



2026 Hollandia Cup Tournament Rules

The Hollandia Cup Tournament is approved by Saskatoon Youth Soccer Inc. and sanctioned by the Saskatchewan Soccer Association.

Game formats and rules are intended to comply closely with the Canadian Soccer Association Grassroots Guidelines as published in 2022.

Revised April 23, 2026

1. Pools

- i. Each team is guaranteed three (3) games.
- ii. Under 9 and Under 11 pools with more than three (3) teams will follow the structures defined below without the medal rounds as there are no standings kept for Under 9 and Under 11. Age divisions with three (3) teams will play two (2) games against each team within its pool.
- iii. 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.
- iv. Age divisions with four (4) teams will play one (1) game against each team within its pool. The top two (2) teams after round-robin will advance to the Final.
- v. Age divisions with five (5) teams will play one (1) game against each team within its pool. The top team after round-robin play will be awarded the Gold medal and the second-place team will be awarded the Silver medal.
- vi. Age divisions with six (6) teams will be split into two (2) pools of three (3) teams. Each team in Pool A will play each team in Pool B. The top two (2) teams in each pool after round-robin will play each other in the Semi-Finals, with the winners advancing to the Final.
- vii. Age divisions with seven (7) teams will be divided into two (2) pools. Pool A with four (4) teams will play one (1) game against each of the teams in Pool B. The top team in each pool after round-robin will play each other in the Final.
- viii. Age divisions with eight (8) teams will be divided into two (2) pools. Each Pool will play one game against each team within its pool. The top team in Pool A will play the second-place team in Pool B, and the top team in Pool B will play the second-place team in Pool A for the Semi-Finals. The winners will advance to the Final.
- ix. Age division with nine (9) teams will be divided into separate groups, which will then follow the pool structure outlined above based on the number of teams.
- x. Age divisions with (10) teams will be divided into three (3) pools. Pool A will play one game against each team within its pool. Each team in Pool B will play each team in Pool C. The top four (4) teams overall after round-robin will play each other in the Semi-Finals, with the winners advancing to the Final.
- xi. Age divisions with more than ten (10) teams will be divided into separate groups, which will then follow the pool structure outlined above based on the number of players.
- xii. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide final team placement.

2. Pool Ranking

- i. All teams are ranked on the following four (4) criteria, in order of importance:
 - a. Total number of points – Each team receives three (3) points for a win and one (1) for a tie.
 - b. Previous match results – Winner of the match between two (2) teams tied shall be awarded the higher position.
 - c. Goal difference – Subtract total goals allowed from total goals scored in calculating goal difference. A maximum difference of five (5) will be allowed for anyone (1) game (i.e. a score of 7-1, difference will be counted as 5).
Note: Goal differential will be displayed on the scoreboard and the standings as a five (5) goal differential if applicable regardless of the actual score.
 - d. Least number of goals against (all goals count).
- ii. If two or more teams are still tied under criteria 1 (a-d), the teams must then contact Tournament HQ to be assigned a time for penalty kicks to take place to decide the winner.

3. Overtime Periods

- i. There will be no overtime in round robin pool play.
- ii. In playoff competition, no overtime periods will be played. Regular FIFA penalty kicks will be taken to determine the winner.

4. Playoff Procedure

It is the responsibility of the team officials to determine if their team advances to the playoffs. Information will be available at Tournament Headquarters and online at www.hollandiatournaments.ca.

5. Game Procedures

- i. Except as otherwise provided here, the FIFA '[Laws of the Game](#)' shall apply to all competition.
- ii. U9 will play 5v5 including the goalkeeper
 - a. Field size 36 x 25 m
- iii. U11 will play 7v7 including the goalkeeper
 - a. 48 x 36 m
- iv. U13 will play 9v9 including the goalkeeper
 - a. 75 x 49 m
- v. U15-U19 will play 11v11 including the goalkeeper
 - a. Field size – full field, 91 x 55 m
- vi. U9 rules
 - a. 5v5 format with changes on the fly
 - b. Restarts from the sides – “Player’s Choice”: Dribble in or Kick In
 - c. Coach Leader outside the field – no referees
 - d. Game time 2x20 minutes with 5 minutes half time
- vii. U11 players will have two chances to complete the throw in.
- viii. For U11-U13 teams, goal kicks can be taken from anywhere inside the penalty area.
- ix. The first team listed on the schedule is the Home Team.
 - i. The Home team will be responsible for providing two game balls.
 - ii. 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.
 - iii. On-field warm-up time will be minimal.
 - iv. In all games in which a winner must be declared the format will be set forth by the tournament committee (See above).
 - v. Guest players:
 - a. Must be registered with SSA (or equivalent governing soccer body) and play in an equivalent or lower division to what they are registered in their existing league.
 - b. Must have a completed & signed Hollandia Cup Guest Player Form.
- vi. A player registered in the tournament can only play on one (1) team for the entire weekend. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to grant exceptions in extraordinary circumstances.
- vii. Please leave the field clean after each game.

