



# 40<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FC TUCSON STRIKERS CUP TOURNAMENT (FORMERLY TSA) STAY AND PLAY

## 2018 RULES OF PLAY

All games will be played under FIFA rules (as modified by US Club Soccer/USYSA/AYSA) unless otherwise stated herein. The 2018 program rules supersede earlier published rules versions. The Tournament Director or designated member or members of the Discipline and Rules Committee will settle all disputes. See your site Field Marshal for contact information. Tournament rules may be modified under extraordinary circumstances as deemed necessary by the Tournament Director or designee. ***No protests will be accepted or considered.***

Any questions regarding the rules of the tournament or challenges concerning the eligibility of a player should be addressed to the Tournament Director at Tournament Headquarters prior to the beginning of the game.

### **TOURNAMENT CHECK-IN**

Tournament check-in will be Friday, September 21, 2018. 4:00 – 9:00 PM  
Location: Radisson Suites at 6555 E. Speedway

### **CHECK-IN**

Teams must arrive (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start of each game and report to the check in booth at the field. At that time, tournament personnel will check in player cards and complete an equipment safety check. Coaches must have their players' Medical Releases in their possession at all times.

### **EQUIPMENT**

U7-U8 will play with a size (3) ball, U9-U12 will play with a size (4) ball and U13-U19 will play with a size (5) ball. All players are required to wear shin guards under socks. No jewelry may be worn in competition. Players shall wear approved boots (***no*** center cleats). All players must wear numbered (minimum 6" on back of jersey) uniforms with no duplicated numbers on a team.

If player has a soft cast, must have a doctor's release and approval from the referee to play. **HARD CASTS will be evaluated and the final decision will be made by the referee. If the CAST can be wrapped and protected it may be allowed.** NO jewelry is allowed including taped earrings. Players not in compliance will be CAUTIONED (yellow carded) and sent off the field until the requirement is met.

### **HOME TEAMS**

The home team will be the team named first in the game schedule. In the event of uniform color conflict, the home team must change jerseys. The home team will supply the game ball (the ball must meet age group appropriate size and weight, and is subject to the approval of the referee), unless tournament officials supply one. The home team will start the game from the north or east side of the pitch.

## SEATING

In ALL GAMES, both players and coaches will be on the one side of the field and all spectators on the other. The coaches will decide which side will be the "team" side and notify the referee prior to the game. Spectators should be seated between the coaching box (an area approximately 10 yards to each side of the center line) and the goal box and at least 2 yards from the side touch line. Both teams are responsible for cleaning the sidelines

## PLAYING FORMAT

AGE GROUP	FORMAT
U7-U8	4v4
U9-U10	7v7
U11-U12	9v9
U13-U19	11v11

## GAME TIMES

PLAYING TIMES	ALL GAMES
U7-U8	Two 15 minute halves
U9-U10	Two 20 minute halves
U11-U12	Two 25 minute halves
U13-U14	Two 30 minute halves
U15-U19	Two 35 minute halves

Half-time breaks will be exactly five (5) minutes long. The referee may start the clock for the second half if, in his or her opinion, there has been unnecessary delay.

## ROSTER SIZES

AGE GROUP	ROSTER SIZE
U7-U8	12
U9-U10	14
U11-U12	16
U13-U14	18
U15-U19	22

## COACHING

All Head coaches have total responsibility for the conduct of their assistant coaches, team officials, players, and spectators at all times. Coaching from the sidelines (giving directions to ones own team on points of strategy and position) is permitted if:

- No mechanical devices are used and the tone of the voice is instructive and not derogatory.
- No coach, team official, player or spectator uses profanity or incites, in any manner, disruptive behavior.
- No coach, team official, player or spectator makes derogatory remarks or gestures to the referees, other coaches, players or spectators.

**Both** coaches will **sign** the match card in front of the center referee, when the match is finished, attesting to its accuracy. The Head coach or Team manager is responsible for **picking up** players passes after each match.

## GUEST PLAYERS

Each team will be allowed up to 5 guest players with the exception of U7-U10 teams which will be allowed 3 guest players.

## DUAL ROSTERED PLAYERS

If a player is rostered on more than one team, that player may only play on one team during the term of the tournament.

## FORFEITURES

Teams failing to check-in at the site coordinator's tent (15) minutes prior to their scheduled kick-off time or failing to report ready to play within (5) minutes of scheduled kick-off time may forfeit their match. All teams must have a minimum of (7) players present to start the match. Teams who have forfeited may continue on in the tournament.

## REFEREES

All referees working this tournament must be certified by the Federation. All referee decisions are final and not subject to appeal. The center referee will fill out the match card and give it to the Field Marshal immediately after the match is finished.

## INJURY

Referees will be instructed *not* to add time to a match except under the most extenuating circumstances. However, all preliminary matches will be terminated not less than (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the next match.

