

2010 LIBERTY CUP INVITATIONAL – REFEREE RULES EXTRACT

The 2010 Liberty Cup Invitational soccer tournament will be held on 27-28 March 2010, and is open to U9 – U19 boys and girls travel soccer teams. It is dedicated to the development of the players, good sportsmanship, and the good of the game.

- The referee website is <http://www.libertycup.org/>
- The tournament website is www.fpycsoccer.org
- Your assignor is Mike Newman, cell 703 863 9129

General Rules

- For a referee, especially you young gals and guys, image is almost everything. Look as good as you can as soon as you get out of the car or step off your bike – clean uniform, socks pulled up, shirt tucked in, all that good stuff. It pays dividends.
- Try to be at the field about 30 minutes before your first game. Report to the Site Manager's tent, let them know you're there. Either store your gear in the official area or on the team side of the field; avoid being in the spectator areas.
- Tournaments have field marshals and site managers for a reason . Use them if you have a problem with coaches or spectators. You are not alone!
- Try to start and keep games on time. Some fields have 10 games a day – even small delays can build up.
- After your games, check back with the Site Manager; if there are problems, you may be able to pick up another game or two.
- An electronic pay form is on the referee website. We use the honor system – fill in your games and hit Submit, but not until after you work your last game. We try to get you your check as soon as possible.
- Alcoholic beverages, smoking, pets, and noisemakers are prohibited at all tournament sites.

Equipment. Referee decisions are final regarding player equipment.

- When opposing jersey colors are similar, the home team (listed first in the schedule) will use alternate jerseys. All players must have jerseys with numbers.
- No jewelry may be worn by any player (earrings, watches, necklaces, etc.)
- Players wearing casts may play with the approval of the Tournament Director and Referee.
- Shin guards are mandatory and must be worn at all times by all players.

Laws of the Game. FIFA laws of the game apply except as modified by these rules. All decisions by the Tournament Director are final. No protests are allowed.

Game Play

- Referees do not have to check teams in. This will have been done by the tournament committee.
- Teams will be on one side of the field, spectators will be on the opposite side.
- Ball: U9-U12, size 4; U13 and above, size 5. The tournament will provide game balls.
- Format: U9-U10 will play 7v7, U11-U12 will play 8v8, U13 and above will play 11v11.

- **Playing Time**
 - All games will be two 30-minute halves with a 5-minute half-time.
 - Referees will not add time for substitutions, goals, or other routine delays (sometimes called a running clock) and may refuse substitutions during a game if deemed to be a time-wasting tactic.
 - Time, however, will be stopped when removing a seriously injured player from the field. A game shortened due to injury will be continued at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- Preliminary round games may end in a tie. Championship games ending regulation in a tie will play two full five-minute overtimes (no sudden death). If still tied at the end overtimes, FIFA kicks from the penalty mark will be taken to determine a winner

Game Result Reporting. After each game a representative of each team will present a game result card to the referee. The referee will enter (or confirm) the score and note all yellow and red cards issued (noting team, player number, and reason), and will sign the card, making it the official record of the game.

Substitutions. Unlimited, with the referee's permission, at the following times:

- Goal Kick
- After a goal
- Start of second half (referee's permission not required)
- Beginning and during each overtime period (applies to championship games)
- Throw in by possession team or when opponent substitutes on their throw in
- After a yellow card – for carded player only
- An injured player may be substituted at the discretion of the referee. The opposing team may also make one substitution if a substitution is made for the injured player.
- Substitutions may not be made on corner kicks.
- Teams may not make any substitutions when Championship games are tied after completing both overtime periods. Penalty kicks must be completed with the players on the field at the end of the overtime periods.

Forfeits. A forfeit shall be awarded if a team is not present and prepared to play within ten minutes of the scheduled game time. Seven players constitute a team for U13-U19 teams and five for U9-12 teams. A forfeit will be scored as one goal for the winner and zero for the forfeiting team.

Player/Coach/Spectator Behavior

- Each Coach is responsible for the conduct of the players and parents on his/her team. Coaches not taking such responsibility may be cautioned and/or ejected (but not shown cards).
- Only players will be shown cards when being cautioned or sent-off. Two yellow cards in the same game equal an ejection and the player will sit out his/her next immediate game.
- Any game terminated by a referee due to player, coach, or spectator misconduct will not be restarted and the offending team(s) will forfeit the game.

- Any player ejected from a game will not be replaced and will not be allowed to participate in his or her team's next game. Any coach ejected from a game will not be allowed to coach his/her team's immediate next game.
- Ejection for fighting by players and coaches will result in the player or coach not being allowed to participate in any remaining tournament games.
- Any ejected player, coach or spectator must immediately move beyond sight or sound of the playing field.

Referee abuse or harassment, violent or abusive behavior, and foul language will not be tolerated. Any person engaging in such behavior may be barred from the rest of the tournament. Barred teams will not be accepted in the following year, and a written report will be filed with the team's club and state association.

Inclement Weather

- Unless notified otherwise coaches and teams must be ready to play at the scheduled field and time regardless of weather conditions. Failure to appear may result in a forfeit.
- Referees may only suspend play. It is the Tournament Committee's responsibility to terminate, cancel or postpone a game.
- If severe weather occurs after the beginning of play, the Tournament Committee may reduce the game length, discontinue or cancel any game.
- A game shortened due to weather conditions after 30 minutes will be considered final, with the score recorded as of the end of play. Every effort will be made to complete a game suspended prior to 30 minutes.
- Games will not begin or continue during lightning.
- The Tournament Committee may modify game formats during severe weather conditions. This includes shortening games, adding breaks, eliminating overtime periods, and any other modifications.

Tournament Decisions. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on all tournament matters, and the judgment of the Tournament Committee is final.