



## **Panther Cup Tournament**

*U8-U12 Grassroots Festival Rules & Regulations*



## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1.1 Each team is responsible for ensuring they are aware of their schedule or any schedule changes. Team Coaches or Managers are responsible for communicating schedules and/or playoff designations to their players. Coaches/managers should check with tournament headquarters, Mattamy Sports Park (5320 Ninth Line), or field conveners, periodically for any changes or updates, especially at the end of the first day and at the beginning subsequent day.
- 1.2 Where possible, the Club reserves the right to modify divisions, including merging, creating or eliminating divisions based on the actual registration numbers.
- 1.3 Once a team has been accepted into the tournament no refund will be issued. However, if the tournament does not have enough teams entered in an age group, all affected teams will be notified and will receive a full refund of their entry fee. Please ensure that you have read all the rules and policies of the tournament prior to registering.

## 2. REGISTRATION

- 2.1 Teams are required to provide their registration package to **tournament@nmsc.net** , 7 calendar days prior to the first day of the tournament. In-person team check-in will take place at Mattamy Sports Park, which is located 5320 Ninth Line, Mississauga, ON L5M 0R5
- 2.2 Registration package documents:
  - 2.2.1 A fully completed Festival Team Roster added to the Club's Registration System-PowerUp (no physical copy is required)
  - 2.2.2 Outdoor 2023 OSCAR Roster
  - 2.2.3 Valid player cards/books for all registered players and team officials
  - 2.2.4 An Authorized permission to travel form from your District Association/State if your team is from outside of the Peel Halton District
- 2.3 **Starting on Friday, September 22, 2023, from 10am to 1 hour prior to your opening match** you are required to check in person with the Club's staff at the Tournament Headquarters located at Mattamy Sports Park, **5320 Ninth Line, Mississauga, ON L5M 0R5.**

## 3. AGE AND ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Eligibility: This Festival is open to registered Grassroots Development teams. The festival does not offer tiered registration.
  - 3.1.1 All players must be registered with the Ontario Soccer and with the club for which he or she is playing for.
  - 3.1.2 No Guest Players will be permitted to play.
- 3.2 **Proof of Age:** All teams must add their team roster to the Club's Registration System after completing the Festival online registration. Prior to each team's first game, the Club will verify completed roster against the team's player cards/books and official OSCAR roster. All players listed on the roster must meet the age requirements listed below:



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**3.2.1 Age Requirements**

Age Group	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12
Age Requirements	January 1 <sup>st</sup> – December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	January 1 <sup>st</sup> – December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	January 1 <sup>st</sup> – December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2013	January 1 <sup>st</sup> – December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2012	January 1 <sup>st</sup> – December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2011

**3.2.2** Players who were given a permission to play a year up must be approved in their team’s official OSCAR roster.

**3.3 Travel Permits:** Appropriate “Permission to Travel” form authorized by governing associations must be completed and provided to the Club no less than 7 days prior to the tournament for all teams outside the Peel Halton District (no exceptions).

**3.4 Medical Assistance:** Emergency Action Plan for Mattamy Sports Park Field 1 and 2 can be found as an attachment to the Panthers Cup Festival Rules.

**4. FESTIVAL RULES**

**4.1 Laws of the Game:** All games shall be played in accordance with the Ontario Soccer Grassroots Standards and Mini soccer rules.

	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12
<b>Maximum Roster Number</b>	10	10	12	12	16
<b>Minimum number of players to start a game</b>	5	5	5	5	6
<b>Playing Format</b>	5 v 5	5 v 5	7 v 7	7 v 7	9 v 9
<b>Ball Size</b>	Size 3	Size 3	Size 4	Size 4	Size 4
<b>Maximum match time per player per day</b>	60 minutes	60 minutes	80 minutes	80 minutes	100 minutes
<b>Field Size</b>	Width: 25-30m Length: 30-36m	Width: 25-30m Length: 30-36m	Width:30-36m Length:40-55m	Width:30-36m Length:40-55m	Width:42-55m Length:60-75m
<b>Nets Size</b>	1.52m (5ft) x 2.44m (8ft)	1.52m (5ft) x 2.44m (8ft)	1.83m (6ft) x 4.88m (16ft)	1.83m (6ft) x 4.88m (16ft)	1.83m (6ft) x 5.49m (18ft)
<b>Substitutions</b>	Unlimited number of substitutions is allowed on the fly	Unlimited number of substitutions is allowed on the fly	Unlimited number of substitutions is allowed at any stoppage or during play	Unlimited number of substitutions is allowed at any stoppage	Unlimited number of substitutions is allowed at any stoppage
<b>Offside</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
<b>Corner Kicks</b>	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Throw-Ins</b>	Kick-in or dribble in only	Kick-in or dribble in only	Kick-in or dribble in only	Kick-in or dribble in only	Yes