## CONCUSSION/HEAD INJURY POLICY

Any athlete suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury shall be immediately removed from tournament play and not permitted to return until he/she has received written **clearance from a licensed Medical Doctor (MD or DO). Clearance by Physician Assistants, RN's or LPN's will not qualify for the state policy.** This policy is in conformity with AYSA policies. Referee will note on the game card that player suffered Head Injury and was taken out of game. Player pass will be pulled from ring and along with completed injury report given to the site coordinator. The site coordinator will give the player a form to be completed by an **MD or DO only. Players cleared before the end of tournament, must bring their written clearance to a tournament official (the site coordinator) before resuming play.** If the athlete is not cleared by the end of tournament, the player pass will be sent to state AYSA office.

## SUBSTITUTIONS

*Unlimited* substitution will be allowed in all age groups, with the Center Referee's permission, and only at the following times:

- Prior to throw-in by the team in possession.
- Prior to a goal kick by either team.
- At half time.
- After a goal is scored by either team.
- After an injury on either team when Center Referee stops play.
- If a coach goes onto the pitch to tend to a player
- On a Yellow card, only the cautioned player may be substituted at that time.

Note- If coach goes onto pitch to tend to a player, that player **must** leave the field until the next stoppage.

## TOURNAMENT SCORING

Teams shall be awarded points for match results as follows:

- A. **(3) points for each win.**  
**(0) points for each loss.**  
**(1) point for each tie (including 0-0 tie).**
- B. For a forfeited match, the winner will be credited with a 1-0 win and awarded (3) points. A maximum of (5) minutes allowed from match time to forfeit time.
- C. **No** points will be awarded if neither team shows up.
- D. Any team leaving the field prior to determination of a winner shall forfeit the match.
- E. A match is considered official upon completion of one half of play regardless of the circumstances of termination during the second half with final results based on the score at termination.
- F. Final standings for the pool will be determined by the total number of points accumulated during pool play.
- G. Scores of each match played will be posted on the Official Score Boards located by the Tournament Headquarters tent after the Field Marshals report each match score.

## TIE BREAKING WITHIN A POOL

Ties in pool standings will be broken by employing a tiebreaker.

1. Head to Head (if more than 2 teams are tied, immediately move to tiebreaker #2).
2. Largest goal differential (Goals For minus Goals Against with a maximum differential of 6 goals for or against per match).
3. Most goals scored (maximum of (6) per match).
4. Least goals allowed.
5. FIFA penalty kicks (site and time at the discretion of Tournament Director). (11) players from a team (9 players for U11-U12, 7 players for U9-U10) must be ready to participate within (5) minutes of appointed time or else that team will forfeit its opportunity to prevail in the tiebreaker.

## TIE BREAKING IN SEMI-FINAL AND CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

If the score is still tied at the conclusion of regulation time in any Semi-Final or Championship match, both teams will take penalty kicks as described below until a winner is determined...NO OVERTIME. **No** Semi-Final or Championship match shall end in a tie.

**PK Procedures-** Only the (4) U7-U8, the (7) U9-U10, the (9) U11-U12, and the (11) U13-U19 players on the field at the conclusion of regulation may participate. The Center Referee will gather all the players on the field at the end of regulation time and not allow them to go to their respective sidelines. They are the *only* players who will shoot the PK's. After the initial (5) PK's are taken and there is **no** winner, each team will take an equal number of PK's (one for one) until a winner is determined. If need be, all (11, 9 or 7) players will be used and then each team will begin again in the same order they started in.

## EJECTION'S

AYSA rules prohibit any coach, team official or player ejected from a match, or suspended by the proper authority, to be within sight or hearing distance of the field of play during his/her suspension. A coach, team official or player receiving two cautions (yellow cards) in a single match is considered to have been given an ejection (red card). A player who has been ejected (sent off) shall not be replaced. Players and/or coaches receiving a red card will be ejected from the game and will not participate in the next scheduled game and other penalties may be assessed depending upon the offense. The player pass will be held by the Discipline and Rules Committee at Tournament Headquarters until the player is eligible to play again. Last-game red cards will be referred to AYSA (the "State Association") for in-state teams. In addition, leagues may be advised of the offense.

