

Niskayuna Soccer Club Tournament Rules

FIFA's 17 laws of the game shall apply, except as modified or amended below:

1. **Field of Play** - Field of play – modified fields and goals are used for U8 and U10 divisions. U8 divisions will play small-sided 4 vs 4 games with no goalkeeper. We will play the “dual field method” where each team is split into two squads and two simultaneous games are played between the two opposing clubs’ teams.

Spectators shall stand back at least 3 feet from the playing field at all times while games are in progress. Spectators are not allowed on the same side of the field as the players/coaches or on the end of the lines behind the goals

2. **Ball** - #3 for u8, #4 for u10 and u12, #5 for u14 and up.
3. **Number of players on the field and guest players** - Number of players on the field – For U8 division see additional info below in rule #17. For the U10 division will play with 7 players (including goalkeeper) on the field and 14 on the roster (see additional info below in rule #18). U12 division will play with 8 players (including goalkeeper) with a maximum of 16 on the roster (see additional info below in rule #19). All other levels will play 11 players (including goalkeeper) on the field and 22 on the roster. Substitutions are unlimited but can be made only with referee’s permission at the following times: before goal kicks or throw-ins by either team, after a goal is scored, and to replace an injured player. The injured player must leave the field of play. A player with exposed bleeding must leave the field and be replaced until the bleeding is stopped.

Two guest players are allowed for U8 - U10. Three guest players are allowed at U14 and older. **Guest players may only play at the same level or higher level than their primary team.**

4. **Players' equipment** - All teams shall bring numbered alternate jerseys. Coaches should attempt to resolve jersey color conflicts before the game. Home team (listed on the left hand schedule) has choice of jersey color in the event of unresolved conflict. Shirts must be tucked in. Socks up over shin guards. Goalkeeper’s jersey must be a contrasting color. Exposed bloodied clothing must immediately be covered or replaced.
5. **Referees' decisions are final.** No formal protests allowed, but designated Tournament Officials are available for clarification. The tournament committee shall have the final say over anything not specifically covered in these written rules.
6. **Duration of the game** - Game duration will be as follows:
U8 ~ 20 minute games, U10 ~ 25 minute games. These age groups will switch sides approximately half-way through the game during brief stoppage as directed by the

Tie breaker sequence is as follows (before playoffs):

Head to Head competition (ignore if more than 2 teams tied in points)

1. Most wins
2. Goal differential
3. Most shutouts

During the playoffs, an overtime period of 5 minutes (golden goal) will be added in case of a tie. Should no team score during the overtime period then penalty kicks will be taken - 5 players per team (players must be on the field at the end of the overtime period). Sudden death after first five rounds.

- 10. Offsides** - not in effect for u8's
- 11. Fouls and Misconduct** - Two yellow cards in one game, or three yellow cards during the tournament, equal to a red card for that player. For red cards, the offending player sits out the remainder of that game (the team plays short) and the next game, at a minimum. Fighting and excessively loud or persistent dissension will be grounds for ejection from the tournament (no refunds). Yellow cards and red cards will be recorded on score sheets by the referee, tracked by score reporter, and reported in accordance with CDYSL / ENYYSA directives. The conduct of team players, coaches and fans is the responsibility of the team's coach. The tournament officials expect that all participants will conduct themselves properly on and off the field, before, during and after games. Misconduct may result in team disqualification and forfeiture of tournament fees.
- 12. Penalty Kicks** - No penalty kicks for U8 Divisions (take direct kicks instead). Goalkeepers may move along the goal line prior to taking of penalty kick.
- 13. Throw-ins** - May not be directly handled by the throw-in team's goalkeeper
- 14. Goalkeepers** - Goalkeeper must put the ball into play quickly to avoid foul (indirect kick) for delay of game. Indirect foul will be called if goalkeeper directly handles (using hands) a throw in from a teammate.
- 15. Corner kicks** - Prior to taking of the kick, ball may be placed anywhere inside the corner arc lines.
- 16. Under 8 Game Rules** - U8 games will follow the dual sided game format and will use the rules established by CDYSL for this style of game.
- 17. Under 10 Game Rules** - U10 games will follow the 7v7 sided game format (max roster size of 14) and will use the rules established by CDYSL for this style of game.
- 18. Under 12 Game Rules** - U12 games will follow the 8v8 sided game (max roster size of 16) rules as recommended by USYS.