



TOURNAMENT RULES

Effective June 12, 2023

(I) General

- a) Tournament Directors, Employees, any Sponsors or Promoters of the tournament shall not be responsible for any expenses incurred by a team, individual, or club if the tournament is canceled, or moved, in whole or in part.
- b) Copa Cabana Beach Soccer Tournament and Beach Soccer Promotions LLC. designated representatives, reserve the right to decide on all matters relative to the tournament rules and safety issues and all decisions are final.
- c) In the event of inclement weather, the Tournament Director may reschedule a match, change division structure, reduce match duration, format, or cancel a match.
- d) No protests are allowed.
- e) All decisions of the referee are final and binding after the game is finished.

(II) Tournament Rules Infractions Reporting by Coaches

- a) If an infraction of any tournament rules is observed that may result in the forfeiture of the match by an opposing team such as; an illegal player or excessive amount of players on the team, a team representative i.e. (coach, assistant coach) must bring this to the attention of the referee-coordinator or tournament director during the game for resolution. As this is a serious challenge, only a registered team representative may initiate this action. Every effort will be made by the aforementioned tournament officials to resolve the matter prior to the end of the game since after the game is over, the score will stand as is. If the infraction of the rules is by a player with a missing armband the referee will act in accordance with rule (V) (a), and send off the player.
- b) If an infraction occurs in the course of play due to a misinterpretation of the rules or laws by a referee that results in an unfair advantage for one of the teams, the opposing team's representative must bring this to the attention of the referee coordinator or tournament director for possible remedial action during the course of the game.

(III) Registration/Number of players

- a) The maximum number of players registered is twelve (12) players for Beach Soccer Tournaments.

- b) A minimum of three (3) female players shall be included on each coed team roster, two (2) of which shall be on the field at all times during the match.
- c) Players on the field consists of four (4) players and one (1) goalkeeper in all age groups.
- d) The tournament directors may at their discretion use smaller fields and goals appropriate to certain age groups or other conditions.
- e) Players must be listed on the roster/liability waiver at registration check-in time to be eligible to play, no additions or changes are allowed without the registrar's permission.
- f) Players must have proof of age at team check in time, such as birth certificate, league registration cards, school ID., or government issued ID
- g) Players will be issued armbands at registration time which must be worn during all games.

(IV) Refunds/Cancellation

- a) No refunds will be given to teams cancelling their registration after the registration deadline.
- b) No refunds will be given for team no-shows.
- c) In case a tournament is cancelled and not rescheduled prior to the date of the tournament, due to forces outside of the tournament's control, i.e. an Act of God, municipal, state, or federal change of rules or regulations, a refund will be issued to the teams.
 - a. \$50 of the tournament fee per team will be withheld each refund and may be applied as a credit to any one similar tournament produced by the tournament directors within a calendar year.
- d) In case a tournament is cancelled and rescheduled prior to the date of the tournament, due to forces outside of the tournament's control, i.e. an Act of God, municipal, state, or federal change of rules or regulations, teams will have the option to;
 - a. Not participate in the tournament and receive a refund. \$50 of the tournament fee per team will be withheld each refund and may be applied as a credit to any one similar tournament produced by the tournament directors within a calendar year.
 - b. Participate in the rescheduled tournament.
 - c. Participate in any one other similar tournament during the season.
- e) If the Tournament is cancelled solely by decisions of the tournament for any reason under the control of the tournament, team registration fees will be fully refunded.

(V) Age Grouping

- a) Players must be born during or after the qualifying year indicated by the oldest player in their age group division.
 - a. Age grouping is based on the age of a player. Age grouping is based on the year starting on January-1 through December-31
 - b. For example if the oldest player on the team is 15 years old on or before December-31, the team would play in the 15 bracket for any soccer tournament this calendar year.
 - c. Brackets are by one year intervals, however the Tournament Director may combine age brackets

(VI) Armbands/Ineligible Player

- a) Players must always wear armbands during play, a player not wearing an armband will be considered an ineligible player, the player will be sent off and may acquire an armband if properly registered and return to the play, all goals scored up to that point by the offending team will be disallowed.
- b) Players must play on the teams as listed at registration, no player in the 19 or under grouping is allowed to play on more than one team, if a player is found to be in violation of this rule the match will be forfeited.

- a. A player wishing to play in the Adult Bracket only may compete on more than one adult team.
- b. The Tournament Scheduler cannot give special scheduling consideration to such circumstances if a scheduling conflict arises due to a player registered on more than one adult team when the teams are scheduled to play simultaneous games.

(VII) Supporters and Team Substitutes sideline areas

- a) Based on the layout of the tournament and field spacing the sideline areas may support different team setups. The preferred setup is teams on opposite sides of the field.
- b) The options are;
 1. Team red substitutes, coaches, and their supporters on one side and team blue, coaches, and their supporters on the opposite side of the field.
 2. Team red and team blue supporters together on one side of the field, team red and team blue substitutes and coaches in their respective technical areas on the opposite side of the field.
2. With option one (1), the home team is on the north or west side of the field.

(VIII) Start of Play

- a) Coaches shall ensure that all players are on scene a minimum of forty-five (45) minutes before a scheduled match.
- b) A team which cannot field three (3) players at the scheduled start time plus ten (10) minutes shall forfeit the match. The team forfeiting shall be declared the loser by a score of three (3) goals to none (0).
- c) If no referee is present within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled start time, the match will be rescheduled unless both teams agree to proceed. If the match proceeds, the score shall stand as played without protest.
- d) If the game starts 10 minutes late only two periods will be played.

(IX) Tournament Standings

- a) Bracket standings to determine quarter-finalist/semi-finalists/finalists will be based on the following:
 - a. WIN - 3 PTS, TIE - 1 PT, LOSS - 0 PTS
 - b. Total points ties will be resolved by the following tiebreakers, in order:
 - c. Team with the highest (positive) goal differential.
 - d. Teams with the least goals against.
 - e. Team with the most goals for.
- b) If still tied, both teams will proceed to an available field at the Tournament Director's discretion and determine the winner by kicks from the penalty mark. (See the Rules of the Game document for tie breaker format).

(X) Final Matches Tie Breaker

- a) Ties in preliminary games will remain a tie. For quarter-final, semi-final and final matches, ties will be resolved by kicks from the penalty mark. (See the Rules of the Game document for tie breaker format)

(XI) Forfeits/Championship Standing

- a) Forfeiting teams will be precluded from competition in semifinal and final matches, unless specifically authorized by the Tournament Director.

- b) For a team to be awarded first or second place in the bracket, the team must have been present and ready to play all games at the appropriate scheduled time and field unless specifically exempted by the Tournament Director.

(XII) Participants Conduct

- a) Players ejected for violent conduct (red card) will be prohibited from further play or presence in the tournament and must immediately vacate the tournament area. If the player is a minor the guardian or parent is responsible for removing the player from the tournament area.
- b) Players ejected (red card) for other than violent conduct must vacate the immediate field area for the remainder of the game but are allowed to participate in the remainder of the scheduled tournament games.
- c) Coaches and Parents ejected from the game for violent conduct, or any conduct deemed by the referee or tournament director's offensive to others, must leave the tournament area at once and may be subject to further action.

COPA CABANA SPORTS