

The Pitt-Greenville Soccer Association

Presents the

The 20th Annual Beast of the East Soccer Tournament

Greenville, North Carolina

February 7th & 8th, 2009

Registration & Rules of Play

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1. FIFA Laws of the Game.

All tournament matches will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game. Rules and/or interpretations provided by USYS and/or NCYSA for youth matches are incorporated. The following provisions will further interpret these rules for purposes of this tournament and will provide the administrative framework for the registration and operation of this event.

2. Team Acceptance & Refunds.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any team application. No team shall be deemed accepted until notified by the tournament director or representative. Once accepted, the application fee is non-refundable. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to combine levels of play (classic, challenge and recreation) within a single age group, as well as combining age groups if needed to form a bracket. If combined divisions are created, teams will be notified and given the option and a deadline of withdrawing with a refund.

3. Registration of Teams.

Teams shall register with tournament officials on Friday, February 6, 2009, between 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at tournament headquarters located at the City Hotel and Bistro, 203 West Greenville Boulevard, Greenville, NC 27834; telephone (252) 355-8300. A team representative should bring the following to registration:

- a. A notarized medical waiver for each player in alphabetical order;
- b. Signed state player pass for each player in alphabetical order;
- c. Two current official red stamped match rosters;
- d. Two red stamped guest player rosters for any guest player on a team;
- e. If the team is from outside North Carolina, a properly executed permission to travel form.
- f. Four black/white photocopies of current red stamped match roster, and 4 of guest roster if applicable.

At registration, a team representative should be prepared to complete a Team Locator Form with the team name, age group and gender, contact person, area hotel where the team is staying, and cellular phone number. This information will be used to notify teams of schedule or field changes, team rankings, etc.

4. Tournament Format & Divisions.

a. 4 Team Division

Each team is guaranteed 3 matches. Each team will play every other team in the preliminary round. Ties will stand and no overtime will be played in the preliminary round. The top two teams with the highest point total after the preliminary round advance to the championship match. Overtime will be played in the championship match if necessary.

b. 5 Team Division

Each team is guaranteed 4 matches. Each team will play every other team in this round-robin format. Ties will stand and no overtime will be played in any match. The team with the highest point total at the conclusion of all matches will be crowned tournament champion. The team with the second highest point total will receive runner-up honors.

c. 6 Team Division

Each team is guaranteed 3 matches. Teams will be divided into 2 groups of three teams at the discretion of the Tournament Committee -- Group A and B. Each team will play two matches within it's group in the preliminary round during which ties will stand and no overtime will be played. At the conclusion of the preliminary round, teams will be ranked first, second or third within their group based upon their point totals. The third ranked teams in Group A and B will play each other with no overtime in the consolation match. In the semi-final round, the first place team from Group A will play the second place team from Group B, and the second place team from Group A will play the first place team from Group B. The winners of the semi-final matches will play in the championship match. Overtime will be played in the semi-final and championship matches if necessary.

d. 8 Team Division

Each team is guaranteed 3 matches. Teams will be divided into 2 groups of four teams at the discretion of the Tournament Committee – Group A and B. Each team will play every other team within it's group in the preliminary round during which ties will stand and no overtime will be played. The winner of Group A will play the winner of Group B in the championship match. Overtime will be played in the championship match if necessary.

e. Other Divisions

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to format other divisions if the number of entries within the division does not fall within the guidelines set forth above. In this event, each team will be guaranteed 3 matches.

f. U-10 Academy

No scores will be kept.

5. Field Marshals.

Field marshals will be assigned to each tournament site to check field conditions and to provide general information to the public, including the tournament schedule and location of fields.

6. Eligibility of Players.

All players must meet all requirements for the 2008-09 season. No player shall play for more than one team during the tournament. Roster and player documentation may be inspected at any time by tournament officials. All teams must be in good standing with their respective state association.

7. Age Groups & Guest Players.

The following divisions will be offered to male and female teams:

	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Players</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Max Guest*</u>	<u>Max Roster*</u>
U10	8-1-98	6 versus 6	modified field & goals	3	12 players
U11	8-1-97	8 versus 8	modified field & goals	3	14 players
U12	8-1-96	8 versus 8	modified field & goals	3	14 players
U13	8-1-95	11 versus 11	regulation field & goals	3	18 players
U14	8-1-94	11 versus 11	regulation field & goals	3	18 players
U15	8-1-93	11 versus 11	regulation field & goals	3	18 players
U16	8-1-92	11 versus 11	regulation field & goals	3	18 players
U17	8-1-91	11 versus 11	regulation field & goals	3	22 players
U18	8-1-90	11 versus 11	regulation field & goals	3	22 players

* Guest players must be age appropriate, duly registered with their state, & listed on a guest roster.

The home team will be listed first on the schedule.

