



# BARÇA ACADEMY US NATIONAL CUP

## TOURNAMENT RULES

February 14-16, 2025

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS

Barça Academy National Cup  
Round Rock Multipurpose  
Complex  
2001 North Kenney Fort Blvd,  
Round Rock, TX 78665

## CHECK-IN

Teams will check-in at the fields one hour prior to their first match. Please make sure to have all the necessary paperwork to include rosters and any valid identification proof.

## CREDENTIALS

All teams must provide a team roster to the organization when registering the tournament, who will approve it and get it back to each team. Every team will have to provide an approved team roster for the referee of each game.

# AGE CLASSIFICATIONS

All age groups will be based on the birth year age groupings and not the old school year groups.

CATEGORY	BIRTH YEAR	MAXIMUM ROSTER
<b>U8</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2017	<b>14</b>
<b>U9</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2016	<b>14</b>
<b>U10</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2015	<b>14</b>
<b>U11</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2014	<b>16</b>
<b>U12</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2013	<b>16</b>
<b>U13</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2012	<b>18</b>
<b>U14</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2011	<b>18</b>
<b>U15</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2010	<b>18</b>
<b>U16</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2009	<b>18</b>
<b>U17</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2008	<b>18</b>
<b>U19</b>	Born on or after 1/1/2006	<b>18</b>

# FIELD & GAME EQUIPMENT

## A. FIELD OF PLAY (LAW 1)

- U13-U19 (11X11): No change per FIFA "Laws of the Game
- U11 & U12 (9v9): In accordance of US Soccer player development initiatives
- U10 & U9 & U8 (7v7): In accordance of US Soccer player development initiatives

B. No player will be allowed to wear ANY jewelry while participating in any match. The only exception that may be allowed is a medical alert bracelet or necklace when taped to the body. The referee shall make the decision as to the safety of the player and the referee's decision is final. (The taping of any earring shall not be permitted under any circumstances.) If the referee notices a player wearing jewelry while the match is under way at the next stoppage of play, the referee will instruct the player to remove the item. If the referee deems the jewelry to be dangerous to any player, the referee must stop the match to correct the situation.

# FIELD & GAME EQUIPMENT

C. Orthopedic casts are not permitted. However, soft braces can be worn with written approval from a doctor, and judgment as to safety is at the discretion of the referee.

D. Players are required to wear shin guards in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game.

E. Players must wear numbers on the back of their uniforms and these numbers shall coincide with those listed on the team's roster. Exemptions for U8 non-competitive teams

F. Where uniform colors are similar, the designated home team will change colors. Home team is listed first on the schedule.

## FIELD & GAME EQUIPMENT

G. Both teams will take the same side of the field. All other supporters will take the opposite side. Only three (3) carded team officials are permitted on the sidelines with their players. H. No one is permitted behind either goal/end line. I. Spectators must remain behind the spectator line and coaches must remain in the coaches' area. J. Each team shall be in the immediate vicinity of their assigned playing field 30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time.

K. The home team will provide the game ball.

L. In the event the assigned assistant referees fail to appear, the referee must find suitable assistant referees.

# PLAYING TIMES

Games will be based on halves as specified below:

- **7v7 (U8 to U10) 25 Minutes halves 5 min halftime**
- **9v9 (U11 to U12) 30 Minutes halves 5 min halftime**
- **11v11 (U13 to U14) 35 Minutes halves 5min halftime**

\*Running clock, no added injury time. The second half will begin five minutes after the first half has ended. Results shall be based on the score at termination unless termination was caused by the willful act of one of the participating teams, its coaches, or fans. In such cases, the offending team shall forfeit and may be removed from the tournament.

Preliminary games can end in a tie. Knock-out games and Finals tied at the end of regulation time shall immediately proceed to kicks from the mark (Penalty Spot).

# LAWS OF THE GAME

All games shall be played in accordance with FIFA Laws, except as specifically modified by these rules. Law 11, Offside, will be enforced in all age divisions, including U9-U12 (being u9-10 just after the build out line).

## **HEADINGS:**

Deliberate heading is not allowed in age groups U11 (2011) and younger. If a U11 or younger player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header of a U11 or younger player occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infraction occurred.

## **BUILD OUT LINE (7V7)**

All 7V7 games will play with a "Build-Out Line"

The build-out line promotes playing the ball out of the back in a less pressured setting.



# LAWS OF THE GAME

## **BUILD OUT LINE (7V7)**

When the goalkeeper has the ball in his or her hands during play from the opponent, the opposing team must move behind the build-out line until the ball is put into play.

Once the opposing team is behind the build-out line, the goalkeeper can pass, throw or roll the ball into play (punts and drop kicks are not allowed).

After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build-out line and play resumes as normal.

## **SUBSTITUTIONS**

Unlimited substitutions are allowed in all age groups. Teams may substitute in any dead ball situation. However, prior to making a substitution, the team must gain permission from the referee.

# CONCUSSIONS

If the referee (or assistant referee) believes that, in his/her opinion, a player has suffered a head injury or possible concussion, the match must be stopped IMMEDIATELY.

The injured player if able to leave the field on their own must be escorted to their coach and the coach must be told that the player cannot return for the duration of the match. If a trainer is brought onto the field because the player is incapacitated, the referee must still notify the coach that the player cannot return to the game.

