Arlington Tournament Series Rules of Play

Play Dates: Full-Sided Weekend February 24 – February 26, 2023 / Small-Sided Weekend March 3-5, 2023

Tournament Director – Jerry Ellison
5210 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22205
(703) 527-0157

All Tournament matches will be played in accord with the Laws of the Game as issued by FIFA. The following rules supplement the Laws of the Game.

1) Team Acceptance

a) The tournament committee reserves the right to accept or reject any team application.

b) Any incomplete application will not be processed for consideration. Application is not considered complete until entry fee is received. All applications must be completed on-line. NO PAPER APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

c) No team shall be deemed accepted unless written notification has been sent from the Tournament Director. Written communication directly with the team contact is the only "official" acceptance.

d) Once accepted by the Tournament Committee, the application fee is non-refundable. Registration fees will not be charged until a team is accepted. If a team withdraws prior to acceptances being posted or if a team is not accepted; registration fees will not be collected. All Arlington Soccer Association participating teams are required to supply team volunteers or meet the requirements put forth by the tournament committee.

e) The tournament fees are listed below. If a team is not accepted the fee will be returned or refunded in full. The tournament fee must accompany your registration confirmation within 10 days of completed application if paying by check. Tournament fees which are returned from any bank for any reason will NOT be re-deposited. The amount of the check plus a $50 fee (cashier check or money order) must be received by the Arlington Tournament Director within 7 days after the team representative is notified of the issue. If the issue is not resolved the team will be disqualified from participation. Failure to correct the situation in a timely manner may affect the acceptance of your team as well as other teams from the club in future events.

i. All small-sided 7v7 ($900)
ii. All full-sided & 9v9 ($975)
iii. All full-sided ($995)

2) Roster and Player Documentation

United States teams must participate with your 2022-2023 approved state rosters. Teams may add guest players as listed below in section 3; however the maximum roster size is 18 for U13-U15 playing 11v11 full sided matches. Maximum roster size for U9 and U10 age division playing 7v7 is (16) and the U11-U12 age division playing 9v9 is (18).

Roster and player documentation may be inspected at any time during the tournament (see below). Completed and approved Permission to Travel forms are required for teams from outside of Region 1.

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 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.

Region 1 Policy Regarding Application To Host A Tournament

Region I has 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 policy states that any USYS State Association teams within Region I that are 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

3) Guest Players

Players may only participate with a single team for the entire tournament and may not play for multiple teams even within the same organization. US Club Soccer teams may only take guest players registered under US Club Soccer, and USYSA teams may only take guest players registered with properly stamped USYSA player pass cards.

Guest Player Guidelines

- There is a limit of 5 guest players per team

4) Eligibility

All players are born in the year of their age group classification, or in a later group. Teams must be properly registered and in good standing with their state, national and regional associations. Each player shall possess a current, validated player pass from their national association.

ALL TEAMS & PLAYERS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

a) The player must be registered and possess a current valid pass from the same club or league

i. All player passes must match the affiliation of the roster. For example, if the team roster is US Youth Soccer, then all players on that team must have US Youth Soccer passes. A player may not guest play on a US Youth Soccer roster with a US Club player pass, and vice versa.

b) A player is only permitted to be rostered with and play for a single team in the tournament.

5) Registration Check-in

On-Line check in is required unless prior agreement has been made with Tournament Director

a) Teams from the United States

Registration will require teams to have Original State Roster and printed approved tournament roster (provided), 2022-2023 year player passes and current year medical release forms. 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.

b) Foreign Teams: For a team coming from a CONCACAF nation:

- Players must present passports at registration or, if from a nation that the United States does not require a passport, proof of entry into the United States that is required by the United States.
- Teams are required to have and present player picture identification cards.
- Tournament rules must require that the team have a completed form from its Provincial or National Association approving the team's participation in the tournament.

5) Player Equipment

- Home teams (listed 1st on the schedule) wear color jerseys
- Visiting teams (listed 2nd on the schedule) wear white or alternate jerseys
- Where the color of the jersey is similar or identical, the designated home team will change jerseys.
- All players must have uniforms with individual numbers on the jersey
- No jewelry may be worn by any player (earrings, watches, necklaces, bracelets, etc)
- Players wearing casts are allowed to play with suitable protective wrapping to be inspected and approved of the referee or field marshal.
- Shin guards must be worn at all times by all players.
- No metal studded cleats will be allowed.
- All referee decisions are final regarding player equipment.

