

## CHRISTMAS CUP 2023 – RULES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

	Under 9	Under 11	Under 12	Under 13
<b>Ball Size</b>	3	4	4	4
<b>Shifts</b>	5 Min shifts -25 min halves	5 Min shifts -25 min halves	25 min - Halves	25 min - Halves
<b>Game Format</b>	7v7 Including GK	7v7 Including GK	7v7 Including GK	9V9 Including GK
<b>Offside</b>	No	No	No	Yes
<b>Freekicks</b>	Indirect, no PKs and no goals directly from any restart kick	Indirect, no PKs and no goals directly from any restart kick	FIFA	FIFA
<b>Retreat line</b>	Half line	1/3 line	None	None
<b>Throw-ins</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Field size</b>	Top 18 to top 18	Techniplex third	Techniplex third	Techniplex two-thirds
<b>Net</b>	Small Grey	Small Grey	White	2 small grey nets at each end, angled backwards in the middle

### General Notes:

- Referees to double-check and remove jewellery before the game, check shin pads and proper soccer footwear etc.
- NLSA bibs will be available if teams are the same color. CG players to make sure bibs are returned post-game.
- Referees to wear a bib if their shirt colour clashes with a team.
- Game times: all games are 2 – 25-minute halves, 5-minute half time, then 5 minutes to cross over the games. Field marshal to assist the referee with keeping to the schedule. Halves and shifts may need to be shortened to keep on schedule. If a team takes 2 minutes for a line change that impacts the time they will be on the field, so encourage quick changes, but keep the games moving on a running clock. We do not have extra field time, so games must end on schedule and games must start on time.
- If a game is significantly lop-sided, and a team is winning by a 6-goal difference, the score will be officially recorded at that point, but the losing team will have the option of adding an extra player to balance the play and the teams can continue playing to end of time.
- Field Marshalls: Mark the retreat lines, halfway for the U9s, and 1/3 line for the U11s. Also, mark the goal area for the U9s with flat cones. Place nets at the top of the 18 for the U9s to shorten the field.
- U13: This is the only division with offsides. These 4 games (2 male games, 2 female) will be done with total goals determining the winner. Consider it a home and away-series. We have a referee hired to do the middle, and players in the referee timeslots for these games will be the assistant referees (lines people).

- Scores: Field Marshalls and Referees are to advise the NLSA staff of the score after the game. Scores are to be written on paper during the game.
- Retreat line: Once the keeper has the ball, the other team drops back behind the line, they can pressure only when a member of the goalkeeper's team touches the ball. If they enter the area inside the retreat line before a player touches the ball it restarts with the keeper. Retreat line marked by cones. Keepers can play over the retreat line and the ball is live with anyone allowed to touch the ball on a long kick. Drop kicks are allowed.
- There will be one prize for each winner of the division. No other medals will be awarded.
- The top two teams after the group stage will play in the championship game, in a 1v2 format. The remaining rankings will play in consolation games, for 3v4 and 5v6 where applicable. There will likely be need for a tie break format so note the rules below.
- Tie-Break Rules:
  1. Most points in group matches
  2. Head to Head if applicable
  3. Greater goal difference in all matches
  4. Greater number of goals scored
  5. Coin Toss

Any additional issues or rule questions can be referenced in the NLSA tournament rules for youth and Megas on the NLSA website should the need arise.

These rules are only applicable for Christmas CUP season, and are not indicative of the rules for any other tournament. Adjustments have been made due to the nature of an indoor field and limited sizes and field times.

Merchandise sales:

- We will be selling NLSA t-shirts (\$10), shorts (\$15) and socks (\$5) that were left in our inventory. This will be cash only and very limited sizes.
- Christmas Cup apparel ordered before the initial online store closure will be available for pickup during the tournament.
- Christmas cup Store is available to order from for tournament-specific apparel and can be found at [NLSA CHRISTMAS CUP 2023 SECOND | Universal Corporate Wear Inc | powered by OrderMyGear \(itemorder.com\)](#). Pickup will be in the New Year.