

Tournament Rules -Copa Rayados Internacional 2023  
The Woodlands, TX

Tournament Headquarters: 4055 Marsico Pl, The Woodlands, TX 77384  
Tournament Director: Brandon Abel, Scott Spencer

RULES AND FORMAT

Age Groups:

U19 January 1- December 31 2005  
U17 January 1 – December 31 2007  
U16 January 1 – December 1 2008  
U15 January 1 – December 31 2009  
U14 January 1 – December 31 2010  
U13 January 1 – December 31 2011  
U12 January 1 – December 31 2012  
U11 January 1 – December 31 2013  
U10 January 1 – December 31 2014  
U9 January 1 – December 31 2015

Roster Sizes:

22 player rosters are allowed for U13-19 but only 18 are eligible for each game and must be designated prior to the start of the game.

18 player roster sizes are allowed for u12 and younger but only 15 players (for U11-12) or 13 players (for u10 and younger) are eligible for each game and must be designated prior to the start of the game.

All games shall be played in accordance with the FIFA laws, except as specifically superseded by these rules.

Players may not play on 2 different teams during the tournament.

Round Robin Games may end in a tie.

**Group Tie breaker procedures:**

1. Results of head to head competition
2. Goal Differential (4 goal Maximum per Game)
3. Least Goals Allowed (4 goal Maximum per Game)
4. Number of Shutouts
5. Most Goals Scored (4 goal Maximum per Game)
6. FIFA Penalty Kicks (at a time and location to be determined by the Tournament Director)

Knockout stages: All matches must result in a winner.

If the game is tied after regulation then PK kicks per FIFA rules will be used to determine a winner.  
(Championship matches noted below)

Championship Matches only: Resolving Ties Using Overtime Play:

If the match ends in a tie, the teams will be given a five-minute rest and then two overtime periods will be played (i.e. no sudden death). This applies to all age groups.

Length of overtime periods:

Under 12 and younger: each period = 5 minutes: total time = 10 minutes

Under 13 and older: each period = 10 minutes: total time = 20 minutes

If the game is still tied after overtime, then PK kicks per FIFA rules will be used to determine a winner.

Consolation games on the last day may end in a tie.

**STAY TO PLAY POLICY:** For all teams traveling from beyond Houston area, teams must book their hotel rooms following the posted hotel policies of the tournament and the Key Bookings housing system.

**Refund Policy:** Once a team has been accepted, into the tournament with confirmation, there are no refunds for withdrawals.

#### **COVID 19 REFUND POLICY :**

If we were forced to cancel the tournament due to federal, state, or local guidelines concerning COVID19, refunds would be issued to teams. Refunds will be determined by subtracting unreimbursed expenses.

#### **Substitutions**

Players must enter from the center of the field. Substitutions may be made with the consent of the referee at the following time

Substitution can be made at any dead ball situation, by either team, unlimited.

2. For under 14 and older divisions, a Maximum of 7 substitutions are allowed. No re-entry of players is allowed. For under 13 and younger divisions, unlimited substitution and re-entry is allowed.

#### **Length of Game/Ball Size**

Full Length games per times below for Semifinals/ Finals (Sat and Sun)

Division Length of Game/ Ball Size

U19/17 80 min. 5

U16/15/14 80 min 5

U13 70 min. 5 (u12s playing 11v11 are in the U13 division and rules)

U12 60 min 4 with offsides 9v9

U11 50 min 4 with offsides 9v9

U10 50 min 4 with offsides 7v7

**NOTE: SSG Modification:** There is no heading at U11 and younger

Note: Round robin games **on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday** will follow a mini-game format and matches will be:

U19/17 50 min. 5

U16/15/14/ 13 45 min. 5

U12/11/10/9/8 40 min 4 with offsides

Teams will play round robin matches Wed-Fri in a shortened mini-game format. After completing the round robin stages, all teams will be re-seeded into semifinal play on the Saturday for full length games.

All teams will play a minimum of 3 round robin games prior to beginning the Semifinal round on Saturday.

First team listed is the home team and responsible for changing uniforms in case of a conflict with one exception. If the home team is an international team, and the away team is a domestic team, then the away team will be responsible for changing uniforms in case of a conflict. Home teams will be responsible for providing game balls.

#### Conduct:

Players sent off and/or coaches removed from a game are automatically suspended from their team's next tournament game. Players sent off or coaches removed for fighting will not be allowed to return to the tournament. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their spectators. Coaches cannot be carded, but they can be asked to leave.

All participants and spectators must follow the conduct policies of the associated parks departments and facilities. These include but are not limited to:

No alcohol No smoking

No verbal or physical abuse of anyone

Breaking of conduct policies will be reviewed by the tournament director and action may include: expulsion from complex, expulsion from tournament, and warnings.

For all disciplinary matters including red cards, the tournament will report this to MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS and US Soccer Federation as required. US Soccer will report this to the home Federations of international teams.

#### Spectator and Coaching Areas:

Teams are to take the same side of the field, with all parents on the opposite side. Coaching areas extend 10 yards each side of the half way line.