6. 5 Up 1 Up Rule

This rule applies in the U9 and U11 games. If a team is leading by 5 goals, the team with the lesser number of goals may introduce an extra out-field player. If the trailing team reduces its deficit to 1 goal, it must revert to an even-sided game.

7. Substitutions

- i. Unlimited substitutions shall be allowed on the fly, as long as:
 - a. maximum of two (2) players are substituted at a time
 - b. substitutions occur at the halfway line
- ii. Should a team having too many players on the playing field score a goal, the goal shall be disallowed. The play shall be restarted by an indirect free kick taken from inside the goal area.
- iii. Should a player enter or leave the field of play for any other reason not mentioned in FIFA Law 3 the player shall be cautioned and if play is stopped to administer caution play shall be restarted with an indirect free kick awarded to the opposing team in accordance with FIFA Law 13.

8. Players Equipment

- i. Equipment shall consist of a numbered shirt, shorts, socks, shin pads and footwear. All players on the same team shall wear the same-colored shirts and shall not have identical numbers. Goalkeepers shall wear colors which are distinguishable from all other players and referees.
- ii. Players must not wear equipment or anything which endangers themselves or other players including any kind of jewelry.
- iii. Any player wearing a hard cast will not be permitted to participate, regardless if it is wrapped. Soft casts are permitted at the referee's discretion.

9. The Referee

- i. A referee shall be appointed to officiate in each game. The referee's authority shall commence as soon as the referee enters the playing facility and shall extend to offences committed when the game is in progress or when the game is over and the referee has left the facility. The referee's decision on points of fact connected with play shall be final. The powers and duties of the referee are as per the FIFA "[Laws of the Game](#)".
- ii. Appropriate equipment and inappropriate jewelry will be at the discretion of the referee.
- iii. If an assistant referee is appointed to the game their duties are to assist the referee to control the game.

10. Duration of the Match

- i. The duration of the game shall consist of:
 - a. two (2) twenty (20) minute halves with a three (3) minute break at half time for U9.
 - b. two (2) twenty-five (25) minute halves with a three (3) minute break at half time for U11-U19

- ii. Time shall be extended at the end of each half of play to allow the taking of a penalty kick to be concluded.
- iii. In all games in which a winner must be declared the format will be set forth by the Tournament Committee.
- iv. If the score is tied at the end of the match where a winner must be declared, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken. Only players that are on the field at the end of regulation can participate in the shoot-out as per FIFA rules.

The following conditions will apply:

- a. Both teams must have the same number of players eligible to participate in kicks from the mark. If one team has more players eligible, they must reduce eligible players from their lineup to even number of eligible players on both teams. All players will remain at the centre line except the keeper and kicker taking the penalty kick.
 - b. The referee will decide on which goal the kicks will take place.
 - c. 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.
 - d. Both teams shall take five (5) kicks taken alternatively.
 - e. Each kick shall be taken by a different player. 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.
 - f. Any player who is eligible may change place with the goalkeeper at any time during the taking of the kicks.
 - g. The taking of the kicks shall be in accordance with Law 13.
- v. **Method of Scoring**
- i. A goal is scored when the whole of the ball has crossed over the goal line, between the goal posts and under the crossbar.
 - ii. The referee shall be the sole judge as to whether a goal has been scored.

vi. **Off-Side**

- i. There will be no off-side for U9 or U11.
- ii. Off-side for U13-U19 will occur at the centre line.

vii. **Penalty Kicks**

- i. A penalty kick shall be taken from the penalty-mark.
- ii. The goalkeeper must remain on his/her goal line facing the kicker between the goal posts, until the ball is kicked.
- iii. The ball must be kicked forward. The player shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched by another player. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves. A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.
- iv. Time of play shall be extended at the end of play to allow a penalty kick to be taken.
- v. For any infringement for the above, the referee shall allow the kick to be taken:

- a. if the infringement is by a player from the attacking team and the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken.
- b. if the ball does not enter the goal the referee will stop play and award an indirect free kick to the opposing team at the place where the infringement occurred.
- c. if the infringement is by a player from the defending team and the ball enters the goal the goal is allowed.
- d. if the infringement is by a player from the defending team and the ball does not enter the goal the kick is retaken.
- e. if the infringement is by a member from both teams the kick is retaken.

