

GAME START / COMPLETION

All games will start at the scheduled time.

A game is “complete” upon completion of at least one half of play regardless of the circumstances of termination during the second half. Final results will be based on the score at the time the game ended. Preliminary games can end in a tie.

SUBSTITUTIONS

Unlimited substitutions during a game are allowed at the discretion of the referee by **either team** prior to a throw-in, a goal kick, a kick-off, and during an injury stoppage of play (injured players only, not required). Teams can also substitute after a yellow card caution is issued (cautioned players only, not required).

HEADING

U11 and younger are prohibited from DELIBERATELY heading the ball.

- When a player deliberately heads the ball, an indirect free kick (IFK) should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.
- If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the IFK should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred.
- If a player does not deliberately head the ball, then play should continue.

BUILD-OUT LINE

U9/U10 will use standard build-out lines rules, as mandated by US Soccer.

SEND OFFS and CAUTIONS

Two cautions (yellow cards) in the same game shall result in a sendoff.

A player, parent or coach who has been sent off in a game, will not return for that game and will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled game. Sendoffs will be reviewed by the Tournament Director and may result in a more severe penalty, including additional game suspensions in the tournament and potentially contacting of club, league, and playing association for additional penalties. Fighting by players, violent conduct or harassment of referees by coaches, parents or spectators will be considered serious misconduct. Each sendoff will result in a cumulative deduction from the team's tournament points.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Good sportsmanship will prevail at all times. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents and spectators. A coach may not enter the field of play except on a referee's signal. Coaches, players, parents and spectators shall not harangue, harass or attempt to distract players, referees or assistant referees. Infraction of these rules will result in a warning followed by an ejection. Appropriate disciplinary action will be determined by the Tournament Director for infringements of this tournament rule.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

In the case of serious injury, Emergency Services (911) will be called if requested by the player's parent, coach, tournament official or referee. All serious injuries shall be reported to the Field Marshal or Tournament Committee so that an Accident Report Form can be completed.

HOME TEAM

The team listed first on the schedule for the preliminary round of games will be the home team. For Championship games, the team with the highest total points of the paired teams will be the home team. If both teams have the same number of points, a coin toss by the Field Marshal/Referee will determine the home team. In the event that both teams have the same colored uniforms, the home team will be asked to change.

NUMBER OF REFEREES

U9-U10 will have a 1 referee system, U11-U19 will have the 3 referee system.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Games may be cancelled or game durations and start times may be modified due to inclement weather at the discretion of Tournament Officials. The tournament has no financial obligation to compensate teams that may end up playing fewer games than the games guaranteed (3) due to inclement weather.

DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

Teams will earn points based on the results of the group games. Points will be awarded as follows:

- 6 points for a win
- 3 points for a tie
- 0 points for a loss
- 1 point for each goal scored up to a maximum of 3 goals per game
- 1 point for a shutout (shutout points are also awarded for a 0-0 tie)
- 9 points for the winning team in the event of a forfeit (2-0)
- 0 points for each team if both teams forfeit
- 1 point will be deducted for each red card (send off) issued to a player.
- 2 points will be deducted for each red card (ejection) issued to a coach.

TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES

If teams have the same number of points after all group games, ties will be resolved using the following criteria in this order:

1. Head-to-head competition results, winner advances
2. Goal differential (goals scored less goals allowed; maximum 4 per game)
3. Most goals scored
4. Fewest goals allowed
5. Most Total Shutouts
6. Fewest Red card ejections (player and coach)
7. Kicks from the penalty mark

For Semi-Final games that end in a tie after regular time, both teams will take kicks from the penalty mark as described by FIFA until a winner is determined. Only the players on the field at the end of the game period may participate in the kicks from the penalty mark.

For Consolation and Final games that end in a tie after regular time, games will be extended, after a 5-minute rest period, by up to two 5-minute overtime periods with the Golden Goal rule. If the game is tied at the end of the overtime periods, both teams will take kicks from the penalty mark as described by FIFA until a winner is determined. Only the players on the field at the end of the overtime period may participate in the kicks from the penalty mark.

