

# Newport Mesa Soccer Classic-2024

## Rules and Regulations

THIS TOURNAMENT IS MEANT TO BE PLAYED, NOT WON!

Keep in mind that the intent and purpose of this tournament is to give as many kids a chance to play soccer for their schools and to have fun doing so. The tournament is less concerned about who wins as it is in having lots of good memories for the kids.

### **General Tournament Rules**

1. Tournament is for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls currently attending NMUSD elementary schools or Private schools within the NMUSD boundaries. Players are only allowed to play in a game for the school for which they are currently enrolled at.
2. There will be a Gold, Silver, and Bronze Division. Once a team is registered and scheduled in their division, no player or team may play in another division at any time.
3. Only tournament provided player tee-shirts will be permitted to be worn. No outside or sponsored jerseys will be allowed.
4. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teams will not be permitted to play in the tournament.
5. Each participating school is responsible for collecting player registration forms, player registration fees (\$10/player), recruiting volunteer coaches, and forming their school teams.
6. Each school liaison representative is responsible for turning into the tournament director by no later than May 3<sup>rd</sup>, their number of teams and requested playing divisions.
7. Tournament Division Bracketing and school placement will be the sole authority of the Tournament Director and designated committee members. School Liaisons may request a division placement but are not guaranteed final placement in requested division.
8. Monday – Friday will be scheduled pool play, with single elimination rounds scheduled for Saturday and Sunday of the tournament week.
9. Games will start and end on time with a running clock. Failure of a team to show up for their scheduled game, may result in tournament forfeit.
10. Verbal abuse of referees, tournament volunteers, and other participating members of the tournament will not be tolerated. Teams may be disqualified from this event at the sole discretion of the tournament director for abusive behavior.
11. There are no game protests. The decisions of the tournament director are final. The tournament director has the authority to amend and/or add to these rules at any time.

### **Game Rules:**

- 1 All players on the team must play in each half of the game. (The referee does not enforce this – the coaches must do this on their own).
- 2 All players must be enrolled at the school for which they play. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- 3 Once a player plays for a specific team of their school – they are not allowed to play on any other team that their school has in the tournament. (eg. A player CAN NOT play for both the A and B team or be moved up from 3/4 to 5/6. Once you play -- you are locked into that team).
- 4 Duration of Play: 5-6th 25-minute halves in Pool Play 30-minute halves in the elimination rounds (Qtr-Final, Semi-Final, Final and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place games). 3-4th 25-minute halves for all games, including elimination rounds.
- 5 Running Time: In order to keep the games on time, the referee might need to keep time running during substitutions, injuries and other causes of lost time.
- 6 Reduced Time: If a game is running over its time constraints, then the referee is authorized to reduce the amount of playing time in order to keep the tournament on schedule.
- 7 Half Times: No longer than FIVE (5) minutes. Coaches – they have only enough time to get a drink, get 2 points of emphasis from you and to get any substitutions – remember that time is

running.

- 8 NO WARM-UP DRILLS on the field. Unless you have the first game of the day and you are there early, you will NOT have time to warm-up on the field. Coaches – give them the line-up BEFORE your scheduled kickoff!!
- 9 Get out of the way! When your game is over – realize that there is a whole set of parents and players that need to sit where you are. Please move away from the sideline and then pack up your gear. We only have 5 minutes between games.
- 10 Coin Toss – Nope. To save time, there will be no coin toss. The home team will get everything – choice of sides, the kickoff, supply the game ball and choice of sideline. The schedule indicates the home team.
- 11 Number of Players:
  - o 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grades = 11 vs. 11. If you have 7 players, the referee must start the game.
  - o 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grades = 9 vs. 9. If you have 6 players, the referee must start the game.
- 12 Size of Ball: Size 4
- 13 No Headers: The new rules prohibiting headers are being enforced for this tournament at all levels.
- 14 Uniforms: It is common for shirt colors to be almost identical. Coaches should be prepared with bibs/pinnies -- if you can, otherwise..... good luck telling them apart.
- 15 The 10-POINT SYSTEM: Advancement out of Pool Play is determined by a 10-point maximum system.
  - o 6 points for a win
  - o 3 points for a draw
  - o 1 point for each goal that you score, up to a maximum of 3
  - o 1 point for a shut-out.

Example, a 0-0 result will earn 4 points. 3 for the draw, plus 1 for the shut-out.

Example, a 5-1 win will earn 9 points. 6 for the win, 3 points for each goal up to 3 maximum.

Example, a 2-3 loss will earn the losing team 2 points for the goals scored.

1. TIE-BREAKERS: If two or more teams have the same number of points in Pool Play, then the tiebreakers are:
  - o Head-to-Head
  - o Least amount of goals allowed
  - o Goal differential (with a maximum of +5 per game (to prevent scores from being run up)) If a team runs up a score differential of +5 or more a penalty point will be assessed against that team.
  - o Most shutout wins
  - o A special Shoot-out (PK's)
  - o Tournament Director's Decision.
2. WILD CARD: The Wild Card shall be the second place teams in a bracket with the highest number of points in bracket play. In the event of a tie we will use the tie-breaking system outlined above.

In the event of uneven numbers of teams in the pools in question, the Tournament Director can use averages of the above tiebreakers.
3. SUBSTITUTIONS: There are NO quarter breaks. Substitutions are permitted on the following dead balls:
  - o Your Throw-in (the opposing team may now substitute also).
  - o Any Goal Kick
  - o Any Kick Off
  - o Injuries – if the referee gives permission (both teams permitted).
  - o Cautions and Send-offs (if the referee allows it – both teams permitted).
  - o Corner kick

- free kick
4. Score Reporting: Ideally, there will be a Field Marshall to collect your game score after your game, but in the event there isn't the coach, school liaison or a representative must report the score to the central scoreboard (the snackbar area) and update the score on the official website before 9:30 pm.

#### General Guidelines

- 1 Bring a referee along in case the assigned referee fails to show up.
- 2 Looking for Volunteer Referees who want some on the field training in the bronze level games.
- 3 Don't park next to RED curbs or DO NOT PARK signs – You will get a ticket.
- 4 Parking is very difficult. Realize that there will already be a full set of cars when you arrive. Consider parking across the street at OCC parking lot bordering Fairview Drive.
- 5 Verbal abuse of the Referees will NOT be tolerated and your team risks losing points for inappropriate behavior.
- 6 Keep in mind that this is a VOLUNTEER event. Be courteous and civil.
- 7 Keep your cheering POSITIVE. Set a good example for the kids.