

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Houston City Cup “Winter Edition” Tournament Rules

## Classification and Age Division:

2<sup>nd</sup> Houston City Cup “Winter Edition” is an unrestricted Tournament at December 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Bear Creek Park. Open to all teams that are in good standing and affiliated with the following organizations: US Soccer, US Club Soccer, American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), as well as United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA). This Tournament is sanctioned by the South Texas Youth Soccer Association (STYSA) and is open to all eligible boys and girls U6 through U20 teams. There will be two levels of competition for the U9- U20 age groups: Gold (Most Competitive) and Silver. To ensure a high level of competition for all clubs, all teams will select their preferred level of competition, but the final decision of placement will be made by a board of directors who will take in to consideration various team rankings. There will be only one bracket for the U6 - U8 age group. Unless otherwise stated below, the current Laws of the Game (as published by USYSA), will apply to this competition.

## Team Registration, Application Deadline, and Check-In Information:

All registration will take place via Gotsoccer.com, and it is on a first come, first served basis. The application deadline will be Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at 11:59 PM (Midnight). The Hosting party reserves the right to close registration before the deadline due to reaching max capacity, or to extend the deadline due to empty slots. The participation fee for teams in the U6 – U8 age group is \$200. The participation fee for teams in the U9 through U10 age group is \$350. The participation fee for teams in the U11 through U12 age group is \$450. The participation fee for teams in the U13 through U20 age group is \$550. This payment must be received before a team can be scheduled to play. Schedules will be posted on the webpage on Wednesday prior to the event and may be subject to change, but the final schedule will be posted by the Friday morning. Once the schedule is posted a week before the tournament, NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN.

Please see Rainout Policy below. All questions and concerns regarding team registration, application deadline, Check-In or any other issues prior to the date of the event should be sent to: [hcsatournaments@outlook.com](mailto:hcsatournaments@outlook.com) Only!! We will respond to your concerns in a timely manner.

Check In Details		
<b>Check In Location</b>	TBA	
<b>Date and Time</b>	Friday December 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	12:00PM - 9:00PM

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All teams’ representatives must provide the following upon Tournament Check-In:

1. Official Roster with uniform numbers (Signed by the coach on record and the local Association or Club Registrar)
2. Organization approval and laminated photo ID Cards for all roster players, including the Guest Players (number of Guest Players depends on age group).
3. Adult Participant Pass/ Kid Safe (all Coaches)
4. Medical Release Form (all roster Players)
5. Medical Release Wavier (each Player)
6. Tournament Wavier Form (each Player)

All International Teams are required to present:

1. Passport at registration
2. Tournament player picture identifications card will be made for all the international players and must be presented at all matches.
3. A proof of participation approval by the team’s Federation
4. Team roster approved by the team’s Federation.

All required forms must be presented at Check In. Team rosters will be validated and Players/Adult Passes will be checked during the Tournament Check In. Both the Teams Rosters and the Player Adult Passes must be present prior to participating in any match.

Team Rosters Are Limited To:

Medical Release Forms and laminated photo ID Cards for each player will be required at Check-In, along with an official roster and all required Waivers.

Team representatives are required to Check-In at the designated location during listed times. There will NO Saturday morning Check-In unless prior arrangements are made and approved by Tournament Director. We will notify you of any last minute changes and we will answer any questions you may have at this time. You must have a team representative attend the Check-In and provide all required documents to the staff present.

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Age Group	Play Format	Roster Sizes	Guest Players	Game Day Roster Sizes
<b>U5 - U6</b>	4v4	8	Unlimited	8
<b>U7 - U8</b>	4v4	8	Unlimited	8
<b>U9 - U10</b>	7v7	12	Unlimited	12
<b>U11</b>	9v9	16	Unlimited	16
<b>U12</b>	9v9	16	Unlimited	16
<b>U13 - U15</b>	11v11	18	Unlimited	18
<b>U16 - U20</b>	11v11	22	Unlimited	18

## Team and Player Credential Check:

Each team must be able to present their validated roster and laminated photo ID Cards to either a Tournament Official or to the Referee before the start of the each match, if required. A player may play for only one team in the tournament, and must be listed on the approved roster. If a player plays in a game and may face further penalties, as determined by the tournament Director.

