



Capital Cup 2010 TOURNAMENT RULES

The AU*CAPITAL CAPITAL CUP 2010 is hosted by the [Austin United Capital Soccer Club](#). The tournament is sanctioned by the South Texas Youth Soccer Association (STYSA) and is open to boys and girls teams from U-11 through U-14. Unless otherwise amended below, the current Rules of the Game (as published by FIFA) will apply to this competition.

TEAM REGISTRATION: (REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2010)

All teams must provide the following at check-in:

- Roster signed by the Association registrar
- Approved laminated player cards for all players (including guest players) corresponding to approved roster
- Signed medical release forms for all players, including guest players
- Teams from outside STYSA must provide an approved USYSA travel permit and travel roster

All USA teams are required to present player picture identification cards that have been issued by their governing body at registration and at all matches. All international teams are required to present passports at registration.

ROSTERS:

U-11 and U-12 teams (8v8) are limited to fourteen (14) players. U12 thru U-14 (11v11) rosters are limited to eighteen (18) players. Each team may have up to five (5) guest players, but may not exceed maximum team size limit. Guest Players which must be registered and checked-in at the same time as all rostered players. Players and teams are allowed to "Play-up", which means participate in an older age group, but may not play in a younger age group where they exceed the age eligibility. A team's age group eligibility will be determined by the birth date of the oldest player. Players may not play for more than one team in the tournament. All teams must be USYSA, USSF and FIFA affiliated, as well as in good standing with their state and/or local associations

PLAYER EQUIPMENT:

- All soccer equipment must adhere to FIFA laws.
- Shin guards are **mandatory** during play!!!
- Players are required to have like-colored jerseys/t-shirts with permanent numbers (ironed-on or permanent marker) at least 4 inches tall on the back of their jersey/t-shirt that match the numbers listed on the team roster. **TAPED NUMBERS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED** - no exceptions. Scrimmage vests without numbers may be worn only over a permanently numbered jersey/t-shirt.
- HOME is **required** to wear light and AWAY is **required** to wear dark (no options). In the event that team colors are similar, the HOME team will change colors. The HOME team is listed first on the game schedule.
- As a convenience to both teams, it is recommended that the HOME team wear their light colored uniforms and the VISITORS wear their dark colored uniforms.
- Players' numbers must coincide with numbers on the roster, and duplicate numbers are not allowed for players on the same roster.
- No jewelry may be worn by any player during a match (earrings, watches, necklaces)
- No casts or splints allowed. Knee braces, if worn, must be covered completely.
- Any skull covering worn for religious reasons must be worn in a safe manner. In such cases, a signed document from an appropriate religious leader shall be required.

PLAYER CREDENTIAL CHECK:

Each team must be able to present its validated roster and player cards to either a Tournament Director or referee team before the start of each match, if requested. If a player plays in a game and is not registered, the team will automatically forfeit that game and may face further penalties as decided by the Tournament Director.

GAME FORMAT:

Each team shall have the opportunity to play at least four (4) games. All games schedules are final as published. No changes will be permitted except at the directive of the Tournament Director. Teams must be at their designated field at least 10 minutes before the scheduled game time and be ready for inspection by the referee; consequently, the game will be called a FORFEIT. The HOME team is the team listed first on the schedule. The HOME team shall submit a game ball of appropriate size, weight and pressure to the referee at the beginning of a game.

BALL SIZE:

U-10 through U-12: Size 4
U-13 through U-14: Size 5

The duration of halves is listed below. The interval between halves shall be five (5) minutes. The referee is the official timekeeper of the match. Intervals between matches may be reduced to maintain the schedule.

GAME LENGTH:

U-11: two 25 minute halves
U-12 through U-14: two 30 minute halves

A game is considered complete if one half of the game has elapsed. The score at the stoppage of play will be the final score. If one half has not elapsed and the game is stopped, the game must be rescheduled if it affects the outcome of the tournament and if weather permits. The Tournament Director shall have the ultimate authority in determining whether or the fields are playable. Please check the tournament

website at <http://www.austinsoccer.org> for information and weather updates. The Tournament Director reserves the right to readjust times and/or change fields.

Scoring:

Games will be counted as:

GAME SCORING

Win – 3 points;

Tie – 1 points;

Loss – 0 points.

Determination of Standings and Finalists

Division standings will be based upon total points at the completion of preliminary matches (i.e. the team with the most points finishes first). All preliminary matches tied will remain a tie.