6) Substitutions

- Substitutions without limit may be made during any stoppage of play at the referee's discretion

7) Goal Kicks and Build Out lines for U9, U10 play

- When the goalkeeper has the ball, either during play (from the opponent) or from a goal kick, the opposing team must move behind the build out line until the ball is put into play.
- Once the opposing team is behind the build out line, the goalkeeper put the ball into play. After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes as normal.

a. Teams can choose to play fast and not wait for the defense to withdraw behind the build out line

- Offsides: The buildout line will also be used to denote where offside offenses can be called. Players cannot be penalized for an offside offense between the halfway line and the build out line. Players can be penalized for an offside offense between the build out line and goal line.
- For U11 and older: The new goal kick rule states that the ball is in play once the ball is kicked and clearly moves. In addition, players from the attacking team may be inside the box but defending team players cannot be in the box during a kick.
- For U9-10, we will be amending the language to state that defending team players may cross the build out line to defend once the ball is in play, NOT once the ball leaves the goal box

8) Conduct and Discipline - Player, Coach, Spectator Ejection

Teams and spectators will exhibit reasonable conduct at all tournament venues, especially as regards all referees, tournament personnel, opposing players, coaches and spectators.

Arlington County, the City of Falls Church and Fairfax County prohibit the use of alcoholic beverages at all park and school facilities. **Pets are not allowed on High School property or the synthetic fields at Arlington county parks**. Smoking at youth sports events is highly discouraged.

Any player ejected from a match will not be replaced and will not be allowed to participate in the team's immediate next match. Ejection for fighting by players and coaches will result in the player or coach not being allowed to participate in any remaining tournament matches. Passes for any coach or player ejected may be held by the field Marshall. Any coach or player ejected from a match will not be allowed to coach his/her team in its immediate next match and may not be located with the spectators. Each coach is responsible for the conduct of the players and parents of his/her team. Coaches not taking responsibility for their sideline's conduct may be cautioned and/or ejected. In accordance with FIFA rules, only players will be shown a card (yellow or red) when being cautioned or sent off. If a match is terminated by the referee due to player, coach or sideline misconduct, that team will forfeit the match regardless of the score at the time of the termination.

There will be no accumulation of yellow cards across multiple matches.

Report of Disciplinary Action:

A. For United States teams, state the procedure for notifying the Federation Organization Member of that team of disciplinary action taken or required

B. For CONCACAF teams, specify that the tournament committee will notify the US Soccer Federation of disciplinary action taken, and that the Federation will transmit the disciplinary action taken or required to that team's provincial or National association.

8) Team and Spectator Field Position

Players and Coaches will occupy one side of the field. The home team (see below) will have choice of their bench area. Teams may have up to 3 carded team officials in their technical area. Coaches will remain in their technical area and be restricted to the area between their side of the center line and 18 yard line. Coaches may enter the field of play only upon approval of the referee. Spectators will occupy the side of the field opposite the player's bench area. Home and visiting spectators shall occupy areas opposite their team benches. Spectators shall remain in the area between the 18 yard lines (penalty areas). No spectators will be to sit/stand in the immediate areas behind the goal lines with the exception of photographers.

9) Tournament Play

Each match will have a designated HOME TEAM and an AWAY TEAM as designated by the Tournament Committee in the published schedule. The committee designates teams as Home Team on a rotating basis.

Each team is guaranteed three (3) games minimum, except in cases of inclement weather or other unforeseen events.

The duration of each match is indicated below. Two equal halves will be played with a 5 minute half-time interval.

Age Group	Ball Size	Format	Duration
U9 (2014)	4	7v7	50
U10 (2013)	4	7v7	50
U11 (2012)	4	9v9	60
U12 (2011)	4	9v9	60
U13 (2010)	5	11v11	70
U14 (2009)	5	11v11	70
U15 (2008)	5	11v11	70

*Availability of fields with lights may result in shortened games older age groups

The tournament does not allow for added time for substitutions, normal injuries, or stoppages. The official clock will not stop for any reason unless in the judgment of the referee:.

The Tournament will provide the game balls.