Forfeits: Unless superseded by a ruling from the Tournament Director, or his appointed representative, there will be a 15 minute grace period. Forfeit time is at the end of the grace period. A team must have seven or more players present in order to begin or end a match.

Forfeited matches result in a 4-0 win / 0-4 loss and the forfeited team may continue in the tournament unless ruled actions are cause for expulsion.

#### Tournament Inclement Weather Policy:

Every attempt will be made to have all matches played. Re-scheduled games may be played under lights in the evening or may be scheduled early Saturday /or/ Sunday morning, prior to normal starting time at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

Games will continue during rainstorms.

Games will be suspended by the referee or Tournament Director in the event of:

1. Lightning (as determined by the referee or Tournament Director)
2. Hail Storms (as determined by the referee or Tournament Director)
3. Un-playable field conditions (Determined by the referee or Tournament Director)

Tournament Director decisions are final and not subject to appeal. Re-scheduling attempts will be made as quickly and fairly as possible, considering referee and field availability and the normal progress of the Tournament Rules.

As a final solution, it may be necessary to employ a coin toss to determine teams advancing in knockout stages. The safety of players, referees and spectators is the tournament's primary concern followed by fairness to the affected teams and the orderly flow of competition to Divisional championships.

#### Games Suspended in the First Half:

Attempt to complete one-half of the match prior to the next scheduled game.

If one-half of the match is completed, the game is official and the score stands.

If one-half cannot be completed prior to the next scheduled game then the ...

Game may be re-scheduled with a score of 0-0.

Game may be re-scheduled before start of normal play on Sunday with the score at 0-0.

Game may be canceled and FIFA kicks will be used to determine a winner.

Matches called at Half time or during the second half will be considered as complete and final. The score at that time will stand.

#### Matches That Cannot Start At the Scheduled Time:

Teams are to remain at the site to begin the match at any point possible prior to 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the next match.

Attempt to play two equal halves, changing ends at mid-point with no break at the half.

All matches must terminate at the time designated as the starting time of the next match unless superseded by the Tournament Director.

If the shortened match time available is less than half of the regularly scheduled time, then the match shall be immediately determined by FIFA kicks from the Penalty Mark.

NOTE!!! In any event, teams must report to the scheduled game site prior to the scheduled starting time, ready to play and may not leave the site until the match is canceled by a Tournament Director.

#### Rescheduled match

information will be available at the Tournament Headquarters. Teams involved in a canceled match must have a representative check-in with the Tournament Director at the headquarters for re-scheduling information.

#### Player Equipment:

In general, Law IV of FIFA laws apply.

When the color of jerseys is similar or identical, the designated away team will change colors (i.e. the team listed first on the schedule when reading from L to R, is the home team). The referee shall be the final authority regarding the need to change.

Shin guards are required for all players.

Casts: Players who are wearing protective soft casts are allowed to play if the following conditions are met: The cast is wrapped in foam or other protective material that will protect other players.

The player with the cast does not attempt to use the cast to an advantage or in such a way as to put other players in danger as determined by the referee.

The referee approved the cast protection and such approval will not be unreasonably withheld.

#### General:

All judgment decisions of the referee are final and binding and are not protestable.

The Tournament Committee and Director, and all sponsors and organizers, will not be responsible for any expenses

incurred by any team or club if the tournament is cancelled in whole or part, nor will any refunds be made.

The Tournament Committee and Director reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the tournament and its judgment is final.

Official state USYSA rosters or US Club Soccer or official roster governed by recognized national association, approved guest player rosters (if applicable), laminated player identification/registration cards, and permits to travel must be presented at tournament registration. Rosters must be originals or approved copies with an original official state stamp or embossed certification on the roster.

Five (5) GUEST PLAYERS ARE PERMITTED. All players must be registered to the team.

International teams must check in with official team roster, player ID Cards, Passports, official travel permission notification from their governing association/ federation.

Tournament Registration is at tournament check-in at headquarters. Prior to each match, teams check in with the referee 30 minutes prior to the match. All documents must be present and available at all matches.

Referees will check Cards against rosters prior to matches.

Uniform numbers must match the game day roster of all players.

All referees are certified by the federation in order to officiate a match.

Teams are scheduled 4 matches during the tournament.

Referees will report scores to the Referee assignor and field marshalls will report scores to the tournament director.

#### J. Protest:

No protests are allowed.

#### Equal Rest:

Every effort to provide scheduling that provides equal rest for each team will be a primary consideration; however, the limited fields and weather conditions may prevent this from happening. In any event, the objective is to complete the tournament in the time allowed. All divisions are flighted based on the information given about your team in the application and upon Division directors' knowledge of your team. The goal is to balance the competition as much as possible.

#### INCLEMENT WEATHER OR UNEXPECTED TERMINATION OF PLAY

Regardless of weather conditions, coaches, players and their teams must appear on the field of play as scheduled, ready to play unless notified by a member of the tournament committee. Failure to appear will result in forfeiture of the match.

Only the referee or the tournament committee may cancel a match due to weather conditions. In the event of inclement weather, the tournament committee has the authority to reschedule matches or cancel the tournament.

There are no refunds due to inclement weather cancellation of tournament matches or the tournament in whole. Every effort will be made to complete the tournament in total or partially.