<b>Retreat Line</b>	Yes (Halfway Line)	Yes (Halfway Line)	Yes (One Third)	Yes (One Third)	Yes (One Third)
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**4.2 Team No-Show:** Once a team is accepted, the entry fee is non-refundable. If a team fails to appear at its scheduled Festival game, the team's club shall:

- 4.2.1 forfeit its Festival entry fee.
- 4.2.2 pay a penalty of \$250.00 to North Mississauga Soccer Club.

A team will be allowed a five (5) minute waiting period from the scheduled kick off time to field the minimum number of players to start the game. Failure to field the minimum number of players will result in abandonment of the game.

**4.3 Home Team Responsibilities:** The home team is responsible for providing an alternate colour shirt, if in the opinion of the referee the shirts are similar. The Home team will also supply the game ball. The Home team is the one that appears first on the schedule. **I.e., 1 V 2 – Team 1 is the Home team.**

**4.4 Duration of the Games:**

- 4.4.1 All teams will play 2 games on Saturday. The U8 and U9 games will consist of two halves of 15 minutes each with a 5-minute half time. The U10 and U11 games will consist of two halves of 20 minutes each with a 5-minute half time. The U12 games will consist of two halves of 25 minutes each with a 5-minute half time. No semi-finals or final games will be played, and no standings will be kept.

Age Group	Game Length
U8	30 Minutes (2 x 15 – minute halves)
U9	
U10	40 Minutes (2 x 20 – minute halves)
U11	40 Minutes (2 x 20 – minute halves)
U12	50 Minutes (2 x 25 – minute halves)

- 4.4.2 There will be a minimum rest time between matches equal to the duration of one game.

**4.5 Game Sheets:** will be provided to the referee by the Field Official. The referee will then present the game sheet to the coaches of each team. The Coach or Manager must sign the game sheet prior to presenting it to the referee. Once signed, give it to the referee before the beginning of each game. On completion of the game the referee must complete the game sheet, including the score, players who scored, and Special Incident Reports. After doing so, the referee must hand the game sheet to the Field Official. All game sheets will be returned to the Festival Headquarters to the Field Marshall at the end of the day. No record of scores or standings will be kept.

**4.6 Player Equipment:** Players must wear uniforms with numbers on the back and numbers must correspond to numbers/names on the game sheet. Shin guards must be worn by all players.

**4.7 Substitutions:** Unlimited substitution shall be allowed. All substitutions shall on the fly.

- 4.7.1 Players ejected by the referee must be replaced by a team substitute.



**4.8 Severe Weather Conditions:** A referee may issue a 2-minute water break halfway through the first half and halfway through the second half of any game if severe heat conditions occur.

- 4.8.1** Only in the case when weather or some other act of nature cancels the Festival prior to its commencement, teams will be refunded up to 50% of their festival registration fee by the Club.
- 4.8.2** Refunds will not be granted for any other reason.
- 4.8.3** The City of Mississauga leases all fields to the Club
- 4.8.4** for the North Mississauga Festival and Tournament. If the City feels that playing on the field may damage the field, the Festival Committee may be obliged to abide by the City's field policy, and thereby move the games to another venue (if possible), postpone or cancel the games, shorten the games to ten (10) minutes per half or more.
- 4.8.5** Once thunder/lightning occurs, the play must be stopped immediately. Referee will strictly observe the 30/30 rule. If the "flash to bang" is less than 30 seconds, play will be suspended for 30 minutes timed from the last flash or bang observation.
- 4.8.6** Games could be shortened to accommodate the rest of the day's games. Regardless of weather conditions, all teams must be prepared to field a team. It is the responsibility of the team to arrive at the scheduled field at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the commencement of their game.

