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Melba Jenkins Memorial Cup 2025

Tournament Rules

1. General

- It is the responsibility of team officials to familiarize themselves completely with the following tournament procedures and to govern themselves accordingly.
- The Melba Jenkins Cup Tournament will run from 7th – 9th Nov 2025.
- Teams may be required to play on Thursday, 6th Nov 2025 at 17:00pm.
- Out-of-town teams must be prepared to play on Friday, 7th Nov 2025 at 10:00pm.
- Each team will be guaranteed a minimum of 3 games.
- All teams must check-in at tournament headquarters located at:
 - Alfred Jenkins Fieldhouse – 2787 - 10 Avenue West, Prince Albert, SK.
- All players must have a Player Card or some other form of photo identification. Player cards must be presented at the time of registration.
- All players must be registered with their local District/Provincial Association. All out of province or out of country teams must have a travel permit. SSA sanctioning requires that teams travelling from out of province must submit their travel permits to the Tournament Committee prior to the tournament.

2. Age Divisions

- Under 9 Boys and Girls - Born in 2017 or 2018
- Under 11 Boys and Girls - Born in 2015 or 2016 – Premier and Division 2
- Under 13 Boys and Girls - Born in 2013 or 2014 – Premier and Division 2

3. Game Format

- U9 – 5v5
- U11 – 7v7
- U13 – 7v7

4. Pools

In alignment with Canada Soccer Association's Long-Term Player Development and SSA sanctioning policy, no standings will be kept for U9 and U11 divisions.

- Age divisions with three (3) teams will play one (1) game against each team within its pool.
 - The top team after round robin will advance to the Final. The remaining two (2) teams will play a semi-final game, with the winner advancing to the Final.
- Age divisions with four (4) teams will play one (1) game against each team within its pool. The top two teams after round-robin will advance to the Final.
- Age divisions with five (5) or more teams will play one (1) game against each team within its pool. The top two teams after round-robin will advance to the Final.

5. Pool Rankings

- All U13 teams are ranked on the following four (4) criteria, in order of importance:
 - Total number of points
 - Previous match results - winner of match between two (2) teams tied shall be awarded the higher position.
 - Goal difference - subtract total goals allowed from total goals scored in calculating the goal difference. A maximum difference of five (5) will be allowed for any one game. (i.e., the score is 8-1; the difference will be counted as 5).
 - The team who scored the greatest number of goals.

6. Round Robin Point Scoring System (U13)

- 3 Points are awarded for a win.
- 1 Point is awarded for a draw / tie.
- No points are awarded for a loss.
- In the event of a default, the game shall be awarded to the team who defaulted against with a 5-0 score and the team will receive 3 points for a win.

7. Playoff Procedures

- IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH TEAM'S STAFF (coaches/managers) TO DETERMINE IF THEIR TEAM ADVANCES TO THE PLAYOFFS. INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE AT TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS AND ONLINE.

8. Game Procedures

- In alignment with Canada Soccer Association's Long-Term Player Development, no standings will be kept for U9 or U11 age groups. The U9 division will be played as a jamboree.
- In U9 matches, players of the attacking team must retreat behind the "retreat line" (marked with a line in the attacking third) on goal kicks and cannot re-enter the attacking third until the kick has been taken.
- Except as otherwise provided here, IFAB Laws of the Game shall apply to all competitions.
- The home team must have an alternate jersey and be prepared to change if, in the opinion of the referee, there is a color conflict.
- The home team must be prepared to supply two (2) game balls.
- On-field warm-up time will be minimal.
- Game sheets, obtained from the Field Marshall, must be signed by the manager, and returned to the Field Marshall. Field Marshall shall provide game sheets to the match official.
- Teams must have the following number of players to play a game:
 - U9 - 5 players (5v5 including goalkeeper) - Minimum 4 players.
 - U11 - 7 players (7v7 including goalkeeper) - Minimum 5 players.
 - U13 - 7 players (7v7 including goalkeeper) - Minimum 5 players.
- Substitutions are unlimited and occur at the half at stoppage of the play with the referee's permission.

- If the ball is kicked and touches the ceiling, there will be an Indirect free kick awarded to the opposing team directly underneath the spot where the ball touched the ceiling.
- Please leave the field and team bench areas clean after each game.

9. Player Equipment

- Equipment shall consist of a numbered shirt, shorts, socks, shin pads and footwear. All players on the same team shall wear the same-coloured shirts and shall not have identical numbers. Goalkeepers should wear colours which are distinguishable from all other players and referees.
- Shin pads must be worn UNDER the socks.
- Players must not wear equipment or anything which endangers themselves or other players, including any kind of jewelry.

10. Roster Sizes

- U9 – 14 players
- U11 - 16 players
- U13 - 16 players

11. Length of Games by Age Group

- The duration of the game shall consist of:
 - U9 - Two (2) twenty (20) minute halves
 - U11 - Two (2) twenty (20) minute halves
 - U13 - Two (2) twenty-five (25) minute halves
- Half time will be 5 minutes in duration. All teams must be prepared to start play at the scheduled time. Any delay will reduce the total game time.

