



U11 Festival Rules

May 19, 2018

**Welcome to the first annual VYSA U11 Festival
Held in conjunction with the U12, U13 and U14 Boys and Girls National
Championship Series Semi Finals Competition**

Eligibility of Teams and Players

The U11 Festival is open to the teams of any member in good standing of VYSA. Teams and players must be properly registered with VYSA and US Youth Soccer for the current seasonal year (September 1 to August 31, 2017-2018). Players must have been birth year 2007 or younger.

Eligibility Rule Violation – Any coach or team official found to have rostered an ineligible player is, together with the team, ineligible to compete further in the U11 Festival.

Team Procedures

Application:

All team must register online at: VYSA.com by March 22, 2018. Applications will not be considered complete until an on line credit card payment is received.

Festival Acceptance:

Accepted teams will be notified by email on March 26, 2018 by the Tournament Director

Team Withdrawal:

Official Festival acceptance will be Monday, March 26, 2018. A team may withdraw from Festival competition no later than March 28, 2018 at 4:00 PM. After the withdrawal period has passed, teams withdrawing from the Festival will not be given a refund of their registration fee. Teams withdrawing before the acceptance date of March 28, 2018 will be given a full refund, minus a \$25 administrative fee.

East Region Policy Regarding Application To Host A Tournament:

East Region has established the following policy concerning permission to travel when attending US Youth Soccer sanctioned tournaments in East Region. The policy states that any US Youth Soccer State Association teams within the East Region that are accepted into any tournament or festival in the East Region do not need permission to travel papers. All teams in this Festival are from Virginia and will not need a permission to travel.

Rosters

Roster Size:

U11 – no more than 16 players per roster including guest players. All games will be played 9v9.

Guest Players:

Up to 5 guest players per team are allowed.

Write all guest players on the bottom of approved roster. Include full name, player identification number, date of birth, and unique jersey number. If the guest player is a recreation player, they must have a recreation card and a medical release form. Recreation cards do not require player photos.

Players may play for only one team during the VYSA U11 Festival.

Competition Format

Game Sites - Games will be played at the Publix Virginia Soccer Training Center

Game Officials - Three (3) officials shall be assigned for each match.

In the event the game officials' uniform color conflicts with either team's color, the game officials will change colors.

No standings - This is a friendlies event in which each team will play 2 matches on Saturday, May 19, 2018. No standings will be kept and no semi-final or championship matches will be played.

Online Check-In:

Festival check in will be on line. Each accepted team must follow the online check in requirements. The documents must arrive at the VYSA office no later than Wednesday, May 16, 2018.

Email your check-in documents to: krista@vysa.com by May, 16, 2018. The subject of the email should include Club and Team Name. Three (3) pieces of information are required from each team:

1. Approved VYSA roster.
 - Write in any guest players at the bottom (see section on guest players)
 - Mark out any players not participating in the tournament
2. Medical Release forms for each player.
 - Medical Releases do not need to be notarized
 - A physician's release must be presented during registration for any player wearing a cast. This release must be available for a match official to review. The final decision on whether the player may participate will be up to the match official.
3. Copy of the VYSA player passes for all rostered and guest passed players. Only the front of the passes need to be copied.

Roster Changes after the May 16 Team Online Check-In

All changes to a roster that occur after the online team check-in must be reported to the Festival Director. Please email the Festival Director with a note that the roster has been changed. Include in the note: your team name, age group, the changes made and an updated and approved roster. Email the information on the changes to Krista Lenzmeier at krista@vysa.com.

General Rules of Play

Unless modified by this set of rules, all games shall be played in accordance with the most current FIFA Laws of the Game.

All teams must be prepared to show rosters and players passes to the game officials before every game. A game official will check each team in during warm-ups before each game.

Both teams and a maximum of four (4) team officials for each team shall take the same side of the field. The home team shall choose which side the teams will take.

The home team shall provide the game ball.

Each field player (except goalkeepers) shall wear a numbered jersey. The number shall be affixed to the back of the jersey and shall be clearly visible. Each player must wear a different number. Numbered jerseys for goalkeepers are optional. Goalkeepers must wear colors that distinguish them from other players and referees.

The away team shall have choice of colors. In the event of a conflict, the home team must change if so directed by the referee.

Grace Period:

Games must start when scheduled except:

A five (5) minute grace period is given to each team which cannot field nine (9) players at game time. After ten (10) minutes, the game will start provided the team has at least six (6) players. If less than six (6) players are present at the end of the grace period, the team forfeits the game, but both team may come together to share players so all can play the scheduled match.

