

2027 Midwest Youth Cup Rules

All games will be played in accordance with the **FIFA Laws of the Game**, as modified by **USSSA Soccer** and the rules outlined below.

REGISTRATION

All teams must apply through the official online registration platform.

All accepted teams must complete **online check-in** prior to the event and submit:

1. **Official Team Roster**
 - USSSA roster or approved US Club/USYS roster.
 2. **Tournament Roster**
 - Only players participating may be listed.
 - Rosters are final after check-in.
 3. **Guest Players**
 - Maximum of **four (4) guest players**
 - Guest players must be properly rostered per USSSA rules.
 4. **Medical Release Forms**
 - All teams must have medical forms available at all times.
 5. **Travel Permission (if applicable)**
 - Required where applicable.
 6. **Player Passes**
 - Must be present at all matches.
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ELIGIBILITY (BIRTH DATE BASED)

Eligible players must fall within the following date ranges:

- **U8:** August 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019
- **U9:** August 1, 2017 – July 31, 2018
- **U10:** August 1, 2016 – July 31, 2017
- **U11:** August 1, 2015 – July 31, 2016
- **U12:** August 1, 2014 – July 31, 2015
- **U13:** August 1, 2013 – July 31, 2014
- **U14:** August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2013
- **U15:** August 1, 2011 – July 31, 2012

Eligibility Rules:

- All players must have a valid player pass
 - Maximum of **4 guest players** per team
 - No roster changes after check-in
 - Players may not play on multiple teams unless approved by the Tournament Director
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ROSTER SIZE & GAME FORMAT

Roster Limits:

- U8–U10: 14 players
- U11–U12: 16 players
- U13–U15: 22 players

Minimum Players:

- U8–U10: 4 players
- U11–U12: 6 players
- U13–U15: 7 players

Formats:

- U8: 5v5 or 7v7
 - U9–U10: 7v7
 - U11–U12: 9v9
 - U13–U15: 11v11
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LENGTH OF GAMES

- U8–U10: 2 x 25-minute halves
- U8 5v5: 2x20-minute halves
- U11–U15: 2 x 30-minute halves
- Halftime: 5 minutes
- Running clock for all matches
- Games stopped after halftime due to weather are final
- Referee is official timekeeper

Tournament Committee may adjust games due to weather or field conditions.

GAME PROCEDURES

- **No onsite check-in** (online only via GotSport)
- Teams must be ready **15 minutes prior** to kickoff
- Player & coach passes must be available

Sidelines:

- Spectators opposite team benches
- No one behind goals

Uniforms:

- Home team listed first
- Home team should wear light color, and Away team should wear dark color
- Home team changes in case of conflict

Additional Rules:

- Build-Out Line enforced (U8–U10)
 - Ball sizes:
 - U8–U12: Size 4
 - U13–U15: Size 5
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TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- Minimum **3-game guarantee**
 - Championship matches in applicable divisions
 - No team plays more than **3 games per day**
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SCORING & TIEBREAKERS

- Win: 3 points
- Tie: 1 point
- Loss: 0 points
- Forfeit: 3 points (2–0 score)

Tiebreakers:

1. Head-to-head
2. Goals allowed
3. Goal differential (max +4 per game)
4. Goals scored (Max +4 per game)

5. Penalty kicks

PLAYOFFS

- No overtime in group play

Knockout Games:

- Two 5-minute golden goal overtime periods
 - If still tied → Penalty kicks (best of 5, then sudden death)
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EQUIPMENT

- Shin guards required
 - No jewelry (including no tape over earrings)
 - No metal cleats
 - No hard casts
 - Matching numbered jerseys required (all players must have a different number)
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SUBSTITUTIONS

- Unlimited substitutions

U8–U12: On-the-fly

U13–U15: Standard substitution moments on ANY restart.

DISCIPLINE

- Red card → minimum 1-game suspension. Further suspension at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

Serious misconduct may result in:

- Removal from tournament
- Additional sanctions per USSSA policies

CODE OF CONDUCT

- No alcohol, smoking, or artificial noise devices
- No verbal abuse toward officials or participants
- Coaches responsible for team and spectators

PROTESTS

- Must be submitted within **1 hour**
- \$100 fee required
- Referee decisions are final

REFUND POLICY

- No refunds after acceptance

If tournament is canceled:

- 50% retained for administrative costs

DISCLAIMER

The Tournament Committee is not responsible for expenses due to cancellations or schedule changes.

All decisions are final.

TOURNAMENT PHILOSOPHY

The Midwest Youth Cup is committed to:

- High-level competition
- Player development
- Sportsmanship

The Tournament Director reserves the right to remove any individual or team not meeting these standards.