It is the responsibility of the coach and the player's parent(s) or legal guardians to seek medical attention. The player may not resume participation until he/she has been cleared by a medical doctor.

The Referee HAS NO FURTHER responsibility beyond removing the player from the match in which the player was injured.

The referee crew must ensure, that UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES or due to the appeal from any coaching staff that the player is not allowed to return to the game.

# GAME AND SCORE REPORTING

## **GAME AND SCORE REPORTING**

The Head Referee will ensure that the game report forms are properly completed and presented to the Site Director at the completion of each game.

The Head Referee will ensure that the correct score for each game is reported to the Site Director after each game in a timely manner.

## **DETERMINING WINNERS:**

Teams shall be awarded points on the following basis:

Three (3) points for each win.

One (1) point for each tie.

Zero (0) points for each loss.

# GAME AND SCORE REPORTING

## **DETERMINING WINNERS:**

In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined as follows:

1. Head-to-Head.
2. Best Goal Differential (max of 5 per game).
3. Most Goals scored.
4. Least Goals Against.
5. If still tied, kicks from the mark (Penalty Spot) (Penalty spot) will be held 15 minutes prior to the scheduled quarter or semi-final game or as directed by the tournament officials.

In case that three or more teams are involved in the tie, the number of points obtained in the games between the clubs involved is considered first, followed by the goal difference in the games between said clubs, and all the options mentioned above.

The Tournament Committee, based on its interpretation of these rules, will determine the teams which advance into the final rounds.

# FAILURE TO SHOW AND FORFEITS

Games not played will be classified as Forfeits and Byes.

All forfeits will be a 3-0 game, with the winner receiving 3 points.

All teams must field a minimum of (7 players on 11x11; 6 on 9x9 and 5 on 7x7) for the entire game.

A team will forfeit if:

1. They fail to check-in at the mandatory registration.
2. They fail to report ready to play within 5 minutes of scheduled kick-off time.
3. If a team forfeits one game, their score for the forfeited game shall be changed to a 3-0 loss.

# CONDUCTS

## **CONDUCT**

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

## **CAUTIONS AND EJECTIONS**

A player or coach receiving two yellow cards in a single game is considered the same as having been given a red card. A player given a red card or two yellow cards in one game shall be expelled from that game, shall not be replaced, and shall serve a minimum of a one game suspension at their next game played. A coach expelled from a game shall serve a minimum of a one game suspension at their next game played. For flagrant violations, longer suspensions may be enforced based on mandatory review by the Tournament Director.

## **SUSPENDED GAMES**

If, in the opinion of game officials, a game must be terminated due to misconduct of players, bench or spectators, the offending team could be suspended from further play and forfeit all points and position previously earned. Additionally, the home league and state association would be contacted as appropriate.

# INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather effecting the games, the Tournament Committee will have the authority (in its sole discretion) to change games as follows:

A. Reschedule any game(s).

B. Change the duration of any game(s).

C. Cancel the game(s).

D. Games that have been started and subsequently suspended due to inclement weather or other external conditions, will be deemed complete if one half of play has been completed or the first half cannot be completed prior to the start time of the next scheduled game on that field. For any such game that is not completed, the score at the time of the suspension will be the final score. Any game that is not started and is canceled (as opposed to postponed) due to weather or other external conditions, will be recorded as a 0-0 tie. Canceled games will not be rescheduled.

## REFUND POLICY

You may request a refund up until team acceptances.

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 Director after a reasonable amount has been deducted for incurred tournament costs.

Tournament refunds will not exceed 50% of the entry fee.

Once play has begun, if inclement weather forces the cancellation of the tournament, then refunds will not exceed 25% of the entry fee.



## OTHER INFORMATION

This is a sanctioned event so it's open to all teams from USY/STYSA and USCLUB.

We guarantee that your opponents are the correct age and using the correct age matrix. It will be responsibility of each club/team to adjust to the submitted roster.

Players' insurance may be responsibility of each club.

We guarantee that the event is using USSF certified referees.

The Tournament guarantee that FIFA and USSF rules of play are being followed.

The Tournament Committee's interpretation of these rules shall be FINAL.

# STAY TO PLAY

To ensure the quality of service provided during our tournament, One World Soccer has appointed THS as the official Hospitality Service for this event. We are implementing a "Stay & Play" policy requiring all players, coaches and chaperones to reserve housing at an approved hotel from the THS hotel blocks that will be booked directly through the Housing Company's website. Reasons for implementing the Stay & Play policy are to increase the amount of room nights available to teams and clubs and to help police the rates the hotels are offering. By increasing the amount of room nights actually used for the purpose of attending our event, One World Soccer is able to demonstrate to the host city our positive impact on their local economy, thus building stronger relationships as well as helping to offset facility pricing. THS is and will continue to guarantee the lowest group rates available through continual rate integrity checks (exclusions include single/king bedded rooms, employee rates, government rates, AAA and AARP rates). If you still are unsure, or think you have found a better rate, please feel free to call THS.

HOTEL BOOKING WEBSITE: <https://secure.thsweb.com/Event.php?TournamentID=7667&Cid=1&RceId=0>



**BARÇA**  
Academy