

**2018 Jersey Shore Champions Cup
Tournament Rules**

1. REGISTRATION

Each participating team must be registered for competition in a soccer league affiliated with the USSF of National equivalent. Teams from outside New Jersey must provide Permission to Travel Form approved by a USSF representative. Team rosters must be submitted to the Tournament Director prior to the tournament. Up to five (5) guest players will be permitted. Player passes will be collected prior to each game by the field coordinator. No player will be allowed to participate without a valid player pass.

2. FIFA RULES

FIFA rules will govern play except as modified herein.

3. SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions, without limit, **may be made with the permission of the referee** at the following instances:

- Any stoppage of play.

4. LENGTH OF THE GAME

<u>Age Group</u>	<u># of Players on Field</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>	<u>Game Length</u>
U8	7	4	2 X 25 min
U9	7	4	2 X 25 min
U10	7	4	2 X 25 min
U11	9	4	2 X 30 min
U12	9	4	2 X 30 min
U13	11	5	2 X 30 min
U14	11	5	2 X 30 min
U15	11	5	2 X 30 min
U16	11	5	2 X 30 min

5. DELIBERATELY HEADING THE BALL (U11 Age Groups and Younger)

Players in U11 and younger age groups may not deliberately head the ball in soccer matches.

- If a player deliberately heads the ball and the ball remains in play, the referee will immediately stop play and restart with an indirect free kick as per Law 13.
- If a player deliberately heads the ball and the ball immediately goes out of play, the referee will restart in accordance as to how the ball went out of play (throw-in, goal kick, corner kick)
- If a player is inadvertently struck in the head with the ball, there is no rule infraction. However, if the referee will follow current practice and if the player is deemed injured, the referee will immediately stop play, have the player removed and restart with a drop ball.

In all cases the referee will assess the player to determine if the player is injured.

Notes:

A goal may not be scored by any player that deliberately heads the ball. Denying an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity does not apply to heading the ball as this action is not a foul.

Referees will enforce these rules for the U11 age groups and younger. It is the responsibility of the team's coach/manager to ensure any player aged 10 or younger who may be "playing up" on a U12 or older team, will not head the ball during the game.

6. COACHING

Coaches must restrict themselves to the coach's area, ten yards from either side of midfield and two yards back from the touchline.

7. CONDUCT

Players, coaches and spectators are expected to conduct themselves properly. There will be NO harassment of the referees or assistant referees. The Officials of this tournament are empowered to eject any offenders from the playing area. The Tournament Committee may award a forfeit on the advice of the referee if the harassment should persist.

8. EJECTION

A player that has been ejected from the game must sit out one game after the ejection. A player ejected for fighting (violent conduct) will be suspended from play for three games or the remainder of the tournament, whichever is greater. Any team whose bench players or spectators enter onto the field during the game without the permission of the referee will forfeit their remaining games and that team will be ejected from the tournament. All players suspended from play will be reported to the NJYSA. The referee coordinator will hold the players pass during the suspension period or until the end of the tournament, whichever comes first.

9. FORFEITS

In the event of a forfeit, the final score will be 3-0. A forfeit may be awarded by the Tournament Director as indicated in rule seven (7). A forfeit will be invoked in the case of a team failing to show up for a scheduled game. There will be a 10 minute grace period after the scheduled kick off before a forfeit is invoked. A team forfeiting a game will NOT be allowed to advance.

10. PROTESTS

There will be NO protests

11. DETERMINATION OF TEAM WINNERS

Each team will be awarded (3) points for a win and one (1) point for a tie. In the event of a tie for a group (pool) winner, the following criteria will be used to break the tie:

- A. Most Wins.
- B. Head to head competition.
- C. Fewest goals against.
- D. Goal differential to a maximum of (4) per game.
- E. FIFA penalty kicks - to be taken at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled game.

In recognition of fair play, teams will lose one (1) point for goals beyond a six (6)-goal differential.

For example, a 9-0 game will be scored as two (2) points for the winning team (three (3) for the win, minus one (-1) for goal differential penalty) and zero (0) for the losing team.

12. FINAL GAMES - If a game ends in a tie, Two 5 minute overtime periods may be played. Teams will switch sides of the field after the 1st 5 minute OT period. Golden Goal will apply during the OT. If the game is still tied at the end of the overtime period, Kicks from the Penalty Mark will follow to determine the winner.

13. TOURNAMENT FORMAT: Draw Group Playoffs

- A. 4 Teams 1w/4 teams Final
- B. 5 Teams 1w/5 teams None
- C. 6 Teams 2w/3 teams Final
- D. 8 Teams 2w/4 teams Final
- E. 10 Teams 1w/4 & 2w/3 Semi Final & Final
- F. 12 Teams 3w/4 teams Semi Final & Final
(4 Team for semi-final games are: 3 group winners & a wildcard)
Wildcard team is determined by the following:
 - _Most wins
 - _Fewest goals against
 - _Goal differential to a maximum of (4) per game

G. 16 Teams 4w/4 teams Semi Final & Final

14. U8/U9/U10 (7v7) and U11/U12 (9v9) TEAMS

U8, U9 and U10 teams will NOT be permitted to play up unless authorized by the Tournament Director.

U8, U9, U10, U11 and U12 (9v9) teams will play 3 games with a Championship Game.

15. CANCELLATION/Disaster Preparedness Plan

In the event of inclement weather or for reasons beyond their control, the Tournament Director will have the authority to:

- A. Relocate or reschedule any game.
- B. Change the duration of any game.
- C. Cancel any game that has no bearing on the determination of the final standings.
- D. Every effort will be made to play all scheduled games. The Tournament Committee may cancel the tournament or any part of the tournament for reasons beyond their control. In the event of a cancellation prior to the start of the tournament, all teams shall receive a refund of 70% of the team entry fee. If the tournament is postponed or rescheduled prior to its start, a new permission to host application will be submitted to NJYSA and all teams that applied to the original date will be given the opportunity to withdraw from the revised date of the tournament with a full refund of their entry fees.
- E. In case of inclement weather (Lightning) the Tournament Director will ensure the safety of all players and coaches by SOUNDING an air horn for 3 quick bursts. This will signal that the games are suspended until the weather has passed. All games will not resume until the last LIGHTNING strike and it has been cleared without a strike for 30 minutes. During the inclement weather ALL participants are encouraged to seek immediate shelter.

16. PLAYER PASSES

Coaches must have the player's passes in their possession at all times. Player passes will be collected prior to each game. No player will be allowed to participate without a valid player pass.

17. AUTHORITY

The Tournament Director shall have the authority to rule on any situation not specifically listed above.

18. GOLF CART POLICY

Operators of Golf Carts shall have a valid NJ Drivers License at our Ocean Tournament.