



THE MIAMI CLASSIC2025 TOURNAMENT RULES

December 6 - 7, 2025 (7 vs. 7 / 9 vs. 9) December 13 - 14, 2025 (11 vs. 11)

Miami, Florida

REGISTRATION & TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- The Miami CLassic is an unrestricted tournament, open to properly registered youth teams from all U.S. Soccer-affiliated organizations (USYS, US Club, FYSA, etc.) in the age groups listed on the FYSA approval form.
- Each team must be in good standing with its State Association or other Federation affiliate and present an official, stamped roster, permission-to-travel (if required), and proof of medical insurance.
- Multiple competitive divisions may be offered within an age group when numbers permit. Final divisional placement is at the sole discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- Players may compete for **one (1) team only** during the tournament. Any player who appears for a second team causes that team to forfeit the match 4-0.
- All coaches, players, and team officials must present current, laminated player/coach passes bearing a photo, verified team code, and date of birth.

FYSA JEWELRY POLICY

No player may wear jewelry in any sanctioned match. The sole exception is a medical-alert bracelet/necklace, which must be securely taped to the body. The referee's decision on safety is final.

FYSA CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE POLICY

1. **Conduct.** All participants and spectators must behave in a manner that upholds the spirit of the game.
2. **Discipline.** The Tournament Committee reserves the right to impose sanctions (suspension, match forfeiture, etc.) for misconduct.

3. **Red Cards & Ejections.** Any ejected player or coach serves a minimum one-game suspension; additional sanctions may apply per FYSA guidelines.

FYSA FORFEIT POLICY

- Teams failing to appear at the scheduled kick-off with the minimum number of eligible players (per Law 3) forfeit the match 4-0.
 - Unfinished matches will be reviewed by the Tournament Committee to determine the result.
 - FYSA financial penalties may apply to forfeiting teams.
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PRE-GAME PROCEDURES

- Teams must report to the field **30 minutes** before kick-off for player-pass verification.
- Late-arriving players may enter only after verification by the match officials.
- A registered coach with a valid pass must be present on the technical area for the duration of the match.

PLAYER & AGE ELIGIBILITY (2025/2026 SEASON)

Age Group	Birth Year
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U-09	2017
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U-10	2016
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U-11	2015
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U-12	2014
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U-13	2013
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U-14	2012
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U-15	2011
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U-16	2010
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U-17	2009
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U-19	2008/2007
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- A maximum of **five (5) guest/loan players** is permitted (club-pass players are not counted as guests). All guests must hold passes from the same membership platform (USYS or US Club) as the team.

CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

Florida Statute 943.0438 applies. Match officials will immediately remove any player suspected of head injury; the player may not return until cleared in writing by a physician.

HEADING RESTRICTIONS

Deliberate heading is prohibited in age groups U12 and younger. Infractions result in an indirect free kick at the spot of the offense (or on the goal line if inside the goal area).

LAWS OF THE GAME & ROSTER LIMITS

Format	Age Groups	Players on Field	Game-Roster Max	Ball Size	Half Length
7 v 7	U-09, U-10	7 (min 5)	14	4	25 min
9 v 9	U-11, U-12	9 (min 6)	16	4	30 min
11 v 11	U-13 – U-19	11 (min 7)	18	5	35 min

Substitutions are **unlimited** at any stoppage with referee permission.

EQUIPMENT

- Screw-in studs are allowed at referee discretion.
- Orthopedic casts are prohibited; soft braces require a doctor's note and referee approval.
- All field players must wear matching numbered jerseys; the home team (listed first) changes in case of color conflict.
- No jewelry per FYSA policy; medical IDs must be taped.

MATCH OFFICIALS

- U11+ matches use a **three-referee** system; U9-U10 use a single center referee.
- If an assigned official is absent, the Site Director will appoint a replacement and the match is considered official.

MATCH DURATION & TIEBREAKING

- No overtime in group, semifinal, or final matches. If tied after regulation in elimination rounds, FIFA Kicks from the Penalty Mark decide the winner.
- A hydration break will be taken at the midpoint of each half when the ambient temperature $\geq 85^{\circ}\text{F}$; the clock continues to run.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT • World-Cup style pool play with a **minimum of three (3) games** per team. • Points: Win = 3, Tie = 1, Loss = 0. • Tie-breakers: 1) Head-to-head; 2) Net goal differential (± 4 per game cap); 3) Most goals scored (max 4/game) ; 4) Fewest goals allowed; 5) Penalty kicks.

SIDELINE CONDUCT

Teams and supporters must occupy opposite sidelines. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their spectators; misconduct may result in coach dismissal.

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

A three-member committee will review all send-offs and serious incidents. Sanctions may extend through the entire event.

AWARDS CEREMONY

• **Champions** and **Finalists** receive team trophies and individual medals immediately following the final.

REFUND POLICY

No refunds after acceptance except for tournament cancellation or failure to bracket a team.

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