## **5. DISCIPLINE AND PROTESTS**

**5.1 Festival Discipline Rules:** The Ontario Soccer Published Rules on Discipline at Festivals will apply with the following exceptions:

- 5.1.1** Discipline authority is delegated for player misconduct only. Any misconduct reports for coaches, other team officials or game officials shall be submitted for PHSA within 3 days of the Festival's completion.
- 5.1.2** The Festival Discipline Committee will use Discipline by Review (and a Discipline by Hearing where necessary or requested).

**5.2 Discipline Carryover:** PHSA will convene a Discipline Hearing for all Special Incident Reports and Dismissal Reports for Coaches, other Team Officials, and game Officials. Reports involving individuals from other Districts will be forwarded by PHSA to the appropriate authority, as required.

- 5.2.1** PHSA will use Discipline by Review on all Dismissal reports for Players who were unable to serve the full Mandatory Minimum sentence at the Festival. PHSA will advise the player's club and regular league of any additional suspension imposed as a result of Festival discipline carryover.
- 5.2.2** Any player (player's club wishing to request Discipline by Hearing MUST do so before the end of the week following the Festival.
- 5.2.3** In the event (based on the reports which it reviews) the PHSA Discipline Review Committee determines that additional misconduct has occurred or that a Serious Foul Play or Violent Conduct misconduct warrants more than the mandatory suspension, it shall advise the Player by way of Discipline Hearing Notice that additional charges have been laid and a Hearing has been scheduled.
- 5.2.4** If a hearing is necessary, it will be scheduled and conducted virtually by PHSA . All the required parties will be invited to attend by PHSA.



**5.3 Protests:** Any team wishing to protest a game must submit same in writing with \$100.00 cash to the Festival headquarters, Mattamy Sports Park (5320 Ninth Line), within one (1) hour following completion of the game. **Note: No protests regarding referee's decisions will be entertained.** The Festival committee decision will be final.

**5.4 Fair Play Code for Spectators:** All spectators must be seated on the opposite side of the field from the players/benches. Spectators are not permitted to be behind the nets. All spectators must be always at least 5 feet from the sidelines. Team Coaches and managers are expected to inform all members of their group of the following:

- 5.4.1 I will remember that children play sports for THEIR enjoyment. They are not playing to entertain me.
- 5.4.2 I will not have unrealistic expectations. I will encourage participants to do the same.
- 5.4.3 I will respect the official's decision; I will encourage the participants to do the same.
- 5.4.4 I will never ridicule an athlete for making a mistake during a competition. I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.
- 5.4.5 I will condemn the use of violence in any form.
- 5.4.6 I will show respect for my team's opponents, because without them there would be no game.
- 5.4.7 I will avoid the use of inappropriate language, nor will I harass athletes, coaches, officials, or other spectators.

## **6. FESTIVAL AND TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

**6.1** The Festival Committee will be responsible for team acceptances, Festival format, game scheduling and assignment of referees.

**6.2** The Festival Committee will be responsible for making decisions regarding combining or cancelling age divisions in the Festival. If an age group is cancelled a full refund will be issued back to the effected registered teams. Once a team is accepted into the Festival, no refunds will be issued.

**6.3** The Festival Committee will keep scores and standings at the Festival headquarters, Mattamy Sports Park (5320 Ninth Line). Unofficial standings will be kept at the field locations by the Field Convenors; however, all official decisions regarding standings will be made at the Festival headquarters.

**6.4** In the event of inclement weather, the Festival Committee will have the authority to" relocate or reschedule games, change the duration of games. It will also have the right to cancel any game in the qualifying round that has no bearing in deciding the qualifiers for the playoff round. Any game abandoned after the first half (except playoff games) due to inclement weather, will be considered official and complete.

**6.5** The Festival Committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the Festival.

**6.6** The Festival Committee will be made up of at least 3 persons from the Staff and/or the Board of Directors of the North Mississauga Soccer Club.