

---

# Philadelphia International Cup

## August 29-September 1, 2025

---



### About

Philadelphia International Cup, <https://internationalcupseries.com/philadelphia-international-cup>, is an elite international youth soccer tournament held over 4 days in Philadelphia during Labor Day for 2025.

### Contact

Executive Director: Scott Spencer

Email: [scott@premiersoccerservices.com](mailto:scott@premiersoccerservices.com)

Tournament Director: Brandon Abell

Email: [brandon@premiersoccerservices.com](mailto:brandon@premiersoccerservices.com)

### Tournament HQ

The Proving Grounds, 725 Conshohocken Rd, Conshohocken, PA 19428

---

# Philadelphia International Cup Rules

---

Coaches and managers are responsible for ensuring that the team's roster / application includes accurate phone numbers and email addresses. They must also be familiar with the rules, online team check-in procedures, and credential requirements.

All games shall be played in accordance with the FIFA laws, except as specifically superseded by these rules.

[International Football Association Board | Laws of the Game | IFAB \(theifab.com\)](#)

## Law 1 – The Field

The field and goal size will be age appropriate per US Youth Soccer recommendations and guidelines

## Law 2 – The Ball

The ball used will be age appropriate.

- u12 & younger will use size 4 ball
- u13 & older will use size 5 ball

The home team will be responsible for providing the game balls.

## Law 3 – The Players

The game formats will be

11v11 (2013-2011)

9v9 (2014-2015)

7v7 (2016-2017)

- *This will be for the 2025/26 season*

11v11 = 22 player tournament roster (18 eligible for each game)

9v9 = 18 player tournament roster (16 eligible for each game)

7v7 = 18 player tournament roster (14 eligible for each game)

**\*\* Players may not play on 2 different teams during the tournament**

Note: SSG Modification: There is no heading at U11 and younger.

## Substitutions

- Unlimited substitutions will be made by either team at any stoppage of play at the referee 's discretion.  
(for example: throw-ins, goal kicks, kickoffs, corner kicks, after stoppage for injury, direct free kicks, indirect free kicks, drop balls, etc.)

- Substitutes ready to enter the game should be up & ready at midfield.

## Tournament Rules

- Players to be substituted should exit the field at the halfway line at their team side touchline, unless otherwise directed by the referee.

### Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

- All soccer equipment must adhere to IFAB standards.
- The HOME TEAM is responsible for wearing the lighter colored uniform. In the event of a conflict, the HOME team is responsible for changing uniforms. If the home team is international and the away team is domestic, then the away team will be responsible for changing uniforms.
- A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including jewelry).
- The Referee shall inspect all casts, braces, headgear or any other special needs and their protective coverings where applicable and determine whether a player's participation presents an unreasonable risk to the player and/or others. Such determination is specific to the game for which the inspection is being conducted and is independent of inspection and participation in other games at the tournament. It is strongly suggested that players with any of the aforementioned (or other) additional special needs check in at tournament HQ for review by the on-site referee coordinator.
- Players' jerseys should have numbers which should coincide with numbers listed on the team roster.
- All teams should have two (2) sets of jerseys in contrasting colors. All players should wear matching team shorts and team socks; one set of each will be acceptable for the team

### Law 7 – The Duration of the Match

Age Group	Players	Match Duration
U9 – U10	7v7 – Minimum 4	2 x 25 min
U11	9v9 – Minimum 4	2 x 25 min
U12	9v9 – Minimum 4	2 x 30 min
U13 – U15	11v11 – Minimum 7	2 x 35 min

**\*\* The tournament reserves the right to shorten any game(s) in the event of any weather or other delays.**

## Competition Format

### ROUND ROBIN

All teams will play a minimum of four (4) games prior to beginning the Semi-Final round on Saturday.

- Round Robin Games may end in a tie.
- Group Tie breaker procedures:
  1. Results of head-to-head competition
  2. Goal Differential (4 goal Maximum per Game)
  3. Least Goals Allowed (4 goal Maximum per Game)
  4. Number of Shutouts
  5. Most Goals Scored (4 goal Maximum per Game)
  6. FIFA Penalty Kicks (at a time and location to be determined by the Tournament Director)
- Knockout stages: All matches must result in a winner. If the game is tied after regulation, then penalty kicks per FIFA Laws of the Game will be used to determine a winner.

Championship Matches only: Resolving Ties Using Overtime Play

## Tournament Rules

*\*\*Consolation games on the last day may end in a tie.*

**STAY TO PLAY POLICY:** For all non-commuting teams, you must book their hotel rooms following the posted hotel policies of the tournament and through HBC Event Services housing system.

**Refund Policy:** Once a team has been accepted into the tournament with confirmation, there are no refunds for withdrawals.

### **COVID 19 REFUND POLICY:**

If we were forced to cancel the tournament due to federal, state, or local guidelines concerning COVID19, refunds would be issued to teams. Refunds will be determined by subtracting unreimbursed expenses.

