

2009 HEART OF TEXAS SOCCER ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS RULES

Advancement to the North Texas Tournament of Champions Tournament to be played from December 4th through December 6th will be based upon the following:

On Saturday, October 31, 2009, a "playoff tournament" will be held to determine the teams that advance to represent Heart of Texas Soccer. Standing from qualifying matches during league play will be used to determine teams that will be invited to participate in the matches. The following teams per age bracket will be invited to participate:

U10 BOYS	U10 GIRLS
1st Place U10	1st Place U10
2nd Place U10	2nd Place U10
3rd Place U10	3rd Place U10
1st Place U9	1st Place U9
U12 BOYS	U12 GIRLS
1st Place U12	1st Place U12
2nd Place U12	2nd Place U12
3rd Place U12	3rd Place U12
4th place U12	4th place U12
U14 BOYS	U14 GIRLS
1st Place U14	1st Place U14
2nd Place U14	2nd Place U14
3rd Place U14	
4th place U14	
U16 BOYS	U16 GIRLS
1st Place U16	Automatic Advancement
2nd Place U16	
	U19 GIRLS
	Automatic Advancement

AGE BRACKETS

North Texas only recognizes the following Age Brackets for teams : U10, U12, U14, U16, and U19. Because of the number of teams, Heart of Texas Soccer has created a U9 bracket for both girls and boys. This has been done to allow teams to compete against teams of their own age and to keep teams as "age pure" as possible.

STANDINGS

Standings are determined based upon "qualifying games" during the regular fall season. "Qualifying Games" are defined as games played again a team within your Age Bracket, i.e. U12G vs U12 G. A games scheduled

against a team from another Age Bracket, i.e, U12G vs U16G, will not count toward the final standing of a particular Age Bracket. Because the number of "Qualifying Games" played may not be equal for every team in the bracket, the average points per qualifying game will be utilized to determine the order of seedings.

Team standings will be determined using a "Three points for a win" scoring system, similar to World Cup qualifying rounds. In "qualifying games", teams are awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, and 0 points for a loss.

In the event there are 2 teams in the same Age Bracket with equal average points per qualifying game (tied standings), the following order of tie breakers will be applied to determine age group winner: (A) head-to-head results, (B) Number of Goals Allowed (C) Total Goals Scored [up to 5 per game], (D) FIFA Penalty Kicks

RULES OF COMPETITION

AGE BRACKET	SEMI FINAL	FINAL
U10	20 Minute Halves	25 Minute Halves
U12	25 Minute Halves	30 Minute Halves
U14	30 Minute Halves	35 Minute Halves
U16	30 Minute Halves	40 Minute Halves

All games will be single elimination games with the winners of the Semi-Final Games advancing to the Finals. All coaches must submit the final game Report to the Site Headquarters within 15 minutes of completion of the Game.

Tournament of Champions is a competition of League Teams only. No Guest Players are allowed to participate.

In the event that a team is deemed ineligible to participate, or if a team decides not to enter the tournament, the next team to be invited to participate will be decided by the Tournament Committee.

PROTESTS

No protests will be allowed. All referee decisions and tournament committee decisions are final. We strongly advise our referees to play all games in their entirety. However, if the referee chooses to abandon a game before its completion because of abusive or disruptive behavior by spectators or players, specific guidelines have been set up by the Tournament Committee to determine the outcome of said game.

INTENT TO ENTER

By the end of Week 6, all teams that may be eligible to participate in the "Playoff Tournament" must submit an "Intent to Enter Form" to the Heart of Texas Soccer Office. This form will be available on the Heart of Texas Soccer Website. Failure to submit the form by the deadline will result in your team not being allowed to participate.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Teams are disqualified from consideration from participating in the "Playoff Tournament" by the following:

1. Teams that have accumulated 10 or more Caution Points during the season.
2. A Coach or Assistant Coach that has violated the rule of 50% Playing Time.
3. Failure to submit an Intent to Enter form prior to the deadline.
4. If a coach plays an ineligible or illegal player during League Play.

SUBSTITUTION

Free Substitution will be allowed in all age groups. A team may substitute on its own throw-in, on either team's goal kick, after a score, at half time or during an injury. Also, a team may substitute on a yellow card.

GAME JERSEYS

All teams are required to wear their Heart of Texas Soccer Jerseys at all games. Each jersey MUST have an easily identifiable unique number. (TAPED NUMBERS ARE NOT ALLOWED). Violators will be removed from the field of play until the player's equipment is corrected.

COST OF TOURNAMENT

The cost of the tournament will be \$50 cash or money order for all teams, playing or by automatic advancement. This cost will be utilized to cover the cost of the referees for the games that are played. Any remaining money from the entry fees will be used to cover the cost that is borne by Heart of Texas to submit teams to North Texas.

SOCCER COMPLEX RULES

NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES at any playing field or in the parking lot. We ask that you do not bring any cans or bottles onto the soccer complex. They are not good for lawn mowers and are much worse on soccer players. If you wish to bring beverages, we ask that you bring them in plastic or paper cups. Also we ask you to take care of your own trash and use the trash barrels provided.

All players must have adequate shin protection. Referees will check players before each game. NO PLAYER will be allowed to participate without proper equipment.

COACHING AND THE SIDELINES

A coach's area has been painted on the sideline of each field. You will be asked not to go beyond the area designated for your use. Bleachers have been provided for the use and enjoyment of your fans. Please use these areas. Coaches will be held responsible for the actions of their players and their fans.

Players and Coaches will sit on the same sidelines, with spectators on the opposite sideline. Only coaches and players will be allowed to sit on the player's sidelines.