

WOMEN'S SOCCER

RULES & REGULATIONS

GENERAL

- The referee's ruling on a play is final.
- The Al-Wahda Tournament Committee Officials reserve the right to modify these rules at any time.
- The Al-Wahda Tournament Committee Officials reserve the right to eject anyone, player or spectator, for inappropriate conduct.
- The Al-Wahda Festival has a zero-tolerance drug and alcohol policy for all participants and guests.

1. SIZE OF THE FIELD

U15 matches will be played indoors on quarter field.

U15 and Women's Open matches will be played indoors on a double field.

2. THE BALL

The ball is of size 5.

3. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

The following rules apply for the **U11** division only:

A match is played between two teams, each consisting of no more than 5 players on the field, one of which is the goalkeeper.

- A match will not start if either team consists of fewer than 4 players. There will be a 5 min grace period before the team must forfeit the game.
- Maximum of 10 players is allowed per roster for the U11 division.

The following rules apply for **U15** and **Women's Open** divisions only:

A match is played between two teams, each consisting of no more than 7 players on the field, one of which is the goalkeeper.

- A match will not start if either team consists of fewer than 5 players. There will be a 5 min grace period before the team must forfeit the game.
- Maximum of 12 players is allowed per roster for the U15 and Women's Open division.

Unlimited number of substitutions can be made at any stoppage with the permission of the referee for all divisions.

4. EQUIPMENT

A player shall not wear anything that is harmful to herself or other players (including any kind of jewelry).

- Players of the same team must wear similar jersey colors, with the exception of the goalkeeper who shall wear a different color
- Each player must have a number at the back of their jersey
- Cleats will not be allowed at Vaughan Sportsplex soccer fields. The referees will check shoes before the games.
- Shin pads and gloves, for the goalkeeper, are mandatory.

5. THE REFEREE

The referee has full authority to enforce the laws of the game and their decisions are final. There will be no assistant referees.

6. DURATION OF MATCH

For the U11 division, the match lasts two equal periods of 10 minutes run-time with a 5-minute half time interval.

For the U15 and Women's Open division, the match lasts two equal periods of 20 minutes run-time with a 5-minute half-time interval.

There will only be a stoppage in time in the case of an injury or a timeout. Each team is entitled to one timeout of two minutes per game.

7. THE START AND RESTART OF PLAY

A kick off is the method of starting or restarting play at the start of a period as well as after a goal is scored.

- A goal can be scored directly from a kick off

8. BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

The ball is out of play when the whole of the ball has crossed the goal-line or touch line, whether on the ground or in the air.

9. THE METHOD OF SCORING

A goal is scored when the entire ball crosses the goal line between the goal post and under the crossbar.

10. OFFSIDE

There will be no offside in this tournament.

11. FOULS AND MISCONDUCTS

An *indirect free kick* is awarded to the opposing team of the team that commits any of the following offenses.

- Trips, kicks, strikes or attempt to trip, kick, or strike an opponent
- Jump, charge, push, hold, tackle, or spit at an opponent
- Handle the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within her own penalty area)
- A goalkeeper handles the ball after it has been passed to her by her own teammate

A *penalty kick* is awarded if any of the above offenses are committed by a player inside their own penalty area.

Yellow Card- Unsporting behavior, dissent by word or action, persistent infringement

Red Card- Violent Conduct, abusive language or gestures

12. FREE KICKS

- A goal cannot be scored directly from an indirect free kick
- All opponents must be at least 5 yards away from the ball until it is in play

13. THE PENALTY KICK

- The ball must be placed on the penalty mark (8 yards away from the goal line)
- All players must be behind the ball (outside the penalty area)
- Goalkeeper must remain on the goal line until the ball is in play

14. THE KICK IN

When the whole ball crosses the touchline, play will resume with a kick in by the team who did not last touch the ball.

15. THE GOAL KICK

A goal kick is awarded to the defending team when the ball passes over the goal line, having last touched a player of the attacking team and crossing the goal line without entering the net.

16. THE CORNER KICK

A corner kick is awarded to the attacking team when the ball passes over the goal line, having last touched a player of the defending team and crossing the goal line without entering the net. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick

TOURNAMENT SPECIFICATIONS

- 3 points will be awarded for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss
- If a team forfeits the game the score is 1-0 for the opposing team
- In the event of a tie, there will be no overtime or shootout in round robin games. In the semi finals and finals, there will be a 5-minute overtime followed by 3-goal shootout if necessary
- The following order will be used to determine what team advances to the semi-finals in the event of a tie: Head on winner, highest plus-minus score (goals forward - goals against), goals against, goals forward.
- Red card means 1 game suspension. Two yellow cards will also result in 1 game suspension