### **Conduct:**

Players sent off and/or coaches removed from a game are automatically suspended from their team's next tournament game. Players sent off or coaches removed for fighting will not be allowed to return to the tournament. Additional suspensions for violent or unsportsmanlike conduct may be determined by the Tournament Director. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their spectators. All participants and spectators must follow the conduct policies of the associated parks departments and facilities. These include but are not limited to:

- No alcohol
- No smoking
- No verbal or physical abuse of any kind

Breaking of conduct policies will be reviewed by the Tournament Director and action may include expulsion from complex and expulsion from the tournament.

For all disciplinary matters including red cards, the tournament will report this to MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS and US Soccer Federation as required. US Soccer will report this to the home Federations of international teams.

### **Coaching / Technical Team Areas:**

- Teams are to take the same side of the field, with all parents on the opposite side.
- Coaching areas extend 10 yards each side of the halfway line.

**Forfeits:** Unless superseded by a ruling from the Tournament Director, or his appointed representative, there will be a 15-minute grace period. Forfeit-time is at the end of the grace period. A team must have seven (7) or more players present in order to begin or end a match.

Forfeited matches result in a 4-0 win / 0-4 loss and the forfeited team may continue in the tournament unless ruled actions are cause for expulsion.

# **Storm Guidelines**

---

Every attempt will be made to have all matches played. Re-scheduled games may be played under lights in the evening or may be scheduled early Saturday / Sunday morning, prior to normal starting time at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

During rainstorms, all matches will continue as scheduled unless conditions become unsafe for players.

Games will be suspended only by the Tournament Director (or appointed tournament representative) in the event of:

- Lightning
- Hailstorms
- Un-playable field conditions

Tournament Director decisions are final and not subject to appeal. Re-scheduling attempts will be made as quickly and as fairly as possible, considering referee and field availability and the normal progress of the Tournament Rules.

As a final solution, it may be necessary to employ a coin toss to determine teams advancing in knockout stages.

The safety of players, referees and spectators is the tournament's primary concern followed by fairness to the affected teams and the orderly flow of competition to Divisional Championships.

Games Suspended in the First Half:

- Attempt to complete one-half of the match prior to the next scheduled game
- If one-half of the match is completed, the game is official, and the score stands
- If one-half cannot be completed prior to the next scheduled game, then:
  - The game may be re-scheduled with a score of 0-0
  - Game may be re-scheduled before start of normal play on Sunday with the score at 0-0
  - Game may be canceled, and FIFA penalty kicks will be used to determine a winner

Matches called at Half time or during the second half will be considered as complete and final. The score at that time will stand.

Matches That Cannot Start at the Scheduled Time:

- Teams are to remain at the site to begin the match at any point possible prior to 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the next match.
- Attempt to play two equal halves, changing ends at mid-point with no break at the half.

If the shortened match time available is less than half of the regularly scheduled time, then the match shall be immediately determined by FIFA Penalty kicks.

## Tournament Rules

All matches must terminate at the time designated as the starting time of the next match unless superseded by the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director on site has the authority to declare any delayed match final, or to abandon any match due to consecutive delays.

**\*\*NOTE:** In any event, teams must report to the scheduled game site prior to the scheduled starting time, ready to play and may not leave the site until the match is canceled by a Tournament Director.

### Rescheduled Match

Information will be available at the Tournament Headquarters. Teams involved in a canceled match must have a representative check-in with the Tournament Director at HQ for re-scheduling information.

### General

All judgment decisions of the referee are final and binding and are not subject to protest.

The Tournament Director, and all sponsors and organizers, will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team or club if the tournament is cancelled in whole or part, nor will any refunds be made.

The Tournament Director reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the tournament and its judgment is final.

Official state USYSA rosters or US Club Soccer or official roster governed by recognized national association, approved guest player rosters (if applicable), laminated player identification/registration cards, and permits to travel must be presented at tournament registration. Rosters must be originals or approved copies with an original official State stamp or embossed certification on the roster.

Five (5) Guest Players are permitted. All players must be registered to the team.

International teams must check in with official team roster, player ID Cards, Passports, official travel permission notification from their governing Association/Federation.

Tournament Registration is at tournament check-in at HQ. Prior to each match, teams check in with the referee 30 minutes prior to the match. All documents must be present and available at all matches.

Referees will check player passes/cards against rosters prior to matches.

Uniform numbers must match the game day roster of all players.

All referees are certified by the US Soccer Federation in order to officiate a match.

Teams are scheduled for (3) matches during the tournament plus semifinals and finals.

Referees will report scores to the Referee assignor and field marshals will report scores to the Tournament Director.

### J. Protest:

No protests are allowed.

## **Tournament Rules**

### **Equal Rest:**

Every effort to provide scheduling that provides equal rest for each team will be a primary consideration; however, the limited fields and weather conditions may prevent this from happening. In any event, the objective is to complete the tournament in the time allowed. All divisions are flighted based on the information given about your team in the application and upon Division directors' knowledge of your team. The goal is to balance the competition as much as possible.

There are no refunds due to inclement weather cancellation of tournament matches or the tournament in whole. Every effort will be made to complete the tournament in total or partially.