It is a violation for players to wear a hard cast, weather padded or not. Wearing a hard cast will not be permitted at any time.

## Game Information:

It is guaranteed that all teams will play a minimum of three games. In the event of a match resulting in tie at the end of regulation time the ties will stand.

For championship games, ties at the end of regulation time will be broken by penalty kicks.

## Game Times, Ball Size, and Number of Referees:

Age Group	Ball Size	Regular Game Length	Final Game Length	Number of Referees
<b>U5 - U6</b>	3	4 X 8 Min	No Final	1
<b>U7 - U8</b>	3	4 X 8Min	No Final	1
<b>U9 - U10</b>	4	2 X 20 Min	2 X 25 Min	1
<b>U11</b>	4	2 X 25 Min	2 X 30 Min	1
<b>U12</b>	4	2 X 25 Min	2 X 30 Min	1
<b>U13 - U15</b>	5	2 X 30 Min	2 X 35 Min	3
<b>U16 - U19</b>	5	2 X 35 Min	2 X 35 Min	3

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All teams are required to be present at the scheduled game field and ready for the pregame inspection by the referee at least 15 minutes before the schedule game time. Each team must be ready to play at the schedule time, or if there is a delay in the previous game, immediately after the game ends as determined by the referee. If not, the team is subject to forfeit the match.

Each team must present a game ball to the referee before the start of the game. The referee and captains will then select which ball will be used to play the game.

## Player Substitutions:

Free substitutions and re-entry are permitted in all ages.

Players may be substituted with the consent of the center referee at the following times:

1. Before a throw-in in your favor, or if the other team is making a substitute.
2. Prior to a goal kick by either team
3. After a goal is scored by either team
4. When the referee approves an injury substitution by one team, the other team may substitute an equal number of players
5. At halftime
6. At discretion of the referee.

No player shall enter or leave the playing field without the consent of the referee

## Playing Conditions:

The home team is listed first or on top of the schedule. Both teams shall occupy the same side of the field, as identified by the Tournament Director or by the Site Coordinator. All games spectators, including parents and unrostered visitors for both teams, will occupy the opposite side of the field. No one is allowed to stand behind the goals. A coin toss to decide which team kicks off and/or picks sides first. In case of inclement weather, the Tournament Director or the Site Coordinator will determine if the game is played.

Once the game has started, the decision to continue to stop the game rests with the referee. If the game is cancelled, it is up to the coaches of the team to check with the Tournament Director for information on rescheduling the game. Games shall be considered complete in one half of the game has elapsed. The score at the stoppage time of play will be the final score of the match. If one half of the game has not elapsed and the game is stopped, the game will be rescheduled if it affects the outcome of the tournament and if the conditions permits, as determined by the Tournament Director.

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## Player Equipment:

- Shinguards – Required for all players (No Exceptions)
- Cast: No hard casts are permitted. Soft casts are permitted with the permission of the referee.
- No metal cleats will be permitted

## Uniforms :

As a convenience to both teams, it is recommended that the Home Team wear their white uniform and the visitors wear their “colored” Uniform. Should there be a conflict in uniform colors. The home team will be required to change uniforms. Each player’s uniform should have an easily identifiable number. The shirt number of each player must be same as the player’s shirt number on the daily match report or roster. If the numbers are not the same, the referee is not to allow the player to tack part in the match until the numbers are the same. Teams without two sets of uniforms will be allowed to use “pennies” to ease team identification.

## Schedules and Standings:

Schedules and standings will be available for the teams to see at:

[www.houstoncitysocceracademy.com](http://www.houstoncitysocceracademy.com)

THEY WILL BE FREQUENTLY UPDATED

## Team Standing and Tie Breakers:

During the preliminary stage of the Tournament matches will not have overtime periods team standings will be based on the following scoring system:

Scoring System	
<b>Win</b>	3 Points
<b>Tie</b>	1 Points
<b>Loss</b>	0 Points

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Each team total points from all first-round games will determine the placement of the teams in each bracket. The two teams earning the highest total points will face each other in the finals. There will be one champion team per bracket and per age group, with the exception of those teams in the U5 through U6 brackets. If a team forfeits a match, all points earned by the team will be dropped from the calculation of the final standings.

