

# 2025 Thornhill CC Festival

## ***FESTIVAL RULES (09 to U-12)***

The objective of the festival is to promote the game of soccer through sportsmanship, fair play and quality competition. The rules are intended to support the objective; however, all rules have their limitations, and every participant, whether player or official is expected to act in a manner that brings credit to the game. Doing so will add to the enjoyment by everyone.

### **1. LAWS OF THE GAME**

All games shall be played in accordance with the laws of the game and Recreational Matrix observed by Ontario Soccer and the Canadian Soccer Association, except "under the referee's jurisdiction; caution and ejections shall be extended to cover all team officials and spectators".

### **2. TEAM ELIGIBILITY**

Registrations will be held at the Thornhill Soccer Club on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 between 1:00 PM and 10:00 PM. All teams are expected to register their teams during this time. Registrations will not be accepted the next day August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 except in special circumstances.

Once a team is registered and the Team Roster is filled out and approved by the Festival Committee, no additions will be allowed to the Team Roster.

All participating teams must currently be registered with their District and Provincial (State) association. All teams outside of the jurisdiction of the York Region Soccer Association must provide proof of permission to travel (**ATF**) duly authorized by their respective governing association. This proof of permission to travel must accompany the application form for the application to be considered.

**ALL ATFs MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup> 2025, AT THE LATEST.**

See Recreational Matrix below in regards to team size, format, time limits, etc.

All players must have a valid player's registration book or approved ID card. Players are not allowed to register with more than one team or to switch from one team to another during this festival.

All teams must be covered by medical insurance and liability insurance.

### **3. AGE GROUPS**

AGE GROUP	MUST BE BORN DURING OR AFTER THE FOLLOWING YEARS
Under – 09	2016
Under – 10	2015
Under – 11	2014
Under – 12	2013

### **4. PROOF OF AGE**

Canada: Player's registration cards, approved ID cards or rosters with imbedded photographs duly authorized by the District Registrar shall be required as proof of age and eligibility.

U.S.A. and International: U.S.S.F. player's card or the equivalent, duly authorized by the State Registrar or equivalent shall be required as proof of age and eligibility.

## 5. **EQUIPMENT**

Player equipment shall be required as per F.I.F.A. Rules.

In the event of similar or identical jerseys (player's shirts), the home team will be required to change colors.

## 6. **DEVELOPMENT MATRIX**

<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>Under-09 and Under-10</b>	<b>Under-11 and Under-12</b>
<b>Playing Format</b>	7 v 7 (including GK)	9 v 9 (including GK)
<b>Game day roster size</b>	Max 12	Max 16
<b>Substitutions</b>	Unlimited (any stoppage)	Unlimited (any stoppage)
<b>Maximum Playing time per team</b>	100 minutes (2 x 50 minutes per game in one day)	140 minutes (2 x 70 minutes per game in one day)
<b>Minimum rest time between game times</b>	30 minutes	30 minutes
<b>Maximum rest time between game times</b>	120 minutes	120 minutes
<b>Throw ins or Pass ins</b>	Pass ins	Throw ins
<b>Offside</b>	No	Yes
<b>Ball size</b>	4 or 5 light	4 or 5 light
<b>Retreat Line</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Referee</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Assistant Referee</b>	No	No
<b>Score keeping or standings</b>	None	None
<b>Guaranteed games</b>	2 (One day event)	2 (One day event)
<b>Participation mementos</b>	Yes (Not trophies)	Yes (Not trophies)

## 8. **REFEREE'S REPORT and GAME SHEETS**

The referee will complete the game sheet and any discipline reports and submits these to the Festival conveners immediately following the completion of the game.

The game sheet must be completed and signed by one team official from each team and presented to the Field convener with a copy of the official roster no later than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick off time along with the players' cards.

