



Sheffield Invitational September 23-25, 2016

Registration:

- a) Payment must be received prior to the registration deadline.
- b) Oklahoma teams must submit club-approved rosters, which will be verified through OSA by the Tournament Committee. Academy teams will have approved academy rosters.
- c) Medical releases and player passes are required for all competitive teams. Academy teams will need rosters and medical releases, but player passes are not required.
- d) Guest players are required to have player passes and the appropriate documentation dictated by their State Association. Competitive teams will be allowed 5 guest players as long as the maximum roster size is not exceeded.
- e) Teams outside the state of Oklahoma must submit the required USYSA travel papers and current roster approved by their state association.
- f) Tournament entry fees are not refundable in the event of a no-show. If a team withdraws from the tournament before the deadline, a refund may be given only if another team can be found as a replacement. Any team withdrawing after the tournament deadline will forfeit their tournament fees.
- g) No game will begin until all tournament entry requirements are satisfied.
- h.) A player may not participate or compete on two teams within the same division during the tournament. Any player intending to participate on two or more teams must notify the tournament committee during team check-in or prior to the player's first game.

Team Check-In:

Local teams will have a mandatory check in on Friday September 23, 2016 from 6-9pm at Keas Field. Teams traveling will be allowed to check in on Saturday morning, so long as they do so one hour prior to kickoff of their first game. All teams must be checked in prior to participation.

Required Documents:

- Medical Release form for all players on roster

- Guest Player form from your Home Association for all players not on roster
- Permission to travel for all teams outside of Oklahoma
- Official Roster stamped by State or Country Association
- Official Player passes (Not Needed for Academy)

Rules of Play:

The Rules of play of the Sheffield Invitational will be the “Laws of the Game” as published by FIFA, with those modifications stated herein. All teams and tournament participants must abide by US Youth Soccer’s policies, rules, and regulations, and are subject to their disciplinary actions.

Equipment:

- a) Teams are required to have alternate jerseys. All jerseys are to be numbered on the back in agreement with the roster. Goalie jerseys do not need to be numbered.
- b) All players are required to wear appropriate shin guards.
- c) The home team is listed first or on top in the schedule. Both teams will sit on the same side of the field and parents from both teams will sit on the opposite side. The home team will wear white (or light) jersey. In case of color conflict, the home team is responsible for changing to the light color. In the event that the visiting team shows up in white, and the home team is in white, the visiting team will need to change.
- d) Each team must be prepared to provide a game ball to the referee prior to start of the game.
- e) NO WARM-UPS IN THE PENALTY AREA!!!

Games:

- a) Length of Games

Age	Format	Cost	Game Length: Preliminary, Qtrs, Semi-finals	Game Length: Finals	Max Roster	Max Guest
U7-U8	4v4	\$275	40 minutes	40 minutes	8	2
U9-U10	7v7	\$450	50 minute	50 minutes	14	2
U11-U12	9v9	\$500	60 minute	60 minutes	18	4
U13-U14	11v11	\$575	60 minute	75 minutes	22	5
U15-U16	11v11	\$575	70 minute	80 minutes	22	5
U17-U19	11v11	\$575	70 minute	80 minutes	22	5

- b) If a Quarter-Final, Semi-Final or Final game ends in a tie there will be two 5-minute overtimes played. This will be golden goal overtime. If at the end of the overtime periods the game is still tied the winner of the game will be determined by FIFA penalty kicks.
- d) A game will be declared a forfeit if a team is not ready to play at the designated time.
- e) A game will be considered completed if terminated during the second half of play.

Scoring System and Tie Breakers

- a) Team standings following pool play will be based on the following scoring system:
 - 3 points for a Win

- 1 point for a Tie
- 0 points for a Loss

A game that is forfeited will be recorded as a 3-0 score and the winner will receive 3 points. The team forfeiting will be disqualified from the tournament.

b) Tie-breaker system is as follows:

- (1) Head-to-head
- (2) Goal differential (max 4 per game)
- (3) Fewest goals allowed
- (4) Most goals scored
- (5) Most shutouts
- (6) FIFA penalty kicks

c) If three or more teams are tied in standings then proceed through tie-breaker systems as stated above to determine a winner. Once a winner is determined then proceed through the tie-breaker system starting again at (1) to determine a winner.

Substitutions:

- a) U7 – U13: Substitutions may occur at any stoppage of play with the approval of the referee
- b) U14 –U19: Substitutions may occur as follows:
 - A player receiving a yellow card (the player carded only)
 - Prior to a throw-in for the team in possession only
 - Prior to a goal kick
 - After a goal by either team
 - After an injury, when the referee stops the play
 - At half-time by either team

Awards:

Team and individual awards will be given to the top two teams in each division.

Referees:

- a) Referee decisions are final; no protests will be allowed.
- b) Oklahoma State Law prohibits verbal or physical assault of a referee. Violators of this law will be turned over to the authorities and charges will be filed.

Standards of Conduct

All participants in the tournament are expected to maintain high standards of conduct during their participation in the Sheffield Invitational. Failure to do so may result in punitive action, depending upon circumstances, which may range from a warning, to a reduction in points in the current standings, or banning that team from future participation in the tournament. The Tournament Committee has sole discretion in this matter.

Team Selection Criteria:

A selection committee will determine the teams that receive invitations. Factors that may be considered for selection: application date, relative strength based on win/loss records, difficulty of schedules, strength of opponents, and rankings. The committee may weigh other factors such as: teams traveling from out of state, other tournament results, ODP players on a team, etc. Accepted teams will be posted at www.sheffieldunitedsc.com as soon as possible.

Inclement Weather:

In the event that the tournament has to be cancelled in whole or in part, the Sheffield Invitational will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team. Every measure will be taken to refund a portion of the entry fee after out-of-pocket expenses are deducted.

Matters Not Provided For

Any matters not provided for in these rules shall be determined by the Tournament Director, whose decision will be final.

Bixby Soccer Complex Rules:

- No pets
- No smoking or tobacco products of any kind
- No alcohol
- No firearms
- No glass containers
- Only security and tournament officials will be allowed on complex property before the complex is open, or after it closes
- No warm-ups in the penalty area (this rule will be strictly enforced!).

Tournament Heading Policy

1. U11 and younger. U.S. Soccer recommends that players in U11 programs and younger shall not engage in heading, either in practices or in games.
2. U12 and U13. U.S. Soccer further recommends for players in U12 and U13 programs, that heading training be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes per week with no more than 15-20 headers per player, per week.
3. All coaches should be instructed to teach and emphasize the importance of proper techniques for heading the ball.

To clarify: U12 and U13 can head the ball during the game but are limited in practice. U11 and younger cannot head the ball during practice or during a game. Referees have been instructed to handle heading in the following manner: "[A]n indirect free kick (IFK) should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If a player does not deliberately head the ball, then play should continue."

What if you have U11 or younger players on a U12 team? During the game the referee does not know if a player is younger and will call the game based upon the age group of the team. The player will be treated as a U12 player during the game but the coach should inform the parents of the heading recommendations and possible safety concerns of playing up. The player should be instructed to avoid heading.