12. Offside

- There will be no offside for U9, U11 and U13.

13. Goals directly from Kick-Off

- In ALL age groups, goals scored directly from a kick-off, when the match restarts at the centre mark, will not stand. Play will be restarted with a goal kick.

14. Overtime

- There will be no additional time added in round robin pool play.

15. Determining the outcome of the game

- If the regular game is still tied at the end of the game, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with IFAB (Law 10.3) to determine a winner.
- The following conditions will apply:
 - Only players on the field at the end of the match are eligible to take a penalty kick. All eligible players will remain at the centre line except the keeper and kicker taking the

penalty kick. The keeper from the team not taking the kick shall wait to the side of the goal.

- Any player who is eligible may change place with the goalkeeper at any time during the taking of the kicks.
- The referee will decide on which goal the kicks will take place.
- The referee will toss a coin with both team captains. The winner of the coin toss shall have the choice whether to kick first or second.
- Both teams shall take five (5) kicks taken alternatively. A different player shall take each kick. Not until all eligible players of a team, including the goalkeeper, have taken a kick may a player of the same team take a second kick.
- If after five kicks the score remains tied, then remaining eligible players will take kicks alternatively until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks.

16. Discipline Rules

- The Melba Jenkins Memorial Cup Tournament Committee has established a Tournament Discipline Committee.
- Discipline guidelines will follow the Discipline Policy set forth by the Saskatchewan Soccer Association.

17. Cautions and Dismissals

- Players receiving a cumulative three (3) yellow cards during the tournament will be suspended for their next match. This decision cannot be appealed.
- Any dismissals (red cards) received during the Melba Jenkins Cup Tournament will expire with the end of the Melba Jenkins Cup Tournament, except in cases where a red card is accompanied by a Special Incident Report, in which case the incident may be forwarded to the player's Provincial Association and/or governing body.
- A red card results in immediate ejection from the game in which the red card is received, plus an automatic minimum 1 game suspension. This suspension will be served during the team's next game. The Discipline Committee will review the red card incident, and the Team Coach will be notified if any further disciplinary action is required.

18. Coaching Requirements

- All Saskatchewan based teams must have coaches who meet the coaching requirements outlined below. All team personnel (coaches, assistant coaches, managers, gender representatives, trainers, or other bench personnel) who are present on the bench, must have completed Respect in Sport.
 - U9 and U11 – Learn to Train and Making Ethical Decisions and/or Online Evaluation: Competitive Introduction
 - U13 – Soccer for Life and Making Ethical Decisions and/or Online Evaluation: Competitive

19. Players and Reserves

- All players must have player cards unless prior arrangements are made with the Tournament Committee.
- A player can only be on one team's roster.
- Players cannot play down a division from where they are regularly registered.
- You may add a maximum of 4 guest players to your regular team roster. These players must be from an equal or lower division. Guest players must be marked as "guest" on your roster and a permission letter from their team must be included indicating the team's name, age, and division at which they are registered. It is your responsibility to check with the registrar, prior to your first game, to ensure guest players are eligible.
- Playing unregistered players will result in game defaults and your Provincial Association will be notified.

20. Saskatchewan Laws

- All players eligible to play in Melba Jenkins Cup are "minors" in the Province of Saskatchewan.
- Possession or use of alcohol by "minors" is illegal. Any report of use of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs will result in expulsion from the tournament.
- Any person who defaces, destroys, steals, or otherwise abuses the venue will be expelled from the tournament.

21. Protests

- No protests will be heard on any judgment calls by the referee. All decisions by the referee will be final concerning the outcome of games. **Abuse of the match officials will not be tolerated.**

22. Inclement Weather

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to cancel the tournament in whole or in part due to inclement weather (e.g., serious snowstorms) and no refund will be issued. Individual games may also be cancelled outright, and no refund will be issued. Teams that are delayed by the weather will not be refunded.

- Games will start and end in the allotted time provided in the schedule.
- If a game cannot be played due to inclement weather, the game will be listed as a 0-0 tie and both teams will be awarded 1 point each.
- If a game starts but is abandoned before the first half can be completed, regardless of the score, the game will be listed as a 0-0 tie and both teams will be awarded 1 point each.
- If a game is abandoned in the second half, the game will be listed with the score at the time when the game was abandoned, and points will be awarded accordingly.

23. Refund and Cancellation Policy

- If for any reason your team must cancel, please inform the tournament committee immediately by emailing: melbajenkinscup@gmail.com.
- The Registration deadline is 15th October 2025. Teams that withdraw after the registration deadline will forfeit their registration fee. Cancellations prior to the final registration deadline will be refunded, except for a \$50.00 Administration fee.
- Once the official schedule has been published, no refunds will be issued under any circumstances. This policy ensures fairness and consistency for all participants, as scheduling and resource allocations are finalized based on confirmed registrations.
- If you do not inform us of your cancellation, we will expect your team at its first scheduled game.

24. Questions

- If you have any questions, please contact us by email: melbajenkinscup@gmail.com