## 9. **DISCIPLINE and ABANDONED GAMES**

Any player or team official who is ejected from a game in the festival will be automatically suspended for the following one (1) game. Players may neither dress nor sit at the bench nor play in the affected game. Team officials may not be in the vicinity of the player benches

The Festival Committee reserves the right to hold discipline hearings for players and game officials who have committed serious offences the result of which may be further suspension or disqualification from the Festival or Festival play. The committee will advise the time and location of any discipline hearings.

Note: All red card offenses and the results of the Festival Discipline meetings will be reported to the team's home district associations.

In the event of misbehavior by either team or spectators (except for referee assaults) the game may be suspended for up to 15 minutes by the referee before he/she abandons the game. The referee must

immediately inform the field Convener of the suspension of play and the game may be restarted at any time within the 15-minute suspension. In the event the game is abandoned, the team that is responsible for the misbehavior will forfeit the game and may, at the discretion of the Festival Committee, be disqualified for the rest of the festival.

#### **10. FAILURE TO SHOW**

A team shall be allowed a 15 minutes grace period from the scheduled kick-off time for late arrival before awarding the game to their opponents. A minimum of five (5) players constitutes a team for 7 vs 7 games and seven (7) players for 9 vs 9 games.

#### **11. INCLEMENT WEATHER**

In the event of inclement weather (i.e., continual rain, poor field conditions, lightning storms etc.), the Festival Committee will have the authority to change games such as:

- a) Relocate/reschedule games
- b) Change the duration of games
- c) Games terminated after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> half shall be considered official in the qualifying rounds and the scores will stand. All quarters, semi and final games must be completed.

**If a game is stopped because of inclement weather and is not restarted within half an hour, a team representative (as indicated on the festival entry form) must report to the soccer club office (where the registration took place on Friday night) for further instructions. If a team does not report within two hours of the time the game was halted, then they will be deemed to have forfeited the game.**

#### **12. PROTESTS**

Protests must be made in writing by the team coach or team manager and must be accompanied by a fee of \$150 cash within 1 hour of the conclusion of the game being protested; the protest document must be hand delivered to a Tournament Committee official. In the event that the protest is upheld, the fee shall be returned.

No protest of a referee's decision will be entertained.

#### **13. GENERAL**

The Festival Committee and/or the Thornhill Soccer Club will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team if the festival is cancelled in whole or in part.

The Festival Committee and/or the Thornhill Soccer Club will not be liable for any injuries sustained by any participant or spectator in the festival, on or off the fields.

The Festival Committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the festival and its interpretation of the rules and all other festival documentation is final.

#### **14. FIELDS CONVENORS AND FOOTNOTE**

Field conveners are appointed by the Festival Committee and are on duty at each game location. They are responsible for checking players' cards and team rosters prior to each game. Teams must check in with the convener at least 30 minutes prior to the start of each game.

#### **15. Refund Policy**

Where an age group is cancelled, a full refund will be given to each team that has entered the festival and for which we have received payment.

Where an age group has not been cancelled, a refund may be given to the team based on the following conditions:

- If the age group has been placed in jeopardy (not enough teams for the age group) then there is no refund for the team that has placed the age group in jeopardy;
- If the request was made prior to 14 days before the festival, then there will be a pro-rated refund given; festival committee will decide on the amount;

- If the request was made prior to 21 days before the festival, then there will be a full refund given;
- If a team does not show for the festival, no refund will be given;
- If a team in an age group does not show for the festival and the remaining teams do not play the guaranteed 2 games in the festival, then a pro-rated refund will be given to the remaining teams; the festival committee will decide on the amount;
- In each case, each team requesting or qualifying for a refund will be reviewed by the festival committee who will decide on the amount of the refund.

**16. Referee Fees**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Referee Fee</b>	<b>Asst. Ref Fee</b>
U09	\$30	N/A
U10	\$30	N/A
U11	\$40	N/A
U12	\$40	N/A
U13	\$40	\$30
U14	\$40	\$30
U15	\$40	\$30
U16	\$40	\$30
U17	\$40	\$30
U18	\$40	\$30