

2021 Rules and Regulations

NVSC Summer 7's - 7v7 Friendlies

The format of the NVSC event is a series of friendlies for small sided teams, from U8 (2013) up through U11 (2010). Boys teams will play on Saturday and Girls teams will play on Sunday. Each team will play three, 40-minute games with 20-minute halves. No scores or standings will be kept. Academy-style play is promoted, with teams allowed unlimited Guest players and clubs permitted to mix and match players within club teams to observe players under differing environments and teammates. The following rules are provided:

1. ELIGIBILITY

Participation is open to U8 2013 (rising U9); U9 2012 (rising U10); U10 2011 (rising U11) and U11 2010 (rising U12) Boys and Girls. All players (guest or otherwise) must be registered with a National State Association affiliated with USYSA/USSF or US Club Soccer or national equivalent. Teams from clubs that are members of organizations of the United States Soccer Federation but not members of US Youth Soccer (such as AYSO, SAY or US Club Soccer) DO NOT have to have a US Youth Soccer Application To Travel form (although that team's organization may require that the team have permission).

2. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Team registration will be handled on site 1 hour before the team's first game. Complete instructions are available on the event website for registration.

Teams may have unlimited guest players on their rosters.

Necessary items for registration/check-in:

- Team Roster with guest players written at the bottom. A team attending the friendlies can use the NVSC – provided roster template, which is available on the event website, or they can use their 2020 - 2021 Official State Roster with guest players listed and annotated as such. If a club is bringing multiple teams in an age group to the event, the club can fill out the NVSC roster template as a pooled player roster for registration. Teams will be allowed to move players between teams during the friendlies provided all players have an official player pass. Teams must designate the players available to play in each game up to the maximum roster stated above.
- Medical Release forms for each player including guest players
- Official Player cards including guest player cards (either current travel player cards or recreational player cards from the club that they are registered)

- Team contact form with cell phone and email contact information for the weekend.

All teams must have player cards, approved event roster and medical release forms available for review at each game.

3. RULES OF PLAY

Except as modified herein, the FIFA "Laws of the Game" will apply to all games. All age groups will play 7v7; 6 field players and 1 goalkeeper.

U8-U9 Player Development Initiative Modifications - Build-Out Lines. The Build-Out Line is a line extending from touchline to touchline halfway between the penalty area and the centerline. When the defending goalkeeper has the ball in hand or the defending team has been awarded a goal kick, the attacking team shall retreat behind the Build-Out Line until the ball is put back in play. Where a physical line is not present, the referee may mark the line with appropriate soft cones, pennies, or other markings placed off the field. The defending team is not required to wait until the attacking team retreats behind the Build-Out Line; indeed, some clubs will instruct their teams not to wait, choosing instead to force their players to play out of pressure. An attacking player shall not be deemed to be in an offside position if such player has not crossed the Build-Out Line at the time the ball is played.

No Punting/Dropkicks - If the goalkeeper punts or drop kicks the ball, an indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense; if the punt or drop kick occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick will be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the offense occurred.

ALL AGE GROUPS (NO HEADERS) – Whenever the ball strikes a player in the head, play is stopped. The proper restart depends upon whether the player deliberately played the ball with his or her head. If deliberate, the proper restart is an indirect free kick to the opposing team. If this occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If the play by the head is deemed inadvertent, then the proper restart is a dropped ball.

4. FIELD AND GAME EQUIPMENT

All games will be played on artificial turf fields (ATF) at Hellwig Park, Prince William County VA. Rules for use of the ATF fields are posted and must be adhered to during the tournament.

- Soccer shoes with metal cleats are prohibited.
- Players must have a uniform jersey with a distinct number on the back matching their number on the team's official state roster.
- When uniform colors are similar, the home team will change colors. The team listed first on the game schedule is the home team.
- All players must wear shin guards completely covered by uniform socks in accordance with FIFA laws.

Game balls will be provided by the tournament. If the tournament game ball is lost, the designated home team is responsible for supplying a comparable game ball to the referee.

5. SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions will be unlimited and may be made, with the consent of the referee, at the following times:

- Prior to throw-in, by the team in possession or the opposing team if the team in possession is substituting
- Prior to a goal kick, by either team
- After a goal by either team
- In the event of an injury, when the referee stops play (one-for-one for the injured player(s))
- In the event of a yellow card, when the referee stops play (one-for-one for the yellow carded player(s))
- At half time

Under no circumstances may substitutions be made (1) on corner.

6. DIVISIONS AND DIVISION STRUCTURE

Divisions: Every attempt will be made to make multiple divisions for all age groups.

Divisions may be deleted, combined, or added at NVSC's discretion. Division placement will determine the level of the team pool and will NOT be grounds for discussion or protest.

Age Groups	Length of Halves	Ball Size
U-11	20	4
U-10	20	4
U-09	20	4
U-08	20	4

Combining age groups may be necessary at NVSC's discretion.

All games will be played with a running clock. The referee may stop the clock for serious injuries or other incidents. The referee is the official timekeeper and therefore all decisions regarding game duration are solely at the referee's discretion and shall not be protested. NO SCORES OR STANDINGS WILL BE KEPT

Where necessary to maintain the schedule, the NVSC appointed site coordinator can adjust the length of game periods equally.

7. GAME AND SCORE REPORTING

No scores or standing will be kept; however, each referee is responsible for maintaining and recording all cards and reporting this information to the event site tent at the conclusion of each game.

8. CONDUCT/DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Any player or coach who is sent-off from any match is prohibited from participating in the next match being played by that team. Coaches with multiple teams will be required to sit out until and through the next match by the team being coached at the time (Coach is coaching Team 1 and Team 2; A red card is issued during Team 1 game. The coach must sit out the event until he/she has sat out the next Team 1 game). Similarly, for a player, he/she cannot participate for any team until having sat out the game for the team for which the card was received. A player or coach may receive a multi--game suspension, depending on the rule's infringement.

RED CARDS

Any player or coach who receives a red card will be sent-off from that game and not be eligible to participate in the team's next game. See above for clarification concerning coaches with multiple teams.

YELLOW CARDS

Any player or coach who receives one yellow card will be cautioned of the offense and allowed to continue to play; the coach may substitute if desired. If so, the opposing coach may substitute on a one for one basis.

A second yellow card issued to a player or coach during any one game will count as a red card and the player or coach will be sent-off from the current game and be suspended

from the team's next game.

For both teams, players and coaches will take one side of the pitch. Supporters and spectators will take the other side of the pitch. The NVSC Site Coordinator will indicate to the referee and to the teams which sides will be designated for players/coaches and which is for spectators.

No coaches, players, or spectators are authorized within 18 yards of the end of the field and no one is permitted behind the end line. All spectators must remain behind the spectator's lines.

It is the responsibility of the team's coach or the person acting in the coach's behalf to control the conduct of the parents and other spectators. Failure to do so may result in a warning by the referee to the coach or the person acting in the coach's behalf.

INAPPROPRIATE OR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND MAY RESULT IN THE EJECTION OF THE COACH AND/OR SPECTATORS. If a coach is ejected from a game, it will be treated as a red card offense and that coach must leave the field area a minimum of 100 yards for the remainder of that game and may not be present at the following scheduled game.

As noted above, if the ejected coach is coaching more than one team, that coach will be barred from all event sites until the team he/she was coaching, at the time of the ejection, has completed its next scheduled game. Spectators causing the coach to be ejected will be subject to the same penalties as the coach. If a coach has been ejected, the next game must be managed by an assistant coach, team manager or other team official, as listed on the roster to represent the team. If there is no alternative official available on the roster, the game may be managed by a club official, or the game will be ruled a forfeit and will stop at that time. All ejections will be reported in writing to the team's Club, League, and State Association.

