FC Long Beach would like to take this opportunity to welcome the players, coaches, referees, parents and friends to our tournament. In the next few paragraphs, we would like to explain to each of you the special information and rules of our tournament.

**ENTRY FEES**

An application must be provided and is considered incomplete without entry fee being paid. Once a team has been accepted to play in the tournament and a team withdraws no entry fee will be refunded

**GENERAL**

This is a Class 1 and Class 3 tournament open to all boys' & girls' teams under 9 - 18 from CYSA-S and USYSA National Affiliates. The application deadline is July 25, 2021 or until brackets are filled. Qualifying applications will be accepted on a first-come first-serve basis. We will be notifying teams as soon as accepted. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any application. Decisions are final.

This tournament shall be played under F.I.F.A. rules, as modified by the FC Long Beach for youth competition. All games will adhere to the rules set forth with the following additions/clarifications:

* Decisions relating to the interpretation of the Tournament Rules can only be made by the Tournament Director..
* Tournament Director may delegate authority to Site Manager or Field Marshall if Tournament Director not present at game site.
* Disputes relating to the interpretation of these rules will be resolved with the administrators/coaches that are registered with the involved team(s). Individuals may not represent a team if not registered as an administrator/coach with the involved team(s).
* All decisions, judgments, and calls of tournament referees and Tournament Director or designated Field Marshall are final. No protests will be allowed.

**Eligibility**

Teams will play in age brackets for 2021/ 2022 season. Player passes, and medical releases are required. We will also accept last season’s player cards (2020-2021)

Small Sided Fields

**7 V 7**

* Ball Size 4
* 7v7 (6 field players and 1 goalkeeper)
* Game may not start or continue if there are less than 5 players on a team
* Substitutions are unlimited and can occur at any stoppage

**9v9**

* Ball Size 4
* 9v9 (8 field players and 1 goalkeeper)
* Game may not start or continue if there are less than 6 players on a team.
* Substitutions are unlimited and can occur at any stoppage

NO Heading for U-09 through U-11**, U-12 may head the ball**

U-13 – U-19 11 V 11.

Teams must be affiliated with FIFA and/or USSF and players and coaches must have laminated cards.

Unlimited loan players will be permitted with a maximum roster size for U9 & U11 (14 **players), U13 -U16 can roster 18 players, U-17 - U-18 can roster 22 players only 18 designated per game. All USYS teams will need proper travel papers.**

**Check In Registration**

Teams will register at mandatory registration area one hour before your first game Saturday August 7, 2021 unless previously approved otherwise by the Tournament Director due to extraordinary circumstances such as travel arrangements.

There will be **no additions to the team roster after the team registers**. Player cards or medical releases may be accepted later by Field Marshall but only if player is listed on the official team roster at time of registration.

At registration, a complete and signed Team Roster must be submitted by Coach or Manager who must certify that all players are FIFA and/or USSF for the 2020 -21 or 2021-2022.

**Laminated player cards with photo and the player's signature** (for States or Countries that require signatures, photos and/or laminated cards for identification) and medical release forms will be required at registration.

**Check-In -Game before each game:**

Teams will check-in 1 hour prior to game time at game site. Field Marshals will check in all teams and will hold player ID cards during match. Coach or Team Administrator will hold Medical Release forms. The Field Marshall will hold ID cards and match cards, which must be signed by Coach or Team Administrator.

**Conduct**

The following rules of conduct apply:

· All coaches have complete responsibility for the conduct of their players, bench, friends, and spectators at all times.

· If, in the opinion of game officials, a game must be terminated for misconduct of players, bench or spectators, the offending team can be suspended from further play and forfeit that game and all remaining games. In this event, all previous points earned remain as played.

· Any player or coach ordered from the field of play (RED CARD) will not be allowed to participate in the next match as a minimum and if violent conduct occurs the player or coach may be ejected for remainder of tournament at discretion of Tournament Director. Two YELLOW cards during match shall be ejected for remainder of the match and may serve a one game suspension at the discretion of the Tournament Director. **A one-point deduction will be given to the offending team for each red card (double yellow included).**

* Disciplinary measures imposed by this tournament organization for inappropriate behavior shall be limited to placing restrictions upon an individual player, coach, and spectator or team's participation in the tournament. Such disciplinary action will be as determined by and at the discretion of the Tournament Director or designated Field Marshall and can include exclusion from further tournament participation
* Any cards issued will be reported to US Club and USYS in a tournament report and thereby to the home club/league of the player, coach, team or supporters involved except that all matters involving a referee assault shall, in accordance with USSF Rule II08, be referred immediately to USYS and US Club Soccer.