In the event that two or more teams are tied in points at the end of the qualifying games, the following tiebreakers shall be applied in order given until a winner is determined. Never revert back to the top of the list even after a team has been eliminated from the tiebreaker.

Ties in the standings will be resolved in the following order:	
Qualifying Games (3 Game Minimum)	1. Winner of head- to- head competition
	2. Net goals (Goal difference)
	3. Goals against
	4. Most goals scored
	5. Most total wins
	6. FIFA Penalty Kicks
Championship Games	All championship games ending in a tie will go to overtime periods of 5 min), If there is still no winner, it will be followed by kicks from the mark, to determine the winner.

Tournament officials will be responsible for collecting the match results, but each coach is responsible for verifying the posted scores prior to the team’s next game.

## Awards:

Age Groups	Who will Receive?	Medals	Trophie
U9 – U20	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Team	Yes	Yes
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Team (All Players)		
U6 – U8	All Players	Yes	No

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All players in the U6 through U8 age groups will receive a participation award. For the U9 through U20 age groups only, the team in each bracket that advances to the age group final will receive a first place prize. All players on the first place team will receive an award. Awards will be presented immediately after the final game in the group.

## Team and Spectator Discipline

An ejected player is ineligible for their next scheduled game. An ejected coach or trainer is ineligible for the next scheduled game, regardless of the team. A second red card to the same player, coach, or trainer will result in that person being expelled from the tournament. Any ejected player, coach, or trainer must report to the main tent immediately. Violations could result in further game suspension.

In addition, any player or coach receiving a second caution in the tournament will be ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game. All red cards will be reported to your State Association. The coach is responsible for the actions of verbal and physical abuse of referees by his/her spectators. Such abuse will not be tolerated. Violations may result in termination of the game and further sanctions by the tournament director. Any individual that has been sent off must leave the field area within two minutes of the ejection, or the game could be terminated by the referee with further sanctions added by the tournament director. Any coach who removes his/her team from the field during a game will cause the match to be abandoned and further sanctions will be added by the Tournament Director. If any player refuses to give his or her correct name when requested by the referee or the Tournament Official, the referee will terminate the game and additional penalties could be imposed by the Tournament Director. Teams exhibiting poor sportsmanship will not be allowed to participate in subsequent 2<sup>nd</sup> Houston City Cup “Winter Edition” . Physical confrontation (fighting) will not be tolerated. Consumption of alcoholic beverages on tournament ground is prohibited. If any team engages in any of the violations stated above, that team will be disqualified and may be subjected to further sanctions as determined by the Tournament Director.

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## Team Protest and Appeals:

Protests and appeals will be allowed only in the event a team is believed to have used ineligible players. No other protest will be considered. The offending team can file a protest by submitting in writing the nature of the violation within two hours of the incident, along with a protest and appeal fee of \$200 in cash to the Discipline & Protest Staff Member. If the protest is proven valid, then the fee will be returned and corrective action will be taken by the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director must determine that the violation defined by the written protest directly affected the outcome of the game. All decisions made by the Tournament Director are final. If the protest is found no valid, the protest fee is forfeited to subsequent 2<sup>nd</sup> Houston City Cup “ Winter Edition”.

- Judgement calls by referees may not be appealed
- Disciplinary committee decisions may not be appealed. Decisions are final.

## Rainout Policy:

In the event of a total rainout or the cancelation of the tournament due to an act of God prior to the first game of the tournament, a backup date has been established for your convenience.

Tournament Rainout Location	Date
Bear Creek Park	TBA

In case of a total rainout on both dates, the tournament will be canceled and will be refunded all but \$100 which will go towards administrative costs. In the event of a partial rainout, the game will be rescheduled if possible. First and second place teams will be based on the number of games completed. No registration fee refund will be given. A reimbursement will occur within 30 days of the completion of the tournament.

## Matters No Provided For:

Any situation or question on the rules of competition not covered herein will be governed by USYSA and STYSA Administrative Rules Book. Any matter not provided for in the Tournament Rules, STYSA, or USYSA rules shall be determine by the

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Tournament Director, whose decision shall be final. Tournament Directors reserve the right to revise these rules prior the team Check -In on the date stated above.

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