

## Tournament Rules



Play will be governed by the FIFA and Nebraska State Soccer Laws of the game, except where by USYSA Rules of Play and/or the Azzurri Invitational Tournament Rules. These rules may be modified prior to the beginning of the tournament play. The final Tournament Rules will be published in the Tournament program. Padded cast, splints and braces approved by the referee are allowed.

Player passes and roster will be checked prior to each game.

### Home Team

The home team shall be responsible for wearing an alternate color jersey, if necessary, as determined by the referee. The team listed first in all rounds shall be the home team.

### UNIFORM

Each player shall wear an official uniform. The goalkeeper is not required to number on his/her jersey. Each number must be different.

### Playing Conditions

Teams will be expected to play according to the schedule of games regardless of weather conditions. Only the Tournament Director(s) may reschedule games or alter the competitions format because of inclement weather or other just cause. Games shall be considered complete if one half has been completed and play is stopped by the Field Representative or Referee, Commissioner of Referees or the Tournament Director(s). When necessitated by playing conditions, the game format may be altered to include shortened games, penalty kicks or coin tosses.

### Roster Size

U9 and U10 - 14 players, up to 6 guest players

U11 and U12 - 18 players, up to 6 guest players

U13 and up - 22 players, only 18 players allow each game, up to 6 guest players

### Bracketing

*Be sure you understand the bracketing technique that applies to your team. We will welcome your comments at the conclusion of the tournament.*

#### 3-Team Brackets

*Each team plays each other two times. Highest point team wins championship.*

#### 4-Team Brackets

*Each team plays round robin with each of the teams in the bracket. Top two teams bracket play for championship.*

#### 5-Team Brackets

*Each team plays round robin with each of the other teams in the bracket. Top two teams advance.*

#### 6-Team Brackets (two three-team brackets)

*Each team will play three games including one crossover. Top team of each bracket play for championship.*

#### 7-Team Brackets (one three-team & one four team bracket)

*Each team plays round robin with each of the other teams in the bracket. The semifinal matches will be crossovers, high point teams in each bracket versus second team in the other bracket.*

#### 8-Team Brackets (two four-team brackets)

*Each team will plays round robin with the other teams in the bracket. Top team of each bracket play for championship.*

#### 9-Team Brackets (one four-team & one five team bracket)

*Each team plays round robin with each of the other teams in the bracket. Top team of each bracket play for championship.*

#### 10-Team Brackets (one four & two three-team brackets)

*The four-team bracket will play the familiar round robin format. The two three team brackets will have each team playing three games including a crossover. The high point team in each of the three brackets and a wild card will advance to the semi-final round.*

*The wild card will play the bracket A champion and the bracket B champion plays bracket C champion. In case of the rematch A play C and B plays the wild card. Championship game may be a re-match and a consolation game will not be played.*

#### 12-Team Bracket (three four-team brackets)

*Bracket play is round robin format. Bracket winners and a wild card team will advance to the semifinals. The wild card will be the team with the highest point total that is not a bracket winner. The wild card team will play the bracket winner with the most points that does not result in a re-match in either semifinal match. The champion ship game may be a re-match and a consolation game will not be played.*

**Tournament Rules**



**Point System & Bracket Winners**

Bracket winners will be determined by the following point system:

- Win**.....3 (three) points
- Loss**.....0 (zero) points
- Tie**.....1 (one) points

A team that forfeits a game will give up 3 (three) points and 4 goals to the declared winner of the game and shall not be allowed to advance to the semifinal or final matches.

**Tie Breakers**

If, at the conclusion of bracket play, two or more teams have the same point total, advancement to the semifinals will be determined using the following tiebreakers in the order listed until a team is eliminated. Once a team is eliminated, advancement among the remaining teams shall again be determined by the tiebreakers in the order listed starting with head to head competition.

- 1. Head to head competition*
- 2. Goals scored minus goals allowed (max 4 goals per game)*
- 3. Fewest goals allowed*
- 4. Fewest red cards*
- 5. Most shutouts*
- 6. Penalty Shoot-out*

**Game Length**

U9-10  
Two 25 Min Halves

U11-12  
Two 30 Min Halves

U13-14  
Two 35 Min Halves

U15-16  
Two 35 Min Halves

U17-18-19  
Two 35 Min Halves

*Shoot-outs will be used only as necessary in semi-final and final matches.*

**Substitutions u-13 and up**

With the consent of the Field Referee substitutions may

be made, from the center of the field, prior to your throw-in or either teams goal kick, after a goal scored by either team, during a stoppage of play for an injury and in accordance with the Laws of the Game. A cautioned player may be substituted for prior to restart of play with the referee's permission but this is not mandatory.

**Substitutions u-12 and below at any stoppage Teams, Players and Coaches**

All teams & Players must be affiliated with the USYSA. **Player must be registered to only one team playing in the Azzurri 2017 Invitational Soccer Tournament.** Player passes and roster will be checked prior to each match.

**Grace Time:** No grace time will be allowed for any team.

**Team Discipline**

A coach is responsible for the words and actions of his players and their fans. Verbal abuse of the opponents or referees by players, coaches or spectators will not be tolerated. Violations may result in forfeiture of the game and/or expulsion from the tournament.

A red carded player and his/her coach must report to tournament headquarters immediately after the game in which the card was given to determine the player's status for subsequent games. Decisions will be based upon the rules of the Nebraska State Soccer Association, the sanctioning organization for the Azzurri Invitational Soccer Tournament.

No alcoholic beverages are allowed at Dodge Park, their parking lots, or any other Omaha city park.

**Refunds**

Should all or a portion of the Azzurri 2016 Invitational Soccer Tournament be cancelled due to inclement weather or other just cause resulting in the tournament not providing the play of three games, refunds shall be issued as follows:

- No games played, U9-10..... \$65**
- No games played, U11 – 12.....\$135**
- One game played, U11 – 12.....\$50**
- Two games played, U11 – 12.....\$30**
- No games played, U13 – 19.....\$200**
- One games played, U13 – 19.....\$140**
- Two games played, U13 – 19.....\$70**

*Games shall be considered played when completed in regulation time, shortened time, or penalty kicks.*

**No Protests Are Allowed**

Referees decisions are FINAL.