U-10 Academy Division: Academy teams play in separate division against other Academy teams only. Rules to remain consistent with NCYSA Academy Tournament Rules/Guidelines which will be posted on the PGSA website (www.pgsasoccer.com) or found on the NCYSA website at <http://www.ncsoccer.org/Academy/academytournamentrules.pdf>

8. Duration of Play, Ball Size & Field Size.

The following guidelines shall apply:

	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>	<u>Half Length</u>	<u>Halftime</u>	<u>Approx Field Size</u>
U10*	8-1-98	4	25 min	5 min	45 X 60 yd
U11**	8-1-97	4	30 min	5 min	50 X 75 yd
U12**	8-1-96	4	30 min	5 min	50 X 75 yd
U13	8-1-95	5	35 min	5 min	65 X 110 yd
U14	8-1-94	5	35 min	5 min	65 X 110 yd
U15	8-1-93	5	35 min	5 min	65 X 110 yd
U16	8-1-92	5	35 min	5 min	65 X 110 yd
U17	8-1-91	5	35 min	5 min	65 X 110 yd
U18	8-1-90	5	35 min	5 min	65 X 110 yd

* Modified U10 Rules: Penalty kicks will be taken from the penalty mark 8 yards from the goal line. Defensive players shall not be any closer than 8 yards from any free kick awarded. Offside shall not apply. A goal kick, free kick or goal keeper punt or throw taken from inside his/her own penalty area may not travel directly in the air and land in the opponent's penalty area – an infraction results in an indirect free kick to the defensive team from the kick-off mark. There is no infraction of this rule if the ball hits the ground or any player before entering into the opponent's penalty area.

** Modified U11 and U12 Rules: Penalty kicks will be taken from the penalty mark 10 yards from the goal line. Defensive players shall not be any closer than 8 yards from any free kick awarded.

Any match shortened by the referee due to the behavior of a team or teams will be submitted to the Tournament Committee for review. The Committee shall address each circumstance on a case-by-case basis and is vested with the discretion to declare a winner or other outcome.

9. Substitutions

Substitutions may be made with the permission of the referee. All age groups have unlimited substitutions and substituted players may re-enter the game. The substitution must wait until the player is off the field before entering the field unless the referee waves him/her on. All players entering and leaving the field must do so at the mid-field nearest to the designated team bench area. Substitutions will be allowed as follows:

- a. Before a throw in by the team in possession.
- b. Before a goal kick by either team
- c. After a goal by either team
- d. When the referee has stopped play to attend to an injured players (substitution allowed by either team)
- e. At half time
- f. Before an overtime period

- g. After a caution (yellow card) and team elects to substitute the cautioned player (substitution allowed by opposing team)
- h. If a keeper is sent off (red card) he/she must leave the game and team must play down. A new keeper must then be designated either from the current field players or a substitution of a field player with the new player becoming the keeper.

10. Advancement & Tie Breakers.

The following applies to all divisions except U-10 Academy.

Points will be awarded as follows:

All preliminary games will incorporate a 10 point scoring system per match which awards 6 points for a win; 3 points for a tie; 1 point for a shutout; 1 point for each goal scored (up to a maximum of 3); 4 points to each team in a 0-0 tie; and 10 points to a team winning by forfeit.

The following tie-breakers, if necessary, will apply in order:

- 1) Winner of head-to-head competition advances;
- 2) Team with the fewest number of goals allowed throughout preliminary matches advances;
- 3) Winner of FIFA Kicks from the Mark advances.

In the event three (or more) teams are tied with the same number of match points after the preliminary round of games, or if three teams are tied after round-robin play in a 5 team division, the following tie-breakers will apply in order:

- a. Team with the fewest number of goals allowed throughout tournament advances;
- b. In the event three teams are still tied after applying the tie-breaker above, two of the three teams will be selected by a blind draw to participate in FIFA Kicks from the Mark. The winner of this initial contest will participate in another FIFA Kicks from the Mark against the third team to determine which team advances.

11. Overtime.

Ties in semi-final and championship matches shall proceed to two 7 minute sudden victory overtime periods -- the first goal scored will end the match. Teams will switch ends at the end of the first 7 minute period assuming a goal has not already been scored. If still tied at

the end of both overtime periods, the winner will be decided by FIFA Kicks from the Mark.
(Reduce to equate FIFA rule will apply.)

12. Referees and Team Check-In.

The referee crew shall keep the official record of the match and the official time on the field. All referees will be USSF certified. Referee fees are included in the tournament entry fee and are not to be paid at the field. Prior to the start of each match, each team must show to the referee it's tournament pass, and must give to the referee a black/white photocopy of it's match roster (bring extra photocopies for all matches).

13. Forfeits.

A forfeit will be declared if a team is not prepared to play within 10 minutes after the scheduled match kickoff time. A team winning by forfeit shall be recorded as a 3-0 victory. Six (6) points shall be awarded for the win, and 4 bonus points shall be awarded for tie-breaking purposes.