Game Durations:

Games shall be played in accordance with the following Age Group Specifications:

Age Group	Game Length	Half Time	Ball
U11	2 - 25 minute halves	5 minutes	#4 ball

If a match is tied at the end of regulation, the match will end in a tie with no overtime or penalty kicks.

Sideline Behavior:

Both teams will sit on the same side of the field. Only carded team officials may stay on the player sideline. Spectators are only allowed on the opposite side of the field from the players and coaches. No spectators are allowed behind the goal area.

Substitutions:

For the U11 age group, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed within the referee's permission:

- After a goal has been scored
- At the beginning of the second half of play
- At a goal kick by either team
- At a throw in by the team in possession – the opponent may substitute if they are at the half way line and ready to enter play
- In case of stoppage of play for an injury
- A cautioned player may be substituted

Heading rule:

Whenever the ball strikes a player in the head, play is stopped. The proper restart depends upon whether the player deliberately played the ball with his or her head. If deliberate, the proper restart is an indirect free kick to the opposing team. If this occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If the play by the head is deemed in advertent, then the proper restart is a

dropped ball.

Ejections:

If a player or coach is cautioned or ejected, the caution or ejection is to be recorded on the Game Report by the referee.

If a coach is ejected, the coach must leave the field and the area surrounding the field. At no time is the ejected coach to be close enough to the field to participate or comment on the game. The referee will send coach off and will make the determination of the distance each must be from the field. At all times a carded team official must be available to coach the remainder of the match.

If a player is ejected, the coaching staff or manager must make sure that the ejected player is on the bench with street clothes or a jersey of an alternate color from the playing jersey. The player may remain on the bench under the supervision of the team officials. At no time can that player become disruptive to the game. Team Officials must guarantee the control of the bench during the game. If the red carded player is asked to leave the bench, a team official from the player's team must escort the player away from the field.

If a player receives a red card or two yellow cards during a match, that player will sit out that match AND the following match. Any red card received will not carry over to league play.

Player Equipment:

All players must wear shin guards. No metal-rimmed glasses or jewelry of any kind will be allowed. Casts, splints or body braces made of a hard substance in its final form such as leather, rubber, plastic, plaster or fiberglass must be covered on all exterior surfaces with no less than ½ inch thick, high density polyurethane, or an alternate material of the same thickness and similar physical properties to protect the injury. A medical release for the injured player signed by a licensed physician must be available at the game site. Players may not play with these casts without the approval of the referee.

Additional Festival Rules

Unless modified by this set of rules, all games shall be played in accordance with the most current FIFA Laws of the game. The Festival staff reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the Festival and its judgement is final. Any team that disregards any decision by the Festival staff will be automatically dropped from the Festival and forfeit all remaining matches.

Neither the Festival staff, the VYSA, the Festival Sponsors nor the coaches of host teams are responsible for any expenses incurred by any team if the Festival is canceled in whole or in part due to inclement weather, adverse field conditions or circumstances beyond the Festival's control.

Alcoholic beverages, noise makers, firearms, smoking and pets (other than certified service animals with proper paperwork available to verify) are not permitted at the Virginia Soccer Training Center (VSTC).

Inclement Weather

The Festival staff reserves the right to make the following changes in the event of inclement weather:

- Relocate and/or reschedule a match
- Change a division structure
- Reduce scheduled duration of a match
- Cancel a match

In the event of inclement weather forcing play to be halted and preventing the match from completing during the scheduled time, the score shall stand if at least one-half of the match has been completed.

The Festival staff will have the final decision on field closure.

Regardless of weather conditions, coaches and their teams must appear at their respective field site, prepared to play as scheduled. Failure to appear will result in forfeiture of the match. Only the referee or Festival staff may cancel or postpone a match. In the case of severe weather, in their discretion, the referees or the Festival staff may either cancel or discontinue a match, relocate and/or reschedule a match, or reduce the scheduled duration of a match by 50%.

Festival Cancellation

If the Festival is cancelled for any reason before the tournament begins and before any matches are played, teams will be given a refund of an amount determined by the Festival staff once all expenses are paid.

Protests, Appeals and Referee Assaults and Abuse

Protest – All decisions of the referee are final and binding. The Festival staff reserves the right to decide on all matters relative to the Festival and its decisions are final.

Assaults and Abuse of Game Officials - The Adjudication Committee of VYSA has the original and exclusive jurisdiction over alleged assaults or abuse of referees, assistant referees, and other game officials by players, coaches, managers or other team or club officials. The United States Soccer Federation (USSF) requires that any player, coach, team or club official accused by a referee, assistant referee, or other game official of assault be immediately suspended from all soccer-related activities until a hearing on the allegation can be conducted.