

- **All players registered in the Al-Wahda Sports Festival must be of the Muslim Faith. Any changes to this criteria will be communicated to all registered teams. Any individual found to be in violation of this rule, will be immediately disqualified from the festival. In such an event, the entire team will be also disqualified from the competition.**

U12 Players (9 to 12 years) (Max 7 teams)

- Can participate only if born in the following years; 2005 – 2008 (inclusive)
- Teams will be organized by coordinators once all players have registered.
- If you have a full team registering, kindly advise the sports coordinator to add your team name to the Al-Wahda Website and ensure all your players register under that name.
- To play in more than one age group, you need to register as playing in multiple sports.
- Other events could be organized based on number of participants and time.

U16 Players (13 to 16 years) (Max 7 teams)

- Can participate only if born in the following years; 2001-2004 (inclusive)
- If you have a full team registering, kindly advise the sports coordinator to add your team name to the Al-Wahda Website and ensure all your players register under that name
- A team can have up to a maximum of two players that fall between 17-18 years old (on or before Dec 31, 2017)
- To play in more than one age group, you need to register as playing in multiple sports.
- Player(s) with no team will be allocated one by our coordinator to ensure their participation.
- Other events could be organized based on number of participants and time

1. Player and manager Code of Conduct

- Each player, manager and coach is expected to demonstrate fair play, good sportsmanship between competitors, Coaches, spectators and other officials, and with the basic respect for one another as Muslim's. Also, it must be clearly noted, that each player, manager/coach will conduct them self in a manner that is consistent as a Muslim off the field, in the wider community at large, and during their visit in the host city. Breaches may include but are not limited to; the use of illicit drugs, inappropriate behavior, violence etc, that are simply in contravention of basic Islamic principles. It is understood that any breach of the player and manager/coach code of conduct will be examined and reviewed by JSRB Board and judgment passed accordingly.

2. Team setup

- This is a 7 v 7 (including goal-keeper) tournament.
- The minimum numbers of players to register team is 7.
- All players must be of Muslim faith.
- All players under the age of 16 (as of September 1, 2017) will be required to complete a parent waiver form.

- A team is allowed to register as many players as they want. All players registered will be allowed on the team sheet for any particular game. Teams will need a minimum of 5 players (including goalkeeper) on the field to play. In cases where a team has less than 5 players, the game will be registered as a forfeit (2-0).
- Any player(s) or team(s) that have outstanding fees will be disqualified from play until paid in full
- Players swap-out will be allowed for maximum of two players only. The swap period will be up to 72 hours prior to the beginning of the first game. The swaps are restricted to exchanges only. No additions to the number of players in the roster. Swapping of players is not allowed between teams. To register a swap, teams are required to submit a swap player form, player registration (including waiver form), and a new team registration form by the due date noted above.

3. **Tournament specifications**

- The draw will assign each team with a group and a reference number, which will be used for the scheduling. Thereafter a draw will take place and the schedule will be posted on the website prior to the start of the tournament.

• **Length of games**

- The group games and second round games will be 25 minutes straight...
- The quarter-final games will be 15 minutes per half with a 2-minute half-time break.
- The semi-finals will be 20 minutes per half with a 5-minute half-time break.
- The Finals will be 25 minutes per half with a 5-minute half-time break.

• **Inclement weather**

- In the event of severe inclement weather (i.e. extreme thunder showers, lightening, hail etc.) at the referee's sole discretion, a stoppage of play may be called. If the stoppage is over 10minutes and 75percent of the game has been completed (e.g. 30mins of a 40minute game) the score stands as is even in the event of tie. If the stoppage is less than 10mins the game resumes on with no shortening of game length. If the game ending in tie must be settled (i.e. quarter finals, semi and finals) than the game will be resumed to complete the balance of full time remaining. It is the duty of the referee to immediately keep time at the commencement of such a stoppage of play.
- Any necessary changes to the format and schedule of play will be settled solely at the discretion of the Conflict Resolution Committee, the Al-Wahda Committee and or the referee.

4. **Tournament format**

- Please see website.
- Three points are awarded for a win, one point for a draw, and no points for a defeat. If a team is unable to meet the minimum player (5 players) requirements 5 minutes after the scheduled time of the game, the game shall be forfeited to the opposing team. Any forfeit will result in the opposing team getting three points with a score-line of 2-0.
- If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of the group matches, the following criteria are applied, in the order given, to determine the rankings:
 - Head-to-head result
 - Goal difference
 - Most number of goals scored

- Least number of goals conceded
- Lower number of yellow cards and red cards received (equivalent to two yellow cards) among the teams in question
- If, after applying criteria a) to d) to the teams in question, two or more teams still have an equal ranking. A coin-toss will be used as a tie breaker as all teams qualify to the playoffs.
- Knock-out Rounds: In case of a tie at the end of regulation time, penalty shoot-outs (3 penalties followed by sudden death penalty) will be held to determine the winner. Penalties can only be taken by players that are playing in the game at the end of regulation time. The number of penalties in the event of a tie will be increased to 5 in the finals. Golden goal or silver goal rule will not be applicable. See “Length of Games” for further information on duration of the games.

5. **Tournament schedule –**

- “Al-Wahda Sport Tournament” reserves the right to amend or alter game schedules, venues and rules at any time

- **Fees**

- Please check the Al Wahda website for fees for soccer and/or multiple sports.

