



# TOURNAMENT RULES

## GENERAL

### **ROSTERS**

- Each team must submit a roster to Steel City World Cup (SCWC) officials with a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 12 players. Rosters must include at least 2 females.
- Rosters must be submitted and a waiver form must be signed before any player may take the field.
- No player who is not on your roster and/or did not sign a waiver form may play in the SCWC.

### **WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

- All participants must agree to and sign the SCWC waiver of liability.
- Team Captains are responsible for gathering all signed player waivers.
- All participants in the SCWC assume the risk of injury. The SCWC organizers, its volunteers, and employees shall not be liable for injury to person, loss or damage to personal property arising from or in any way resulting from participation in the SCWC.

## RULES

### **START TIME AND KICK OFF**

- All games will start at their scheduled time.
- A team can start play with a minimum of 5 players
- If a team does not have enough players to start the game by 5 minutes after the scheduled start time, the team will forfeit the game.
- A captains coin toss at center field will determine defending goals and kick-off.

### **GAME LENGTH**

- Regulation games consist of the following:
  - Group Stage - two 20 minute halves with a 3 minute half time.
  - Rounds of 16 & 8 – two 25 minute halves with a 5 minute half time.
  - Semi-Finals and Championship – two 30 minute halves with an 8 minute half time.
- Teams will switch sides at halftime.
- SCWC games will use a running clock. However, the referee maintains discretion to stop the clock for injury or extraordinary circumstances.

- Group stage games on Saturday 9/23 and Sunday 9/24 that end regulation in a tie will be recorded and scored as such. There will be no overtime or penalty kicks in Group Stage games.
- All single elimination stage games on Saturday 9/30 and Sunday 10/1 that end regulation in a tie will go immediately to a 3-person shoot out. At least one shooter must be a female. If the game is still tied after 3 penalty kicks for each team, sudden death penalty kicks will follow until a winner is determined. In sudden death shoot out, a female must shoot at least once every three kicks.

## **EQUIPMENT**

- Soccer cleats or flats are permitted. No metal studs.
- Shin-guards are strongly recommended, but are not required.
- Mouth guards are strongly recommended, but are not required.
- Goalies may use their own gloves.
- Tournament balls will be provided for game play only.

## **GAME PLAY**

- Games will be played 7 on 7 (inclusive of goalies).
- A minimum of 2 females must be on the field at all times. This rule will apply even in the event of injury, no show, etc. If for some reason a team cannot meet this requirement during game play, the team will be required to play shorthanded until the team can meet the 2 female minimum rule.
- Games will begin with a kickoff at the center. The ball may be kicked forward or backwards. The defending team must stand no closer than three (3) yards to the ball.
- Kickoffs are used at the beginning of the game, the beginning of the half, and after any goal scored.
- Except as otherwise noted, all standard FIFA soccer rules and regulations will be used and enforced.
- Defensive players must be three (3) yards away from corner kicks.
- Defensive players must be three (3) yards away from the touchline on all opponent's throw-ins.
- Goalkeeper may not handle the ball when a teammate has deliberately kicked the ball to the goalie (pass-back rule).
- Goalkeeper may not punt the ball. Restarts as a result of this infraction are indirect free kick three (3) yards outside the goal box.
- No slide tackling.
- All kicks are indirect with the exception of penalty kicks.
- Substitutions can be made on the fly.

## **POINTS AND SEEDING**

- The top 2 teams from each group will advance to the single elimination stage on Saturday 9/30 and will be seeded based on the results of group stage games.
- For group stage games, teams will receive 1 point for a win, 1/2 point for a tie, and no points for a loss.
- Seeding for the knock-out stage will be determined using the following criteria in the stated order:
  - Group stage winning percentage
  - Head-to-Head record
  - Goal differential
  - Goals allowed

- Coin toss
- Teams will be notified via email of seeding and single elimination stage game times on Monday 9/25 by Noon.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP, FOULS, AND MISCONDUCT**

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

- Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Any behavior that is deemed violent, harassing, and/or inappropriate in any way, as witnessed by the referee or tournament staff/volunteers, may result in disciplinary action up to and including removal from the tournament.
- Captains are to be the team liaison to discuss any call or rule with an official during game play.
- A player who is ejected from a game must leave the field immediately. Play will not resume until the ejected player has left.
- Officials reserve the right to end a game or call a timeout at any point if the overall sportsmanship is out of line.
- SCWC tournament officials reserve the right to remove a player from the tournament for any reason at any time if the player's conduct – on or off the field – warrants such action.

### **YELLOW AND RED CARDS**

- Yellow and red cards may be issued in accordance with FIFA rules and regulations.
- If a player receives a second yellow card within a game, an automatic red card will be issued.
- If a red card is issued, the offending player must immediately leave the field and the team will play down a player for the remainder of the game.
- Any player that receives a red card will not be permitted to play in the next game, if applicable.