



## OCWSL Pot O' Gold Tournament Rules 2008

The tournament will be played under FIFA rules, except where superseded by the rules in this document.

All played games will be considered final and may not be protested unless due to suspicion of player eligibility per the guidelines in the "Registration and Player Eligibility" section of these rules. No other protests will be permitted.

### LENGTH OF GAMES

Teams will be guaranteed to play a minimum of four (4) games.

#### Round Robin Games

- Two (2) 25-minute halves. Games may end in a tie.

#### Playoff Games and Finals

- Two (2) 25-minute halves, and if tied,
- Five (5) penalty kicks, alternating, and if still tied,
- One (1) penalty kick, alternating

Teams will be given a 5-minute halftime break. The game clock will start one (1) minute after the referee's whistle to signal the end of half time.

### GAME POINTS

Points will be awarded during the Round Robin games

Win	6 points
Tie	3 points
Loss	0 points

1 point awarded for a shutout.

1 point awarded for each goal scored, up to a maximum of 3 per game.

1 point deducted for each player/coach receiving a red card.

Maximum of 10 points per game.

8 points will be awarded for a forfeited game (1-0 score).

Accumulated points from the Round Robin games played on Saturday will determine Sunday game bracketing. Bracketing information will be handed out with the tournament schedules. It is each team's responsibility to check the boards to determine the schedule for Sunday's games.

Additional ruling in case of a tie situation:

In the event of identical point totals at the end of all Round Robin games, ties will be broken using the following criteria, in sequence:

1. Head to head results
2. Most wins
3. Goals against
4. Coin flip

## **REGISTRATION AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

Players must be female and meet the age requirements for the division in which they will be playing. All players must register to be eligible to play in the tournament. Each player may register with only one team for the Pot O' Gold Tournament. Registration consists of signing the Tournament Roster and Waiver, presenting picture ID with birthdate and receiving a wristband that must be worn in all games. Players currently registered with OCWSL may present their OCWSL-issued player cards as valid ID. Legible photocopies of IDs are acceptable.

Players must have identification readily available at all times during the tournament. At any time throughout the tournament, the tournament committee reserves the right to validate any player's eligibility.

**A PLAYER WHO IS NOT REGISTERED WITH A TEAM, WHO DOES NOT MEET THE AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR HER TEAM, AND/OR WHO IS REGISTERED FOR MORE THAN ONE TEAM IN THE 2008 POT O' GOLD TOURNAMENT IS CONSIDERED INELIGIBLE.**

- If a player is asked to show identification prior to, during, or after a game, she must do so immediately before continuing to play.
- If a team suspects that an ineligible player has played in a game that has been completed, the protesting team has 30 minutes to ask for player verification by a tournament official. The player in question must provide valid identification to the questioning official immediately upon request.
- If an ineligible player is found to have participated in the tournament, all games played by the ineligible player's team, up to and including the current game, will be forfeited. That team will be immediately disqualified and removed from the tournament. No exceptions.

Registration locations will be provided with the tournament schedule. Registration will occur on Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, and on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Each team must have a completed roster form submitted prior to their first game. Each individual must register in person to receive a wristband. All players must be registered on Saturday in order to play on Sunday.

## **GAME KICK OFF**

Home teams are listed first on the schedule and will choose the starting field side. The opposing team will kick off to start the game. There will be no coin toss.

## **GAME TIMES**

In order to keep the tournament on schedule, the Pot O' Gold committee has instructed referees to start the game clock on time. The game clock will start at the scheduled time, and teams have a one-minute grace period to take the field with a minimum of seven (7) players. If a team does not field the minimum number of players within the grace period, it will forfeit that game. The other team will be awarded the win, provided it has the required seven (7) player minimum.

Only five (5) minutes will be allowed for halftime.

## **SUBSTITUTIONS**

Free substitution is permitted during play. The player being substituted must be completely off the field before her substitute can enter the field of play. If a player enters the field before the substituted player runs off, then a foul of "too many players on the field" will be called and a yellow card will be issued.

## **RED AND YELLOW CARDS**

A player receiving a yellow card must leave the field immediately and may be replaced by a substitute at that time. The yellow-carded player may re-enter the game after a 5-minute cooling-off period.

A player receiving a red card must leave the game immediately and may not re-enter the game. The red-carded player must also sit out the team's next game. If a player with a red card does not sit out the following game, her team will automatically forfeit that game.

If a violent red card is issued or if a player accumulates two non-violent red cards, that player will be ejected from the tournament. Each red card issued will result in a one point deduction from a team's total points.

## **SLIDE TACKLING**

Slide tackling is allowed in the 18's divisions. NO slide tackling is allowed in the 30, 40, or 50 divisions.

**OFFSIDES**

Offsides will be in effect for all games.

**UNIFORMS**

All players must have matching uniforms with numbers. An alternate jersey will be required in the event of a color conflict. Each goalkeeper must wear a color that is clearly distinguishable from both teams' field players. The team listed first or on the top of the bracket is the home team. If there is a color conflict, the visiting team will change uniforms. Shin guards must be worn at all times. Orthopedic braces must be covered if metal is showing.

**SPORTSMANSHIP**

Good sportsmanship must prevail at all times. Coaches and team managers are responsible for the conduct of their players, coaches, and spectators. If in the opinion of a referee the coach does not have complete control of his/her team, the game will be forfeited.

**PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in each division. Prizes will be presented following the conclusion of the final games.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

The possession, consumption, and/or use of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances are prohibited at all of the POG premises during the tournament.

**SMOKING**

Smoking is prohibited on school grounds where tournament fields are located.

**WEATHER**

In the event of rain, the tournament committee will do everything possible to continue to play as scheduled. However, if the tournament committee and/or facility representatives deem that the tournament cannot be held due to weather, the tournament will be cancelled. Registration fees will be refunded. OCWSL will determine whether the tournament will be rescheduled for a later date. The tournament committee will notify all registered teams of any change in schedule with as much advanced notice as possible. The OCWSL hotline (714-518-4877) will also be updated with any weather related changes.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The tournament committee will resolve any situation not covered in these rules. Tournament officials reserve the right to take any action necessary to protect the integrity of the Pot O' Gold Tournament and the Orange County Women's Soccer League.