

Winter Classic Tournament Rules

U8-U10 will play 6V6

U11-U12 will play 8V8

U16 and up will play 8V8

Parents & Spectators are not allowed onto the fields. Anything that is green turf is forbidden by all other than coaches, officials, and players. Any team that violates this will be required to forfeit their match. Please respect the flow of traffic which helps keep the tournament running on time.

Games are 30 minutes in length. No half time. Time can be adjusted for an entire age group depending on the amount of teams entered vs. the time allotted. Please note, the clock is set immediately after the conclusion of the match played prior and starts running 3-5 minutes before the official time. The teams have to clear the area and the next two teams need to be prepared as the clocks will not stop to wait until teams are ready. If teams are ready early they can start. If they are not they will lose time in their game.

Substitution Procedure

Substitutions are on the fly and may occur on an unlimited basis. Both players must be within the touchline and no more than a yard from their bench area when the substitution is made. When both players are on the field neither player may touch the ball. Infringement of this procedure may incur warning (Yellow Card) from the official.

Referee and other Officials

The Referee(s) shall be responsible for control of the game. The referee's decisions regarding control are FINAL. There are no score clocks so the referee will keep the official time.

Match Play

- There is no sliding permitted regardless if it is a tackle or attempt at the ball.
- When the ball goes out of bounds the game will restart with a throw in.
- When the ball hits the ceiling above it will be an indirect kick directly below where the ball hit.
- Goalkeepers can punt the ball if they choose, however – **NO GOAL CAN BE SCORED DIRECTLY FROM A PUNT OR A GOAL KICK.**
- A Goal cannot be scored directly from a kickoff.
- Everything else is common sense and according to FIFA as much as it can apply.

Bench and Team Area

Only players and coaches will be allowed onto the fields. U8-U10 teams are between the 2 fields. U11 and higher the teams will be on the curtain side. Since space is tight we ask that teams have their bags lined up neatly and stay off both fields. Pay attention. After a game we ask that teams leave the area immediately and do not leave any garbage such as water bottles, tape, etc. **Please throw away all trash in garbage cans.** Please do not spit on the field. No Gum chewing.

Tournament Standings, Scoring, and Tie Breakers

- Preliminary games are scored 3 points for a win, one point for a tie, and no points for a loss
- Teams are assigned to a group – the top team in each group will go to the final
- Tie breaking to decide group winner in the event of a tie in points - in the following order:
 - Winner of head to head match
 - Goal Differential – A MAXIMUM OF 4 either on the plus or negative side.
 - Least Goals Allowed
 - Penalty Kicks – Best of 3 Penalties followed by sudden death – cannot repeat any players
- **Wildcards** – When there are 3 groups the 2nd place team amongst all 3 groups with the highest points will advance to the semifinals. If the team is matched up with the group winner from the same group the brackets will be switched so they do not play each other again.
- In the event of a **tie in quarter-final, semi-final, or championship game**, penalty kicks which will be the best of three. After three it will continue as sudden death. Cannot be the same shooters.

CAUTION AND/OR EJECTION

All coaches must keep "coaching from the sidelines" to a minimum. If persistent infractions occur, the referee may stop the game and warn or caution the offending coach. Harassment of players by a coach or parent will not be allowed. All coaches and substitutes must remain within the designated bench area during play.

A player and/or a coach who has been ejected from a match shall not take any further part in that match, and shall also be prohibited from participating in the next following game played by that team. Coaches are reminded that they are responsible for the actions of their parents and families. Let's set a good example!

Our tournament Director also reserves the right to expel a player, parent or Coach from tournament play for gross violations of the laws of the game, the House, Rules, or damage to Ho Chunk Soccer property

FORFEITS

In the event of a forfeit, the winning team will be awarded three points for the win. The victory will be recorded as a 4-0 score. No team having a forfeit loss may advance to the next round. Any team having a forfeit loss may be denied entry to future Winter Classic Tournaments.

TEAM ROSTERS

Maximum roster size for U8-U10: 14 and U11-U12: 16 and U13 and above is 18.

The Maximum roster size is common sense as coaches want to be able to manage their players and play time. If a team goes over the maximum roster size we will not punish them but we do not recommend it.

Players can only be on one team in an age division. A player can be on a roster in a different age group as well but must be with the same club. A player cannot play in multiple age groups with different club teams. The Player MUST be listed on all rosters he might play with at time of team registration. A player cannot be added to a roster once the tournament begins. In the case of an emergency the Director can allow a player to be added to a roster if it is necessary to preserve the tournament. To avoid any negative situations please be sure players are all rosters within the club that they will play with or potentially play with.

TOURNAMENT FLOW.

As you may have ascertained from reading the tournament rules to this point, it is the intent of the Tournament Committee to keep this tournament on schedule. This is a self-adjusting factor that all games will be ended no later than the starting time of the next scheduled game. Know it in advance, appreciate it in advance, and understand it in advance. Any time lost during a particular match, for whatever reason, will be at the time expense of that match, and not those that follow. Also, be advised that the Tournament Committee has instructed all referees to deal with any intentional delay of game according to USSF rules. Please let this rule keep us on schedule as intended, and be aware that abusers are subject to the consequences.

AUTHORITY.

Decisions of the Tournament Committee are final, and the Tournament Committee shall have the authority to make any decision to ensure a successful tournament. The Tournament Committee and the Midwest Wings Soccer Club shall not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team or individual if the tournament is delayed or canceled in whole or in part.

ENTRY FEE AND FACILITY ENTRY

There is a daily fee to enter the facility which the tournament uses to pay the large cost of renting the facility. All spectators must enter through the doors designated for soccer which is the South and West doors. Any person caught avoiding entry or cheating the system will be held responsible as theft from the tournament and their entire team they are associated with will be expelled from the tournament. Players, Coaches, and Spectators Under 16 do not pay an entry fee.

SPORTSMANSHIP.

Remember, this tournament is for the encouragement of fair play, good sportsmanship and the development of superior soccer skills. We ask that all coaches, players and parents keep this in mind during their matches as well as those matches at which they may be spectators. We would especially ask that you:

- A. Maintain respect for the referee and other officials; they are in control of the game, not you.
- B. Remember that running up a score against a weaker opponent serves no purpose. A goal differential of higher than four still counts only as four in the tie-breaker tabulations.
- C. Act as you would wish others to act when visiting your tournament.