In brackets in which there are four (4) teams, the team earning the highest total points will be the bracket winner and advance to the Championship game. In brackets in which there are five (5) teams, the format will be Round Robin with standings determined by points. In brackets in which there are six (6) teams, the two teams earning the highest total points in cross bracket play will advance to the Championship game. In brackets in which there are eight (8) teams, the two teams earning the highest total points within their group will advance to the Championship game.

Tournament Overtime

In the Championship matches, if regulation play ends in a tie score, the following step will be taken:

The tie will be broken by penalty kicks in accordance with FIFA rules. Only players on the field at the end of play will be allowed to participate in penalty kicks. Goal keepers may not be changed during the penalty kicks except in the case of injury, in which case the opposing team may also elect another goalkeeper. Substitute goalkeepers must be chosen from players on the field.

Tie Breaker:

In the event of a tie, the division winner shall be determined in accordance with the following tie-breaking criteria:

- Head-to-head competition (does not apply in the case of a tie among more than 2 teams)
- Goal differential for all matches
- Most goals scored
- Most wins
- Least number of red cards followed by least number of yellow cards
- Penalty kicks

In the event of a tie among more than 2 teams, if it is still necessary to break a tie after the division winner is decided, the above criteria shall be used, in the same order. In the case where a best second place team (wildcard) is needed, it shall be determined by pooling all the non-division winners from all flights in the division. The team with the most points in this pool is then the wildcard. In the event of a tie, the above tie-breaking criteria shall be used, in the same order.

Tie Breaker Clarification:

Once a criterion has been used to determine a tie-breaker, teams must continue to the next criteria and may not revert back.

Example: Three teams each have 6 team points. Team "A" is winner over team "B", "B" over "C", and "C" over "A". Three teams are tied so, criteria #1 (head-to-head) is disregarded. Team "A" and "B" have goal differential of 7 goals, and "C" has a differential of 5 goals. Therefore team "C" is eliminated. You do not revert back to criteria #1 (head-to-head). The next criteria is #3 (total goals scored) to determine the winner between teams "A" and "B".

SUBSTITUTIONS

Either team shall request unlimited substitutions subject to the following conditions and upon approval of the referee:

- The referee is informed before the substitution is made.
- The request occurs prior to goal-kick by either team.
- The request occurs prior to own throw-in.
- The request occurs after a goal has been scored by either team
- The request occurs at half-time or the beginning of an overtime period.
- The request occurs after a yellow card.
- Any time approval is granted by the referee (as in the case of injury).
- The substitute only enters the field after the replaced player leaves and the substitute is signaled on by the referee.
- The substitute must enter the field of play at the halfway line.

NOTES:

- Once a request for substitution has been granted, **either** team may substitute any number of players regardless of the players field position.
- All substitutes are subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referee, whether called upon to play or not.
- An ejected player cannot be substituted.

FORFEITS:

No grace period will be allowed from scheduled kickoff time. Teams must be at their designated field at least 10 minutes before the scheduled game time and be ready for inspection by the referee or **forfeit** the game. A minimum of 7 players constitutes a team. **A team who forfeits a match will not be eligible to receive awards and forfeits all points for the ENTIRE TOURNAMENT.**

GAME CARDS:

The referee will pick up the game card at the referee tent. After the game, a representative of both teams shall sign the card. The referee is responsible for returning the game card to the referee tent.

AWARDS:

First and second place teams in each age group will receive a trophy in a presentation immediately following the final game.

CONDUCT:

All players, coaches and spectators are expected to show good sportsmanship at all times. Failure to do so could lead to the disqualification of the team from the tournament. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their team and supporters. Coaches, players or spectators who are involved in fighting, physical or verbal abuse to a referee, other coach, player or spectator, may be cause for themselves and/or their team to be ejected from the tournament and/or forfeiture of awards due them.

Cards:

A player receiving a red card is prohibited from participating in the rest of that game and the next game. No substitution may be made for the ejected player during the match in which the red card was issued. A second red card to the same player within the tournament results in that player being expelled from the tournament. Receiving two yellow cards in the same game constitute a red card and ejection.

Ejections:

Any coach who is ejected from a game by a game official or the Tournament Director will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled game for that team. Additional penalties may be enforced based on the seriousness of the incident. Players, coaches, and/or spectators ejected for fighting are to leave the complex and not return for the remainder of the tournament.

Inappropriate behavior, serious foul play, and violent conduct WILL NOT BE tolerated. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of his/her players and spectators on and off of the field and must promote sportsmanship, win or lose. The Tournament Director may remove a player, coach, and/or spectator from a game or the tournament for unacceptable conduct and/or actions that endanger the safety of others. In the course of tournament play, a player receiving a total of three yellow cards will "sit-out" the next game for their team. If the third yellow card occurs in their team's final game of the tournament, that player will be allowed to continue the game. The Tournament Director may also remove an entire team for accumulating an unacceptable number of yellow and red cards.