SUSPENDED and TERMINATED GAMES

Tournament Officials may suspend and/or terminate games for any reason. If a game is terminated, the game may be resumed per discretion of Tournament officials, but is subject to ending 5 minutes prior to the next scheduled game start. If a game is terminated due to field issues, or due to the serious injury of a player, game play may be resumed at the discretion of the Tournament officials. Tournament officials may also conclude the game, require completion of the game or utilize penalty kicks to determine the winner of the game depending upon the circumstance. If, in the opinion of Tournament officials, a game must be terminated due to the serious or violent misconduct of players, coaches, or spectators; the offending team could be suspended from further play and forfeits that game and potentially all remaining games, with no refund of registration fees. All previous points earned remain as played. Additionally, the home league, State Association and/or US Club Soccer will be contacted as appropriate.

Delays of game will only be allowed for an injury to a player that is unable to be moved from the field and/or requiring professional medical attention. Primary regard will be to the safety of the injured player. The delay may result in appropriate time being added to the full game time, depending on the judgment of the referee. Preliminary games might not be extended if they affect start time of the next game as described herein. The result of a preliminary game, which is suspended due to serious injury in the first half, shall be determined by penalty kicks as described by FIFA.

AWARDS

Trophies will be awarded to the first and second place teams (one per team). Medals will be awarded to each rostered player/coach of the first, second and third place teams.

ILLEGAL PLAYERS

Any player that plays in an age group they are too old for, or is not listed on the official roster of a team they play for and is not a properly credentialed guest player for that team, shall be considered illegal.

Any team found to have played an illegal player will forfeit all scheduled games, including any games already played. No games will be replayed that were affected in any way by such forfeits.

DISPUTES

Game conduct is under the jurisdiction of the referee. The tournament officials will not overrule a referee's decision. The Tournament Committee shall settle all disputes. Questions during the tournament may be answered by field marshals, or by members of the tournament committee, who if not at the fields, will be stationed at referee and field marshal tents. The Tournament Committee has the authority to rule on any situation not covered by these rules.

PROTESTS

All game results will be considered final. No protests will be allowed.

FORFEIT and BYES

If a team has not reported to the field with the minimum number of players, ready to play within 5 minutes of the scheduled game time, the game will be forfeited to their opponent with a score of 2-0.

If neither team has reported to the field with the minimum number of players, ready to play within 5 minutes of the scheduled game time, the game will be declared a 0-0 tie.

The tournament has no financial obligation to compensate teams that may end up playing fewer games than the games guaranteed (3) due to an opponent's forfeit.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances is expressly prohibited at any of the fields being utilized for the event. Any team (including players, coaches, team officials, parents and spectators) found violating this rule will automatically forfeit all games played, face possible expulsion from the event.

PROHIBITIONS

In addition to alcoholic beverages and controlled substances, use of tobacco products on the grounds of any public facility is a violation of California State Law and is expressly prohibited on all tournament grounds. Dogs (with or without a leash) and firearms are also prohibited on all tournament grounds.

NO LITTERING

Please respect the fields made available to the Tournament. At the conclusion of your games, please collect and dispose of all garbage generated by your team in trash receptacle. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

REGISTRATION FEES, REFUNDS & WITHDRAWAL

Teams are charged the registration fee once they are accepted into the Tournament, approximately 6-8 weeks before the event. Once accepted, there are no refunds, except due to tournament cancellation, or insufficient competition. Teams requesting to withdraw must do so by contacting the Tournament Director.

TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION

Tournament Officials may cancel all or part of the tournament due to inclement weather, acts of civil disobedience or war, destruction of facilities, or other circumstances beyond the control of Manteca Futbol Club. In the event of such cancellation, affected teams will not receive refund of any or all registration fees, due to event expenses already incurred. Manteca Futbol Club will not be liable for any other expenses incurred by affected teams; this includes transportation, lodging, meals or other expenses.

RULE CHANGES

All situations not covered by these rules will be resolved by the Tournament Committee. Such resolutions will be final and no appeal will be accepted.

The Tournament Committee may make alterations to these rules as necessary. Such changes will be final and no appeal will be accepted.

TOURNAMENT WEBSITE

The official tournament website is **mantecafc.org/tournaments/spring-invitational**.

Rules: The tournament website shall be the final reference for all tournament rules.

Schedules & Scores: The tournament website shall be the final reference for all schedules and scores.