14. Player Equipment.

The adequacy and safety of players' cleats and shin guards, as well as all other matters concerning player equipment including casts, will be at the referee's discretion. In case of a jersey color conflict, the home team (listed first on the schedule) will be required to change. Teams must provide a second alternate jersey or scrimmage vests in case of color conflicts. Jersey numbers should coincide with the jersey numbers on the approved roster.

15. Location of Teams, Spectators and Coaches.

Unless otherwise indicated by the Tournament Committee, both teams shall be located on the same side of the field, and all spectators and non-bench personnel shall be located on the opposite side. The home team (listed first on the schedule) shall have the choice of benches. Coaches must remain between the mid-field stripe and the top of the penalty area on his/her side of the field. Spectators must be within the 18-yard and center lines opposite their team bench.

16. Inclement Weather or Other Circumstances Preventing Completion of Play.

The following guidelines shall apply if inclement weather or other circumstances threaten the completion of the tournament:

- a. In the event inclement weather prevents the playing of the entire tournament, no refunds shall be given.
- b. In the event the tournament commences but inclement weather prevents the completion of the tournament, no refunds shall be given.

- c. Upon commencement of the tournament, players and coaches shall appear on the field ready to participate at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff regardless of the weather conditions, unless a member of the Tournament Committee has specifically expressed otherwise. Failure to appear for the match will result in a forfeit. (Exception: In the event of adverse weather, such as lightning, tornadoes, flooding, or other serious conditions, players should stay away from the fields and a team representative is expected to make reasonable efforts to contact the Tournament Committee for further instructions.) The safety of the players will be the first consideration in determining whether a match will begin or continue in adverse conditions.
- d. The Tournament Committee may reduce the time specified for matches in certain age groups. The affected teams will be aware of the reduced match time before the match begins.
- e. A match is considered complete if it reaches the end of the first half of the time established for the match. Points will be awarded accordingly. Any match not completed to the end of the first half in the same day will be considered incomplete and not played.
- f. An incomplete match will proceed to FIFA Kicks from the Mark (assuming conditions allow) to determine the winner of the match. Points will be awarded accordingly as stated in rule #9.
- g. In the event competition within a division cannot be attained due to inclement weather or otherwise, the tournament champion and runner-up shall be determined by the Tournament Committee in consultation with the managers/coaches of the teams within the division. The Committee shall ultimately determine, as equitably as possible, the champion and runner-up.

17. Conduct of Players, Coaches & Spectators.

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of his/her players, parents and spectators. Coaches not controlling the conduct of their players, parents and spectators may be warned and ejected. Any player ejected from a match will not be replaced and will not be allowed to participate in the remainder of the game and the team's next game. Any coach ejected will not be allowed to coach in the remainder of the game or the team's next game, or any intervening games in the event he/she coaches multiple teams. Any player, coach, parent or spectator ejected during a game must immediately leave the complex and be out of sight and sound of the playing area before the match is resumed. Players will be escorted to an area designated by the Tournament Committee (assuming that the player does not have present a parent or accompanying guardian/responsible adult to escort him from the playing area). Adults who are ejected, whether it is a coach, parent or spectator, must immediately leave the complex facility. The ejected adult is not allowed back to the facility until completion of the their team's next scheduled tournament match. An ejected player may attend the next scheduled tournament match in street clothes. Any team violating this provision will jeopardize their team's standing in the tournament. The issuance of all cards

and other matters involving the conduct of the team, its players, coaches, or sideline supporters will be recorded by the PGSA and reported to the home state association of the team. Matters involving referee assault or abuse will be reported immediately to the NCYSA as required by USSF Policy 531-9. Fair play and good sportsmanship is expected from all.

18. Tents, Pets, Firearms, Alcohol.

Tents are permitted but shall not be located closer than five (5) yards to any touchline on the field. This includes exposed stakes, ropes or strings. No pets, firearms or alcoholic beverages are allowed on any tournament facility. Each site is a no smoking facility.

19. Awards.

Trophies and/or medals will be awarded to first (champion) and second (finalist) place teams within each division. U-10 Academy teams will receive a participation gift. Trophies and medals will not be awarded to U-10 Academy teams.

20. Tournament Committee

The Tournament Committee shall consist of the tournament director, the referee assignor and one other person designated by the tournament director. The Committee reserves the right to interpret the implementation of all tournament rules. This shall include, but is not limited to, the power to cancel, postpone or shorten a match. Interpretations regarding these rules shall be made by the Tournament Committee for the safety and well-being of the participants, and shall be final. The Tournament Committee shall decide any matter not specifically addressed by these rules. The Tournament Committee, the PGSA and the NCYSA shall not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team or club if the tournament is canceled in whole or in part, nor will any refunds be made.

21. Protests & Appeals.

No protests or appeals concerning interpretation of the Laws of the Game by a referee, or otherwise, will be entertained.