Reporting:

Referees are required to report all disciplinary actions taken before, during or after a game on an official game report, and to separately report all cases of serious misconduct to tournament headquarters immediately following the game in which the serious misconduct occurred. Judgment calls by referees may not be appealed. All referee decisions are final.

TEAM/SPECTATOR FIELD POSITIONS

Coaches and players shall stand on opposite sides of the field from parents and spectators. Parents and spectators from both teams shall stand on the same side of the field. On the teams' sideline, the home team has the choice of side from the center line, and coaches must stay within their side of this line. No coaching shall be permitted within 18 yards of the goal line, from behind the goal line or from the parent/spectator sideline. No one shall be allowed behind either end line. All spectators will remain behind spectator lines, as designated. The referee may ask each team to provide a linesperson. The referee and/or the Field Marshall(s) are authorized to remove any spectator whose behavior, in their opinion, interferes with the play of the game. The behavior of the parents and fans remains the responsibility of the coach.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE:

**FOR WEATHER UPDATES AND TOURNAMENT HOTLINE CHECK THE AUCSC WEBPAGE
WWW.AUSTINSOCCER.ORG OR CALL 512-899-7021.**

Regardless of weather conditions, coaches and their teams must appear at their respective field site, prepared to play as scheduled. Failure to appear will result in forfeiture of the match.

In case of inclement weather, the Tournament Director will determine if games are to be played. Austin United Capital Soccer Club will make every effort to allow teams to play their complete tournament schedule. However, game schedules or length of play may need to be altered in the case of inclement weather. The Tournament Committee **will** have the authority to change, cancel or reschedule any game and/or its format. In the case of unplayable fields for extended periods of time, the use of penalty kicks, coin toss or other means may be used to determine the winner. **The Tournament Committee determination shall be final.**

Once the game has started, the decision rests with the Referee and the Tournament Director. If any games are cancelled, it is up to the coaches of the teams to check with the Tournament Director for rescheduling information. Any preliminary or playoff games terminated at or after half-time due to adverse weather conditions shall be considered **official**.

In the event that inclement weather forces the cancellation of all or part of the tournament, teams will receive a credit of a percentage of their entry fee. This credit is to be used in future AU Capital soccer tournaments (full or small-sided) and will be given in the following increments:

GAME CREDIT RATES:

- No games played (0/4) = 75%
 - One game of four played (1/4) = 50%
 - Two games of four played (2/4) = 25%
 - Three games of four played (3/4) = 0%
- ** No credit for Semi or Finals Games **

In the event the tournament is cancelled, a refund of the entry fee (if any) or a portion of the entry fee (if any) will be determined by the Board of Directors of the Austin United Capital Soccer Club after all expenses have been calculated. The decision of the Tournament Director on any other matter is final and not subject to appeal.

TEAM PROTESTS AND APPEALS:

Protests and appeals will be allowed only in the event a team is believed to have used an ineligible player. No other protests will be considered. The offended team may file a protest by submitting in writing the violation within two hours of the incident, along with \$100 cash to the Site Coordinator. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned and corrective action as determined by the Tournament Director will be taken. The Tournament Director must determine that the violation materially affected the outcome of the game. The decision of the Tournament Director regarding protests is **FINAL**. If the protest is not upheld, the protest fee is forfeited to the Austin United Capital Soccer Club.

GENERAL MATTERS:

- All teams shall shake hands and are encouraged to exchange patches or pins at the end of each game in the center of the field as a gesture of friendship and sportsmanship.
- Once a team has been accepted, post registration deadline, no money will be refunded for withdraw
- Dogs are not allowed at the any of the soccer complexes; unless dog has been approved as a service dog by the Tournament Director.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

Any situation or questions on rules of competition not covered herein will be governed by FIFA, USYSA, STYSA and Administrative Rule books, in that order. Any matter not provided for in Tournament rules or by FIFA, USYSA, or STYSA rules shall be determined by the Tournament Director, whose decisions shall be final. The Tournament Director may amend these rules, as deemed necessary. The Tournament Director may modify the Tournament Rules when the Tournament Director deems it in the best interests of the tournament to do so. All teams will be bound by any such change.

DISCLAIMER

Neither the Tournament Director, the Austin United Capital Soccer Club, Tournament Sponsors nor coaches of host teams are responsible for any expenses incurred by any team if the tournament is canceled in whole or in part due to inclement weather, adverse field conditions or circumstances beyond the Tournament's control.