

2011 Clinton Spring Classic Rules

Eligibility:

The tournament is open to accepted and pre-registered teams composed of no more than 22 players for U14 and above, unless approved by Mississippi Soccer Association (MSA); no more than 16 players for U12 unless approved by MSA; no more than 12 players for U10 unless approved by MSA; and no more than 8 players for U8 unless approved by MSA.

Laws of the Game:

All games shall be played in accordance with FIFA laws, as modified by MSA and USYSA.

Field and Game Equipment:

- A. *MSA rules* mandate the wearing of shin guards by all players in the games within the State of Mississippi. SHIN GUARDS ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL PLAYERS.
- B. Players must wear numbers on their uniforms.
- C. When uniform colors are similar, the designated home team will provide an alternate jersey (t-shirts are accepted).
- D. The designated home team shall provide the game ball(s). Home team is listed first on the game schedule.

The Ball Size:

U8 – Size 3, U10 – U12 Size 4, U14 – U19 Size 5

Game Protests:

There will be no protests allowed.

The Tournament Committee's interpretation of these rules and regulations will be **final**. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on any and all matters pertaining to the tournament.

Reporting Game Scores:

The Referee must report the game scores to the Tournament Headquarters within 30 minutes of the completion of the game.

Substitutions:

- A. Substitutions only on the Quarter breaks and at half-time.
- B. To replace a cautioned or injured player, with the referee's permission.
- C. Red-carded players may not be substituted. (Team must play short the rest of the game.)
- D. **Each Team will be ALLOWED Two (2) Guest Players**

Conduct:

- A. Players, coaches, and spectators are expected to conduct themselves within the spirit of the Law. Displays of temper or dissent are causes for ejection from the game, the field area and the park.

- B. Both teams will be benched on the same side of the field, with all spectators on the other side.
- C. Players (Red Cards), coaches, and team officials ejected from a game by the referee must report to tournament headquarters for the remainder of the game and shall be ineligible to play or participate in their next scheduled game.
- D. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PERMITTED AT GAME SITES.
- E. MECHANICAL NOISEMAKERS ARE PROHIBITED.
- F. AIR HORNS and WHISTLES ARE PROHIBITED
- G. GLASS CONTAINERS ARE PROHIBITED ANY WHERE IN THE PARK.
- H. COACHES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UP THEIR GAME SITE.
- I. NO PETS OR ANIMALS ARE ALLOWED.

Duration of Games:

Age	Bracket Play	Age	Bracket Play
U8	4 - 8 minute quarters	U14	4 - 15 minute quarters
U10	4 - 10 minute quarters	U16	4 - 17 minute quarters
U12	4 - 12 minute quarters	U19	4 - 20 minute quarters

**** U8 will be playing 4 v 4; no goal keeper allowed in the box until a shot is made on goal.**

Coaches will be Warned, Cautioned and then Removed for persistent infringement of this rule.

Semi-final and final games will be played at regulation length.

Determination of Group Winners:

Each team will be awarded points, as follows.

- 6** points for **WIN**
- 3** points for **TIE**
- 0** points for **LOSS**
- 1** point for a **TEAM GOAL** (up to 3)
- 1** point for a **SHUTOUT**
- 10** points **MAXIMUM**, per game
- 4** points for **0-0 TIE**

There will be a 3 goal **MAXIMUM** per game **FOR** or **AGAINST**
FORFEIT results in **3 goals FOR** and **0 goals AGAINST**

NOTE: A team that forfeits may play all games, but all scores will be recorded as a forfeit.

Should two or more teams accumulate an equal number of points in bracket play or round robin play, the following tie breakers will be used in the order listed.

- A. 3 goals maximum per game for or against apply
- B. Winner of head to head competition
- C. Highest goal difference (goals FOR minus goals AGAINST).
- D. Least total goals AGAINST.
- E. Highest total goals FOR.

Kicks from the mark (FIFA Rules).

In the event that an age group has a bracket in which the 2nd best overall team advances, and that team comes from the bracket in which they are scheduled to play the semi-final game, the Tournament Director reserves the right to rearrange the brackets for semi-final play.

Tied Games at the end of Regulation Play – Advanced Rounds (semi-finals and finals games only)

- I. Two five-minute over-time periods will be played for U10 – U12
- II. Two ten-minute over-time periods will be played for U14 – U19
- III. If the score is tied at the end of the two over-time periods, then FIFA Shots from the Mark will decide the outcome.
- IV. Except for U8's, We will play Two four-minute over-time periods. If the score is tied at the end of the two over-time periods, then each team will remove one player from the field and play again. We will continue this format until a winner is decided.

Failure to show or forfeiture of games:

- A. Any team quitting the field of play before the conclusion of the game is automatically disqualified from the tournament. A team may play with as few as six (6) players for U10 and seven (7) players for all other ages.
- B. In the event that game cancellation creates a situation where teams within the division are unable to play an equal number of qualifying games, the group winner will be determined on the basis of average tournament points for games played (including the tie breaker procedure). The team with the highest average points will be declared the winner of the group.

Game Clock:

- A. All games will start on time.
- B. There will be no grace period.
- C. The game clock will be kept on the field and will not be stopped because of an injury to any player unless, at the discretion of the referee, the injured player is required to be removed from the field by medical personnel.

Inclement Weather:

No games will be played if lightning is in the area. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS! The Head Referee or Tournament Director / Tournament Staff can suspend play due to weather. Only the Tournament Director / Tournament Staff may cancel a game due to weather.

- A. Games shall be considered completed if the first half has concluded and play is stopped either by the Field Referee or the Tournament Director / Tournament Staff. The score at stoppage of play will be the final game score.
- B. If the first half has not been completed and the game is stopped, every effort will be made to complete the game, or play to complete at least the first half and record the score as final. If a game is cancelled before it has started, every effort will be made to reschedule the game.
- C. In the event that the rescheduling is not possible and game cancellation creates a situation where teams within the division are unable to play an equal number of qualifying games, the group winner will be determined on the basis of average tournament points for games played (including

the tie breaker procedure). The team with the highest average points will be declared the winner of the group.

- D. In the event of a tie that cannot be resolved by point averaging, the advancing teams will be determined by a coin toss or by FIFA penalty kicks as directed by the Tournament Director / Tournament Staff.

Tournament Headquarters:

- A. The tournament headquarters will be located inside the office building at Traceway Park for both day and night games. Due to space issues, we are asking each team to only send one representative to this location during the tournament.
- B. The Tournament shall NOT be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team or individual, if the tournament is canceled in whole or in part for any reason.
- C. No refund will be guaranteed, if the whole or part of the tournament is cancelled.
- D. Referees, Linesmen, Field Marshals, and Event Staff are authorized to take appropriate action to maintain order.

Additional Tournament Rules

Campers and RVs are NOT ALLOWED in the parking lots of the Traceway Park soccer complex and must be parked at the baseball fields across from the soccer fields.

The gates to Traceway Park open at 7:00 AM and are closed and locked at 10:00 PM. Any vehicle left in the soccer complex parking lots after the gates are locked will remain behind the locked gates until the park is reopened the next day.

Vehicles are to park in designated parking places only. Do Not park on the grass, on the side of the road, on the sidewalks, or on the islands throughout the park. Violators will be ticketed and towed.