

# Three Blind Ref Soccer Tournament

Tournament Director/Contact: Rob and Kris Riley 406-257-5758

Tournament Headquarters: located at Kidsport Soccer Complex, Four Mile Drive, Kalispell, MT

Contact Number during the Tournament: 406-253-9165

## **Eligibility:**

This tournament is open to currently registered USSF league or association teams and federation affiliated teams having a maximum of 14 players for U-11 and U-12 teams. Eighteen players maximum for U-13 through U-17 teams. All teams must be currently registered and in good standing with their state national or provincial association, and hold a valid USSF players pass or its equivalent from a federation affiliated association for the current seasonal year. Passes will be inspected prior to the start of a team's first game. A maximum of five guest players may be added to the official league or association roster up to the maximum number of players as stated above. No player may be allowed to register with more than one team or switch to another team after a team has been registered at check in. Travel permission forms must be filed by all teams outside of Montana.

Teams from outside of the United States in good standings with their national association from inside and outside of CONCACAF are also eligible.

## **Ages:**

All youth teams will determine their ages per the USSF USYSA age guidelines. Age of the players will be determined as of August 1 to determine eligibility of a particular age group.

## **Registration:**

All teams are required to register by May 4, 2007 on the appropriate form.

For teams from the U.S. each team must present (1) picture player card issued by their team's federation organization member (2) medical release forms (3) final team roster (4) travel permit papers if from outside of Montana (5) a guest player form if using guest players.

For teams from outside of the U.S. from a CONCACAF nation, in addition to numbers 1,2,3,4,5 from above, they must present picture player identification cards and a completed form from its provincial or national association approving the teams participation in the tournament.

### **Game check in:**

All teams will be required to check in at the game site 20 minutes before each scheduled game with the tournament field coordinator. Player cards will be checked at the time of each game. Player shirt numbers shall not be duplicated and shall match the numbers contained on the roster.

Home teams are the bottom listed team on the game schedule. The home team will be required to change uniform shirts if there is a conflict of colors.

Home team shall provide an appropriate approved game ball for each game which will be returned upon completion of the game. The referee shall determine if the game ball is accepted for play.

The tournament director will determine which side of the field is for players and which is for spectators. No one is permitted to position themselves behind the goals.

### **Forfeits:**

Any team failing to field the required number of players to compete in a match at the scheduled game time, failing to complete a match, or leaving the field during a match without having been directed to do so by the referee or a tournament official shall forfeit the match. No team that has forfeited a match will move on to compete in a final or be declared a group winner. A team winning by a forfeit will be awarded a 2-0 win. The tournament director reserves the right to determine all matters regarding forfeits.

### **Laws of the Game:**

International rules (FIFA/USSF) shall apply with the following exceptions.

- A. This tournament being a friendly club tournament unlimited substitutions are permitted for all age brackets. All substitutions must be made at the midfield line.
- B. Substitutions may be made with the consent of the referee at any stoppage of play and specifically the following:
  1. After a goal by either team.
  2. Before any goal kick.
  3. Before a throw in by either team provided the team taking the throw in is making a substitution on the throw in.
  4. At the beginning of any period of play.
  5. After any injury by either team provided the referee has stopped play.
  6. After a caution, the cautioned player may be substituted for and any other substitutions may be made by either team.
- C. Minimum number of players required to play a game shall be. For 11 v 11 games 7 players are required. For 8 v 8 games 6 players are required

### **Tournament Format and Match Length:**

Each team will play a minimum of three games and a maximum of two games in any one day. All games will be played in two 30 minute halves with a five minute half time period.

The tournament shall be made up of divisions broken down by age groups and bracketed into groups of three, four, five, six or eight teams. Groups of four and five will play a round robin with each team playing the other teams. Champions will be determined by the point procedure outlined below. Groups of six and eight will play preliminary games and the top team from each side of the bracket shall play a final game for the championship.

### **Scores:**

The referee is responsible to record the game score and any ejections on the game card and turn it into the tournament director who shall post the scores on the bulletin board. It shall be the responsibility of both coaches to ensure that the correct score has been posted.

### **Referees:**

The three man system of control shall be used and only USSF certified referees in good standing will be used. It shall be the referee's responsibility to report any ejections to the tournament headquarters by writing them on the game report card.

### **Player Equipment:**

- 1) Shin guards are required for all players and must be covered by their socks.
- 2) No hard casts are permitted. Soft casts may be permitted at the discretion of the referee.

### **Protests:**

Protests will not be accepted or acknowledged.

### **Sportsmanship:**

All players, coaches and spectators are expected to show good sportsmanship at all times. Failure to do so could lead to disqualification from the tournament. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of the team and supporters. Coaches, players or spectators who physically or verbally abuse a referee, other coach, player or spectator may be cause for themselves and/or their team to be disqualified from the tournament and/or forfeit any awards due them or their team.

For all teams from the U.S. any disciplinary action taken against a team, player or coach shall be reported to that team's federation organization by the tournament director.

For CONCACAF teams, the tournament director shall notify the U.S. soccer federation of the disciplinary action taken and the federation will transmit the disciplinary action taken or required to that team's provincial or national association.

**Conduct and disciplinary action:**

Players who are ejected from a game are required to sit out the next scheduled tournament game. Players who are ejected for fighting or official abuse are not allowed to play any remaining games and will be reported to their State or National Association. Coaches who are ejected from a game are required to sit out the next two scheduled tournament games. Coaches who are ejected for fighting or official abuse are not allowed to play any remaining games and will be reported to their State or National Association. Players who receive three yellow cards and coaches who receive two yellow cards are required to sit out the next scheduled tournament game.

**Scoring:**

In all age groups, games will be counted as win-6 points, tie-3 points, loss-0 points. One bonus point is awarded for each goal scored up to three points per match and one point is awarded for a shut out.

**Standings/Tiebreakers:**

In the event of a tie in group standings, the following procedure will be used to determine the winner:

- 1) Head to head competition
- 2) Highest net goal differential, maximum 3 goal differential per game
- 3) Fewest goals allowed in all games totaled
- 4) Penalty kicks pursuant to FIFA rules

**Semi-final and Final games:**

Two five minute overtime periods will be played. If still tied, penalty kicks pursuant to FIFA rules will determine the winner.

**General:**

- 1) Coaches are required to bring player cards and medical releases to every game.

- 2) If a game is temporarily suspended due to weather, field conditions or any other situation beyond control, each team must check with tournament headquarters for further instructions.
- 3) The tournament director reserves the right to shorten the length of any game or games due to weather, field conditions or any other reason which in the opinion of the tournament officials require such action.
- 4) No refunds will be given unless the tournament is cancelled entirely. Refunds, if any, will be determined by the tournament director based upon the number of games played and actual costs incurred for the conduct of the tournament up to the point of cancellation. Refunds, if any, will be made as soon as is practically possible and will include a breakdown of how the refund, if any, was determined.
- 5) The tournament director reserves the right to decide any and all matters pertaining to the running of the Three Blind Ref tournament.
- 6) No alcoholic beverages shall be permitted at any tournament game location. Smoking is not permitted at any game location. Dogs are not permitted at any game location.