- **Discipline**

- The referee’s decision is final. The flow of the game will only be conducted by the sound of the whistle.
- Sportsmanship is the key to our success and this enforcement will enable the referee to keep control of the game.
- Verbal warnings, yellow cards and red cards have been put in place to curb any conduct unbecoming of a sportsman. These will be used at the referee’s discretion based on the severity of the player(s) actions. This includes but is not limited to the following unwarranted behavior:
 - Unsporting behavior, persistent infringement or time wasting
 - Any arguments against referee’s call
 - Arguments between players
 - Use of any profanity swearing towards another player or referee
 - Use of any obscene gestures
 - Foul play with any malicious intent
 - Any intolerable behavior deemed inappropriate by the referee
- **Yellow and red cards**
 - A player who is sent off the field of play after accumulation of two yellow cards in the same game will be suspended for the next match in the competition. A direct red card will result in a minimum of one game suspension. A second infraction of being sent off in another game by the same player will be referred to the Conflict Resolution Committee.
 - 2 yellow cards in the group stages will result in one (1) match suspension. The suspension will also apply if the next game is in the second round.
 - 2 yellow cards in the playoffs will result in one (1) match suspension.
 - A player with one (1) yellow card in the group stages will start clean in the second round.

- The conflict resolution committee has the right to increase the suspension and/ or disqualify a player based on the referee's report.

- **Equipment**

- Each team must wear different color jerseys. In the case of color conflicts, one of the teams (based on a coin toss) can borrow the colored pinnies that will be available pitch-side.
- All teams will be required to declare the team jersey color and roster with each player number by August 25th, 2017.
- All teams will require having numbers on the back of their jerseys. Players will be required to wear the same number for the entire tournament, taped numbers are not permitted.
- Goalkeeper's jerseys with numbers will be required to be distinct from the outfield players. No caps/hats allowed.
- All soccer shoes are permitted except for soft grounds. No replaceable or metal studs.
- All players are required to wear shin guards.

- **Other game rules**

- Free-kicks: The ball must be stationary before taking a free kick. Defenders must move 8 yards back when a free kick is awarded. Intentional encroachment by defenders at the taking of free kicks may result in a yellow card. Players of the defending team shall remain at least 8 yards from the ball until it is kicked.
- No slide tackles, consequences will be left in the discretion of the referee.
- No Direct Free Kicks
- Indirect Free Kicks: a goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal. Indirect free kicks are awarded to the opposing team if:
 - a goalkeeper, inside his own penalty area takes more than 6 seconds while controlling the ball with his hands before releasing it.
 - Touched the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate.
 - Touches the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate.
- Kick or attempts to kick an opponent
- Jumps at an opponent
- Handles the ball deliberately
- Holds the opponent
- Slide tackle
- obstruction
- Corner kick, goal kick, and kickoff are indirect kicks
- Goal-kicks:
 - All goal kicks should be taken from the goal box marked.
 - The ball is not considered live until it has left the penalty area and may not be touched by a player, other than the kicker, until it has done so.
 - After the goal kick, the ball may be played by any player other than the player who took the kick. The kicker may not play the ball until it has been touched by another player.
 - The goal kick can be kicked to any area of the field.
- Penalties: Any fouls, handballs by a defending player within the penalty area shall result in a penalty kick. These will be left to the discretion of the referee. Penalty spot will be taken where marked.
- Substitutions: While there will be unlimited substitutions, the referee must permit the substitution to occur and can do so at anytime, throw ins, goal kicks , free kicks. If the team with possession of the ball does not initiate a substitution than the defending team is not entitled to substitute. Incoming player(s) must be situated outside the center of the field of play and await Referee's permission to enter. Players have to be within ten (10) feet of the

touch line before the substitute may enter the field of play. Goalie substitutions can only occur at a stoppage with the permission of the referee.

- Ball out of play: The ball is out of play if:
- When the whole of the ball has crossed the goal-line or touch line, whether on the ground or in the air.
- When the game has been stopped by the referee. The ball is in play at all other times.
- Corner kick: A corner kick is a method of restarting play. A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the defending team. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick. Players of the defending team shall remain at least 8 yards from the ball until it is kicked.
- Kick-in instead of Throw-in:
- A Goal cannot be scored from being kicked in.
- 8 yards space can be given if asked from the referee
- Grace period: Teams will have a maximum of 5 minutes as grace period before the game being declared as a forfeit. In any instances of a forfeit, the opposing team would be declared as the winner. The rules around award of points and goals are discussed in a separate section.
- Jewelry: No item of jewelry of any sort will be allowed on the field of play, even if it is 'taped'. i.e., covered.
- No offside rules will apply for the 7-side soccer.
- The playing area is approximately 60 yards in length and 45 yards in width.
- Only eligible players including 1 coach and 1 manager will be allowed on the team bench.

- **Conflict resolution**
- The Conflict Resolution Team will be made up of: Three independent members to be named at a later date. A majority will carry the decision.
- Any disputes will be resolved through mediation with either of three members listed above. Their decision will be final

- **Contact Info**
- **Hasanain Panju- 647.388.2082-hhpanju@gmail.com**
- **Sajjad Najarali – 416.885.4212 – ishnaj@gmail.com**