Any coach, team official or player who assaults a referee will be expelled from the tournament. **FIGHTING** will not be tolerated for any reason. Coaches, team officials, players or spectators sent off for fighting (striking or attempting to strike another coach, team official, player or spectator) will not be allowed to participate in any further tournament matches. Coaches, team officials, players or spectators who enter the field of play for any reason, in the event of a fight, will be ejected from the tournament. If the coaches, team officials, players or spectators cannot be identified, the entire team will be removed from the tournament. **No** refunds will be made to any team that is removed from the tournament for fighting or for any other reason. The coach/team official shall forfeit the carded coach's, team official or player's pass to the Center Referee for red cards who will give the pass and the match report to the Field Marshal. The coach, team official or player in question shall be ineligible until the pass is returned to said coach, team official or player by the Tournament Committee. Any coach or team official that is coaching more than one team in the tournament and is suspended on one team, is automatically suspended from any other teams until the suspension has been served for the team coach was suspended for. If, in the opinion of the Center Referee, a match must be terminated because of misconduct by players, coach(es) or spectators, the offending team forfeits that match and will be suspended from further play in all remaining matches, which would be forfeits. Previous points earned and any awards or other considerations will be forfeited. In addition, the home league and State Association will be contacted. Any verbal abuse directed at committee members, referees or other volunteers will also result in suspension and ejection. Referees have complete authority during all matches and will **not** allow abusive or profane language, threats of any kind or any style of play that detracts from the Game of Soccer.

## **ALTERNATE MATCH SCHEDULING**

The Tournament Committee has the authority to alter the schedule, move matches to the next day or move match sites for the good of the tournament. All matches will be played if at all possible.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER OR UNEXPECTED TERMINATION OF PLAY**

Matches will be played in all weather conditions, unless the City of Tucson, Pima County Parks and Recreation, Center Referee, or Tournament Director determines the conditions are dangerous and/or life threatening as per FIFA/USYSA/AYSA regulations or may cause severe damage to the fields. The Tournament Committee will do everything in their control to make sure all matches are played, but if it is out of their control, the standings at that time will be final. **No** refunds will be given! If a team forfeits or is suspended by a referee, the other teams scheduled to play that teams remaining matches have **no** right to a refund.

### **Contingency Plan:**

Plan A: Tournament start time will be set back the number of time slots required.

Plan B: Shorten all first round matches to: U7-U8 (10) minute halves, U9-U10 (15) minute halves. U11-U12 20 minute halves, U13-U14 25 minute halves, U15-U17,U19 (30) minute halves.

Plan C: Plan B plus shorten all second round matches the same as Plan B.

Plan D: Plan C plus shorten all third round matches the same as Plan C.

Plan E: In the event the fields become totally unplayable or the weather becomes a safety risk, it may be necessary to decide some matches with FIFA penalty kicks or cancel the tournament play and send the teams home. Tournament placement will be determined by standings at time of tournament stoppage.

## **DISPUTES**

All disputes shall be settled by the Tournament Committee and their decision shall be final. Disputes that will be heard will include player eligibility and tournament rules **ONLY!** Disputes must be turned in within 20 minutes after match is terminated with both coaches signing the match card that there is a dispute. The dispute will be adjudicated within 20 minutes for a total of 40 minutes after match is finished. Only

one (1) person representing the team in dispute will be allowed at the Headquarters tent. **NO** protests or appeals will be allowed. **NO** refunds will be issued for any reason after the tournament acceptance letter has been emailed.

## **AWARDS**

All players will receive a participation pin. Participation prizes will be awarded for ages U7-U10. First and second place medals will be awarded to all winning teams in each flight immediately following the championship game. If a flight does not have a championship game and is decided solely on points, medals will be awarded following the last game of flight play. ***Awards will not be mailed to teams failing to stay for presentations. Please pick up your medals before leaving the field.***

## **RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

Once a team is accepted to participate in the Tucson Soccer Academy Tournament, they shall agree to release, hold harmless and indemnify the Tucson Soccer Academy / Arizona Youth Soccer Association / Pima County Junior Soccer League/ The City of Tucson (and their field complexes) / Pima County Parks and Recreation (and their field complexes), and all of the Board members, officials, coaches, referees, sponsors and their employees, agents, officers and directors of the aforementioned entities from any and all liability for injury, or damage to persons, property, or economic interests connected with or arising out of any action taken by them in good faith or out of any failure by them to act. In the event of inclement weather or other uncontrollable force of nature or event, the Tournament Director, the City of Tucson, and Pima County Parks and Recreation shall be the sole and exclusive judge of whether the tournament shall be held, canceled, continued or postponed and we hereby release the TSA Soccer Tournament and all of the persons or entities mentioned above from any and all liability for direct or consequential damages resulting from the exercise by them of such judgment and recognize and accept all decisions of the tournament as final without objection, appeal or compensation whatsoever. We certify that each player registered by us for the tournament is covered by an approved insurance plan. Payment of entry fee and acceptance to tournament constitutes acceptance of: Release of Liability, tournament guidelines, format and Tournament Rules.

***NO Alcoholic Beverages, illegal drugs or glass containers allowed in complexes.***

***NO Smoking at or near the tournament fields/concessions.***

***NO pets/animals will be allowed at the Complexes.***

***Please pick up trash at the end of your matches.***

**HAVE FUN AND GOOD LUCK!**