NOISE MAKING DEVICES ARE NOT PERMITTED.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ILLEGAL DRUGS, AND WEAPONS ARE NOT PERMITTED AT ANY EVENT SITE. ANY PLAYER, COACH, OR SPECTATOR FOUND IN POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL, ILLEGAL DRUGS, OR WEAPONS WILL BE BANNED FROM THE EVENT AND APPROPRIATE NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE MADE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES. SMOKING AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS IS PROHIBITED FROM THE GAME FIELD INCLUDING THE SIDELINES AND SPECTATOR AREAS.

HARASSMENT OF REFEREES AND/OR ASSISTANT REFEREES OR ANY VIOLENT OR ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR, OR FOUL LANGUAGE DIRECTED AT ANYONE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. PERSONS

ENGAGING IN SUCH BEHAVIOR ARE LIABLE TO BE BANNED FROM THE EVENT AND ALL EVENT SITES BY EVENT OFFICIALS. TEAMS JUDGED GUILTY OF BEHAVIOR DETRIMENTAL TO THE EVENT MAY BE BARRED FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR. A WRITTEN REPORT WILL BE FILED WITH THE VIRGINIA STATE ASSOCIATION AS WELL AS THE TEAM'S STATE ASSOCIATION, CLUB, AND LEAGUE.

The NVSC Event Director is the final arbiter of all disputes, arguments, and misunderstandings and interpretations and decisions are in all cases final.

9. PROTESTS

There will be no protests.

10. INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, the Event Director or official representative(s) will have the authority to:

- * Relocate or reschedule any game(s);
- * Change the duration of any game(s);
- * Cancel any game(s);
- * Consider any game terminated by game or Event Officials after one half of play as completed as of the time of termination.

11. GENERAL

Each team is scheduled to play three games. If the number of games is reduced due to another team dropping out or not showing up, NVSC will make its best effort to schedule an alternative team. NVSC is not responsible for providing any refunds of the registration fees. Under no circumstances whatsoever will Northern Virginia Soccer Club or the Virginia Youth Soccer Association, or any of their official representatives be responsible for any expenses (including the entry fee) incurred by any team.

This includes a situation whereby any game(s) is (are) canceled in whole or part. It is solely up to the Event Committee, to decide if any refunds will be returned, due to partial or full cancellation of the event.

No items may be sold at, headquarters, playing fields, or surrounding areas for the duration of the event unless specifically sanctioned by the NVSC.

12. WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Teams withdrawing from the event shall not be refunded.

15. REFUND AND CANCELLATION POLICY

Refund Policy:

- Registration fees will not be processed until May 17, 2021.
- If the tournament is canceled due to COVID prior to May 17, 2021, a full refund will be provided.
- If the tournament is canceled due to COVID after May 16, 2021, a prorated refund will be provided based on expenses incurred to-date; at a minimum, a \$50 administrative fee will be retained.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

Region 1 Policy Regarding Application To Host A Tournament

Region I have established the following policy concerning permission to travel when attending USYS sanctioned tournaments in Region I. The purpose of this policy is to make it as simple as possible for the US Youth Soccer Region I teams to travel to tournaments within Region I.

The new policy states that any USYS State Association teams within Region I that is accepted into a tournament in Region I do not need permission to travel papers. Permission to Travel is not required in friendly games within Region 1.

National/State Associations in Region I:

Connecticut Jr. Soccer Assn
Delaware Youth Soccer Assn
Eastern New York Youth Soccer Assn
Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Assn
Soccer Maine
Maryland Youth Soccer Assn
Massachusetts Youth Soccer Assn
New Hampshire Soccer Assn
New Jersey Youth Soccer Assn
New York State West Youth Soccer Assn
Pennsylvania West State Soccer Assn
Soccer Rhode Island
Vermont Soccer Assn
Virginia Youth Soccer Assn
West Virginia Soccer Assn

Teams that are members of organizations of the United States Soccer Federation but not

members of US Youth Soccer (such as AYSO, SAY, US Club Soccer or Super Y Leagues) DO NOT have to have a US Youth Soccer Application To Travel form (although that team's organization may require that the team have permission). An approved team roster does need to be provided to tournament officials, along with current player passes from its organization.