The home state association and the home club/league of the player, coach, team or supporters shall, except in the case of referee assault, have the responsibility for imposing, should the circumstances warrant, additional sanctions within their respective jurisdictions with regard to matters arising from the tournament.

* All players are required to use shin guards at all times. No shin guards - No play!
* **No player may compete in the Tournament on more than one team**.

**Competition Format**

Home teams are listed first and will choose sides in case of a conflict. The home team will change jerseys in case of a color conflict. Home Team provides game ball.

**All games will begin on time. A forfeit will be declared if a team cannot field a minimum of seven (7) players at start time.**

Preliminary round game times may be varied by Field Marshall to maintain game start schedules. These games may end in a tie. All preliminary games will be held on Saturday and Sunday.

Teams will be grouped into divisions according to age and gender and will play all their games within their assigned divisions.

· Teams/players will compete based on 2020/ 2021 age groups.

· All teams will play minimum of 3 games unless the scheduled games are shortened or canceled due to rain, unforeseen circumstances such as critical injury or acts of God

· The Tournament reserves the right to alter the game formats to enhance competition and to improve the overall quality of the Tournament. Teams will compete in Four, Six, Eight, Ten, Twelve, and Sixteen team divisions as follows:

**COMPETITION FORMAT**

The Tournament reserves the right to alter the game formats to enhance competition

and to improve the overall quality of the Tournament.

Home teams are listed first.

Divisions will play as follows:

Flight of 5 Teams:

Round Robin play. The top two teams with the most points. Get Champion and Finalist.

SIX TEAM DIVISIONS

Will consist of two (2) groups of three (3) teams each. They will play a cross-over format.

EIGHT TEAM DIVISIONS

Will consist of two (2) Groups of four (4) teams each. Each team will play the other teams in its Group for a total of three (3) preliminary round games. The winner of Group A will play the winner of Group B for the Championship.

Semifinal #1. The winner of Group C will play the winner of Group D in Semifinal #2. The winner of Semifinal #1 will play the winner of Semifinal #2 for the Championship.

The semifinal winners will meet for the Championship.

**Quarterfinal and semifinal games ending in a tie, after regulation time, will go immediately to F.I.F.A. kicks** Qualifying matches ending in a tie will stand. Quarter-final and Semi-final matches ending in a tie will proceed immediately to FIFA penalty kicks to determine a winner.

Championship games tied after regulation will play two complete overtime halves. Under 14 through Under 19 will play two complete 10-minute overtime halves. Under 11 to Under-13 will play two complete 7-minute overtime halves. U-8 to U-10 will play two complete 5 minutes’ overtime halves. If a tie still exists after two complete overtime halves, FIFA Penalty Kicks will determine the game.

**Teams will present themselves at the field to the Field Marshal for check-in 30 minutes prior to game time. All matches will have a 5 minutes’ grace period to appear with at least 7 players to avoid a forfeit.** The home team is the first team listed in the schedule, has choice of field side, must provide the game ball, and must change jerseys in the event of a referee determined color conflict with the opposing team. Teams and spectators must be on opposite sides of the field or as instructed by tournament officials with teams being on one side and spectators on the other.

All **Round (Prelim) Robin, Quarter Final, and Semi-Final games** will consist of the following periods with a five (5) minute half time:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Age Brackets** | **Each Half** |
| 2005 - 2003  2007 - 2006 | 35 minutes  35 minutes |
| 2009 – 2008 | 30 minutes |
| 2011 - 2010 | 25 minutes |
| 2014 – 2012 | 20 minutes |
|  |  |

**Championship games** will consist of the following periods with a five (5) minute half time:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Age Brackets** | **Each Half** |
| 2005- 2003 | 35 minutes |
| 2007 – 2006 | 35 minutes |
| 2009 - 2008  2011 - 2010 | 30 minutes  25 minutes |
| 2014 – 2012 | 20 minutes |

**Substitutions**

Will be allowed during natural stoppage of the match at the referee's discretion. For Divisions U-8 thru U-19, free substitution and re-entry will be allowed. Or

· Prior to a throw-in.