14. Field Marshals

- i. Field Marshals will be provided by the Tournament Committee.
- ii. Please remember that coaches and managers are responsible for the behaviour of their players and fans as per the [SYSI Field Marshall Program](#) and [SSA Code of Conduct and Ethics](#).

15. Discipline Rules

The Hollandia Cup Tournament Committee has established a Tournament Discipline Committee.

- i. Discipline guidelines will follow the rules set forth by Saskatoon Youth Soccer.
- ii. A player's cautioning (yellow card) must be noted on the game sheet in a manner that will be recorded through all carbon copies.
- iii. Any participant who receives a red card (or two yellow cards in one game) must immediately leave the field of play in a direct manner.
 - a. For outdoor games, the field of play includes the area within the fence or the surrounding area of the field and the stands.
 - b. Any official, manager, coach, or player ejected from the game may not re-enter or return to the field of play.
- iv. A player or team personnel's ejection must be noted on the game sheet.
- v. The player or team personnel will be suspended for the next game of his/her team and subject to discipline according to the Discipline Procedures SYSI Rules and Regulations.
- vi. An ejection resulting in a one (1) game suspension cannot be appealed.
- vii. The player or team personnel may not be on the bench during any games until such suspension has been served.
- viii. Tournament suspensions must be served by sitting out the next tournament game(s). Where a suspension excess the number of remaining tournament games, the unserved portion shall be carried forward and completed during league play.
- ix. If a hearing is requested, it must be made in writing to the Tournament Headquarters within one (1) hour of the game's completion. The tournament disciplinary committee shall decide within four hours of the request and inform the affected team staff immediately.
- x. Misconduct by players or team officials reported by the referee shall be dealt with by the Tournament Discipline Committee prior to the next game.
- xi. The Tournament Discipline Committee, if warranted, will send the misconduct of any player, coach, or spectator related to the club to the respective soccer association the individuals are involved in where further discipline may occur.

- xii. Discipline Infractions – The Tournament Discipline Committee will follow these guidelines:
- The Tournament Discipline Committee may take any disciplinary action it sees fit, including suspension from Tournament play. Any suspension shall take effect immediately and shall be from all tournament games.
 - The Tournament Discipline Committee will forward their findings and reports to the governing body of the team whose player was subject to discipline.
 - Guidelines for the Hollandia Cup Discipline Committee are as follows:

Misconduct Against Opponents or Persons Other than Match Officials or Organizers

Name/Description of Misconduct	Fine	Sanction(s)
.1 Player: Serious foul play - including the use of excessive or brute force when challenging for the ball	As per competition regulations	1st - 2 matches 2nd - 5 matches 3rd - 6 months
.2 Player: Violent conduct - including elbowing, punching, kicking, running the goalkeeper, or other acts deemed violent (except when against a match official)	As per competition regulations	1st - 3 matches 2nd - 6 months 3rd - 1 year
.3 Player: Biting or spitting at an opponent or any other person (except when against a match official)	As per competition regulations	All soccer related activity, province wide 1st - 6 matches 2nd - 1 year 3rd - 2 years
.4 Player: Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal - scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (except a goalkeeper within their own penalty area)	As per competition regulations	1 match
.5 Player: Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick	As per competition regulations	1 match
.6 Player: Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (except when against a match official)	As per competition regulations	1st - 3 matches 2nd - 6 matches 3rd - 1 year
.7 Player: Receiving a second caution (yellow card) in the same match	As per competition regulations	1st – 1 match 3rd – 2 matches 5th – 3 matches
.8 Team Personnel: Delaying the restart of play by the opposing team e.g. holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a player	As per competition regulations	1 match
.9 Team Personnel: Deliberately leaving the technical area to: show dissent towards, or remonstrate with, a match official; act in a provocative or inflammatory manner	As per competition regulations	1st - 5 matches 2nd - 6 months 3rd - 1 year