The Tournament will only use referees certified by the United States Soccer Federation.

At age group divisions U11 and younger-
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 in advertent, then the proper restart is a dropped ball. Thank you for your time and understanding.

10) Game Reporting

- The referee will sign the game report form, confirm the score, and report any cautions/ejections including the player number to the field marshal
- The field marshal will submit the score card to site coordinator to report the score and keep account of the competition results and standings

11) Protests

None Allowed. Decisions by referees may not be appealed. Any disputes will be adjudicated by the Tournament Director and may not be appealed.

12) Ties

For the purposes of team standings and points, ties will stand at the end of regular play for group play matches. For elimination or final matches, in the event of a tie, teams will be given a 5-minute rest period and then proceed with two consecutive five-minute overtime periods (no golden goal). If the match is still tied after the overtime period the winner will be determined by using the FIFA penalty kick method.

13) Competition Structure

a) 8 team division, 2 groups of 4 teams: each group will play 3 round robin games with the group winners advancing to the championship match.
b) 6 team division, 2 groups of 3 teams: each group plays the 3 teams in the opposite group with the two top overall teams advancing to the championship match.
c) 5 team division, 1 group of 5 teams: each team will play the other 4 teams in the division, Champion and Finalist will be determined by points (no Championship Match will be played)

d) 12 team division, 4 groups of 3 teams: each group will play 2 round robin games with the group winners advancing to the semifinal round. Semi- final winners advance to the championship match. The 2nd and 3rd place teams play a consolation game.

14) Determining Group Winners

Teams will be awarded points on the following basis:

Three (3) points for each Win
One (1) point for each Tie
Zero (0) points for each Loss

In the event of a tie in points at the end of bracket play; the winner for advancement to Semi-Final or Finals will be determined as follows. If there is a 3 team tie, proceed to the #2 tie breaker until 3 team tie is broken. If after the 3 team tie is broken two teams remain tied, tie breaker returns to #1 and continues until a single team remains.

1. The winner in head-to-head competition.
2. Most Wins
3. Most Goals For (max of 5 per game)
4. Most Shutouts (excluding 0-0)
5. Fewest Goals Against
6. Penalty Kicks to determine advancing team

15) Awards

Awards shall be given to all Champions and Finalists

16) Forfeits

A 1-0 forfeit shall be awarded if a team is not present and prepared to play a match within 5 minutes of the scheduled game time. Any team forfeiting a match will be ineligible to play in a semi-final or championship game. Seven players constitute a team playing 11v11. Six players constitute a team playing 9v9. Five players constitute a team playing 7v7.

** A 3-0 forfeit shall be awarded if a match is abandoned due to Player, Coach or Sideline misconduct.

17) Inclement Weather

Regardless of weather conditions, coaches and their teams must appear at the respective field site, ready to play as scheduled. Failure to appear will result in forfeiture of the match. Only the Tournament Chairman may cancel or postpone a match. In the case of severe weather the referee and/or field marshal may suspend a match. In case of severe weather including thunder and lightning that occurs after the beginning of play the referee and/or field marshal will suspend the match for a period of 20 minutes. If after 20 minutes the weather conditions are unsafe for play the match will be terminated. Games that have reached half-time will be considered final. Incomplete games will be rescheduled or cancelled.

18) Disclaimer

Neither the Virginia Youth Soccer Association (VYSA), The Tournament Committee, the Arlington Soccer Association, nor Arlington Travel Soccer Club are responsible for any expenses (including the entry fee) incurred by any team. This includes a situation whereby any game is cancelled in whole or part. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide all matters pertaining to the tournament. The judgment of the Tournament committee is final. The Tournament Chairman has the authority to make all decisions and these decisions will be final. All referee decisions are final and binding.

19) Special Note

Be sure to have in possession at each game:

a) Current/validated player passes
b) Matching team roster (as submitted Electronically)

c) Permission to Travel documentation (if applicable)

All teams must be prepared to show the above documentation to the field Marshals before every game. A Marshal may check each team in during warm-ups before each game. Field Marshals will be required to validate rosters and player passes prior to all Championship Games.

20) Cancellation Policy

If the entire tournament weekend is cancelled accepted teams will receive a refund at the discretion of the tournament committee after tournament financial commitments have been met. No refunds will be given if any games are played on the tournament weekend.