· Prior to a goal kick by either team

· After a goal, by either team

· After an injury to either team, when the referee stops play

· During half-time

· Prior to the start of either overtime period

· A player receiving a yellow card may be substituted for at the time of the caution

**STANDINGS**

The following point system will be used to determine 1st in each group and the wildcard selection during preliminary rounds:

· **Three (3) points for each win**

* One (1) points for a tie
* Zero (0) points for a loss
* A forfeit is a 1-0 win
* One (-1) point deduction for each ejection (red card or double yellow on a coach or a player).

At the end of each game, the **Coach or Team Administrator must carefully review and sign the score card**. Coach or Team Administrator should review FC Long Beach’s website to verify scores properly recorded and contact Field Marshal and/or Tournament Director immediately of any possible errors. The score card is official match record and may not be changed except under the following circumstances:

**Forfeits/Team Disqualifications**

If a team forfeits due to a no show or not having enough players during the preliminary round, the following will apply “Forfeit one-forfeit all”. If a team forfeits in a later round, only that match will be forfeited. If a team doesn’t have their player cards present by the end of the match, only that match will be forfeited. Games will be recorded as a 1-0 victory for the opposing team. **Any team that forfeits will be reported to their State Association**

**Score corrections:**

* If Coaches/Team Administrators of both teams meet with Field Marshal and agree to a score correction, the Field Marshal will correct the score and other records accordingly.
* Scores incorrectly posted on Website shall be investigated by Field Marshall by checking original match record and corrected accordingly.

**Red Card corrections:**

* If Referee verifies incorrect player was recorded as receiving Red Card (includes double Yellow), Field Marshal (with Tournament Director’s approval) may correct records accordingly.

**TIE BREAKERS and WILD CARDS**

For 12 team divisions, the wild card team will be the team that does not win their bracket, with the highest point total of all three brackets. In the event of a tie on point totals for Wild card (or within any Bracket), the following tie breaking system will apply.

· **Head to Head (where applicable).**

· Goal Differential total all goals counting for **(maximum 5 in any individual game) minus total all goals counting against (maximum 5 in any individual game)**

· Goals Scored, total goals counting for **(maximum 5 in any individual game**)

· Goals Allowed, total goals counting against **(maximum 5 in any individual game**)

· F.I.F.A. kicks from the penalty mark

(unless otherwise mutually agreed by both Coaches or Team Administrators, scheduled 30 minutes prior to next match at match site—special goal may be used)

**CONCUSSION INITIATIVE FOR ALL AGE GROUPS**

Per U.S. Soccer’s Concussion Initiative, if a player is suspected to have a head injury the referee is instructed to stop play to allow for treatment/evaluation as needed If the player leaves the field of play for additional evaluation, a substitution can be made in that moment. The player with the suspected head injury may not return to the game. Unless a Health Care Professional has cleared the player**. Any coach or parent insisting on returning the player to the game without approved clearance will result in the referee ending the game**

**Special Rules**

In the event of an unusual event that results in a significant loss of game time, the lost game time may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Tournament Co-Directors. The rescheduling of the lost game time is subject to field availability. An example of an unusual event would be a major injury to a player, which prevented the use of the playing field. The Tournament defines a significant loss of game time as more than half of the game. An accumulation of time delays due to minor/moderate injuries to several players would not constitute an unusual event nor will these delays be considered lost game time. An accumulation of time delays resulting from the normal course of a game will not be considered lost game time.

**Tournament Director/Site Manager** may shorten games as necessary to make sure all matches scheduled on a given field are played. For example, a field running behind schedule due to an injury may have all remaining games shortened by few minutes each game so that each game gets played.

**In case of inclement weather or field conditions, games may:**

· Be shortened

· Go to F.I.F.A. kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner

· Be canceled

**REFUND POLICY**

**No Refunds** after you have been accepted**. No REFUNDS on Forfeiture of games No exceptions.** If the Tournament is canceled due to Inclement Weather Prior to the Start of Competition, teams will be issued partial refunds as determined by the Tournament Committee, after a reasonable amount has been deducted for incurred tournament costs.

**PROTEST**

FC Long Beach Tournament Committee will accept no protest.

***We Thank You and best*** ***wishes to all the teams participating. May you enjoy and play your games in the true Spirit of Soccer!***