

Branchburg Travel Soccer Club

Annual Labor Day Tournament

Tournament Rules

All Tournament games will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as issued by FIFA unless modified herein. The following statement of Rules and Regulations supplement the Laws of the Game.

Rule 1 - Procedures for Determining Final Team Standings:

(Does not apply to small-sided games - U8, U9 & U10)

The team with the highest point total at the end of their four games* will be determined to be the winner of their flight, based on the following:

1. 3 points for a win
2. 1 points for a tie
3. 0 points for a loss

If there is a tie, the following procedure will apply in this order:

1. Head to head winner (unless more than two teams are tied)
2. Most wins
3. Bonus Points (See below for determination of bonus points)
4. Fewest total goals allowed
5. Most goals scored with a maximum of 5 per game
6. Shoot-out as governed by FIFA rules.

Bonus Points – will be awarded to a winning team to be used only as tie breakers. The winning team will be awarded one (1) bonus point for a goal differential of up to a maximum of three. Thus, a team that wins by 3–0, 5-0, or 6-3 would receive three (3) bonus points.

* In age groups that have two (2) four team flights, each team will play one (1) cross-flight game. However, each flight will have a First and Second Place winner.

EACH FLIGHT (except U8, U9 & U10) WILL HAVE A FIRST AND SECOND PLACE WINNER! PLEASE SEE SMALL-SIDED RULES FOR U8, U9 & U10 AWARDS PROCEDURES.

Rule 2 - Player Equipment:

1. Soccer shoes must meet FIFA specifications.
2. All players must wear individually numbered jerseys. The number must coincide with the player's name/number on the official team roster. The individual number must be different for each player.
3. In the event of a color conflict, the home team will change. The home team is the team listed first on the schedule.
4. Goalkeeper's uniforms must clearly distinguish them from other players and the referees.
5. No jewelry will be worn.
6. All players must wear shin guards while participating in a match. Socks must be pulled up above the top of the shin guards. All players must be entirely uniformed. Deviations from the team uniform must be corrected before a player's participation in the match. "Boxer" shorts, "cut-offs", "Sliders", etc. that are exposed to view under the regular soccer short are only permitted if they are the same color and match the uniform shorts.
7. Players with casts will not be permitted to play. Splints may be worn only if properly padded and only with the permission of the referee. The referee's judgment will be final.
8. In the event of a color conflict with the referee, referee changes of uniform will be at the option of the referee.

Rule 3 - Duration of Games:

Divisions 6 & 5 (U8, U9, & U10) 25 minute half with 3 minute halftime.
Divisions 4 & 3 (U11 to U14) 30 minute half with 3 minute halftime.

Rule 4 - Forfeits:

If a team is not ready to play 10 minutes after the scheduled time, the team will forfeit that game. In the case of a forfeit the game will be considered a 5-0 win for the team on the field ready to play.

Rule 5 - Protests:

No protests will be allowed. The decisions of the referee and the tournament committee will be final.

Rule 6 - Conduct:

Players are expected to conduct themselves within the spirit as well as the letter of the Law. Players ejected from a match (Red Card) must sit out, at a minimum, the remainder of that match plus his or her team's next match. No substitution may be made for the ejected player during the match in which the offense occurred.

All Red Cards, especially ones issued after the end of regulation play or as a result of physical assault are subject to review by the tournament officials and a more severe penalty may be imposed.

A yellow card displayed by the referee indicates a caution. Two yellow cards given to the same individual in the same match will result in a Red Card. Two yellow cards issued to an individual for any infraction during the tournament will result in that player being unable to play in his/her team succeeding match.

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their spectators. Referees, in addition to the authority vested in them pursuant to FIFA laws, are encouraged to issue cautions (yellow card) to the coach for unruly or abusive behavior on part of the spectators.

A second caution issued for this reason, to the same coach, will constitute a Red Card to the coach and will automatically and immediately terminate or suspend play, with or without prejudice, at the discretion of the referee.

Rule 7 - Team Field Position:

Players and coaches will take up a position on the same side of the field. The spectators will be on the opposite side of the field than the players and coaches and behind the spectator restraining line.

Rule 8 - Substitutions:

Unlimited substitutions with the permission of the referee are allowed as follows:

1. After a goal has been scored.
2. At the beginning of the second half.
3. At throw-ins (possession only).
4. On goal kicks (either possession).
5. If play is stopped for an injured player and:
 - the coach/trainer comes onto the field to assist the player, then that player **MUST** leave the field. At that time, both teams may make an unlimited number of substitutions; or
 - the player does not need assistance from his/her coach/trainer, then the player does not need to leave the field. The opposing team may **NOT** make any substitutions; or
 - the player does not need assistance from his/her coach/trainer, but decides to leave the field and be replaced, then the opposing team may make an unlimited number of substitutions.
6. Players are not be substituted after a caution (yellow card). There shall be no substitution for ejected players.

Rule 9 - Medals and Trophies:

Participating trophies will be awarded to all players in Divisions 5 & 6 (U8, U9 & U10). For all other age groups, trophies will be awarded to each player and one coach of the teams finishing in first and second place of each flight based on the official tournament roster size submitted.

Rule 10 – Patches:

The traditional exchange of club or team patches among players of each team is expected after each match.

Rule 11 - Division 5 and 6 (U8, U9, & U10) Rules:

These players will follow MNJYSA rules. This means that they will be playing eight-a-side soccer (7 field players and the goal keeper) on a field that is the proper dimension for their age group. See *Small Sided (U8, U9 and U10) Supplemental Rules* for additional information.

Rule 12 - Weather Delays:

It will be totally at the discretion of the BTSC Board of Directors and the Tournament Director to determine if the rain date will be utilized or if tournament games need to be canceled as a result of inclement weather. There will be no refunds based on adverse weather conditions.

Rule 13 - Team Check In:

The coach of all teams must check in the night before (Friday, September 4, 2009 between 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM) **or** at least one (1) hour before the starting time of the team's first game. All teams must report to the Field Marshal at the field at least 30 minutes prior to their first game. All players will present their 2009/2010 player pass to the Field Marshal for validation.

Rule 14 – Inclement Weather:

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to modify the tournament and its rules as necessary for the fair and orderly conduct of the tournament and specifically to make the following changes in the event of inclement weather:

1. Relocate and/or reschedule a match;
2. Reduce scheduled duration of matches;
3. Cancel matches having no impact on the trophy winners; and
4. Cancel all or part of the tournament for the safety of the players.

Should a game be terminated due to weather conditions, at or after half-time, the game will be considered official.

Rule 15 - Tournament Cancellation Policy:

If the Branchburg Labor Day Tournament is cancelled for any reason before the start of the tournament, the Branchburg Travel Soccer Club will refund 80% of the team's entry fee.

Rule 16 – Golf Cart Policy:

You must have a valid NJ driver's license to operate a Golf Cart at the Branchburg Labor Day Tournament.