.10 Team Personnel: Enter the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner	As per competition regulations	1st - 3 matches 2nd - 6 months 3rd - 1 year
.11 Team Personnel: Deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field of play	As per competition regulations	1st - 1 match 2nd - 5 matches 3rd - 6 months
.12 Team Personnel: Entering the field of play to: confront a match official (including at half-time and full-time); and interfere with play, an opposing player or a match official	As per competition regulations	1st - 5 matches 2nd - 6 months 3rd - 1 year
.13 Team Personnel: Physical or aggressive behaviour (including spitting or biting) towards an opposing player, substitute, team official, spectator or any other person (e.g. ball boy/girl, security or competition official etc.) (except when against a match official)	As per competition regulations	All soccer related activity, province wide 1st - 8 matches 2nd - 1 year 3rd - 2 years
.14 Team Personnel: Receiving a second caution in the same match	As per competition regulations	1st – 1 match 3rd – 2 matches 5th – 3 matches
.15 Team Personnel: Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (except when against a match official)	As per competition regulations	1st - 3 matches 2nd - 6 matches 3rd - 1 year
.16 Using unauthorized electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as the result of using electronic or communication equipment	As per competition regulations	1 match
.17 Violent conduct	As per competition regulations	1st - 5 matches 2nd - 6 months 3rd – 1 year

Misconduct against Match Officials and Organizers

1 Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures toward a match official or organizer.	\$300	1st - 6 matches + Respect in Sport participation 2nd - 12 matches + \$600 fine 3rd - 12 months + \$2500 fine + \$1000 bond
2 Failing to leave the field of play after dismissal, and/or delaying the restart of play due to negative reaction to referee sanctions, and/or refusing to comply with the directives of the match official.	\$300	1st - 6 matches

.3 Entering the match official change room/personal space without invitation to engage in discussion in a threatening or unwarranted manner.	\$300	All soccer related activity, province wide 1 st - 6 matches + fine + Respect in Sport participation 2 nd - 12 matches + \$600 fine 3 rd - 12 months + \$2500 fine + \$1000 bond
.4 Refusal to leave the match official change room/personal space in a timely manner after being dismissed or directed	\$300	All soccer related activity, province wide 1 st - 6 matches + fine + Respect in Sport participation 2 nd - 12 matches + \$600 fin

- xiii. Offences against Officials, at the discretion of the Tournament Discipline Committee, may be referred to the SSA to deal with, in which case offenders are suspended with immediate effect until the SSA has taken action.
- xiv. Any player or team official reported for misconduct who elects to have a hearing, or where the Tournament Discipline Committee has called the hearing, shall attend the hearing and may be accompanied by a club representative.
- xv. Failure to attend, after notification by the Tournament Staff, shall result in immediate suspension until the player or team official involved requests a further hearing in writing, and appears at that subsequent hearing.
- xvi. The Tournament Discipline Committee shall hold a hearing into the behaviour of any player or team official alleged by the Tournament Staff to have brought the game into disrepute.

16. Hearings

- i. A Tournament Discipline Hearing Committee shall have no less than three members, one of whom shall act as Chairperson.
- ii. The Tournament Discipline Hearing Committee shall satisfy itself that the person charged has had details of the charge.
- iii. The person charged or his/her Representative, shall be entitled to make a submission.
- iv. At any time, the Chairperson and, through him/her, members of the committee, may ask questions of the witness to clear up any doubts which may exist.
- v. If the charge is found “not proven” the session will be declared closed.
- vi. If the charge is found “proved” the Committee shall proceed to decide whether any, and if so what, disciplinary action shall be taken.

17. Protests

- i. No protests will be heard on any judgement calls by the referee. Protests will be allowed on eligibility or other technical matters. All decisions by the referee will be final concerning the outcome of games.
- ii. Protests, problems or complaints will be dealt with provided they are in writing and submitted to the Tournament Committee within one (1) hour after the completion of the game.

18. Saskatchewan Laws

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

19. Refund Policy

- i. During the online registration period no funds are withheld.
- ii. After registration closes, no refund will be issued unless the team is not accepted to play in the tournament
- iii. If Hollandia cancels the tournament, there will be a full refund.

20. Weather and Air Quality Policy

In the case of inclement weather or unplayable field conditions, games may be:

- i. rescheduled or relocated (time and location determined by Tournament Director).
- ii. shortened – the Tournament Director may reduce the length of halves due to weather conditions before the restart of a match once delayed due to weather; all such matches will be considered official.
- iii. ended via "Penalty Kicks" only if safe to do so (time and location determined by Tournament Director). In the preliminary round:
 - a. each team will take a maximum of five (5) penalty kicks
 - b. at the end of five (5) kicks, the game will be scored as a 1-0 win for the team that has scored more penalty kicks, or a 0-0 tie if both teams are tied in scored penalty kicks.
 - c. In the overall standings, 3 points will be awarded for the win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss.
 - d. The 1-0 win will be counted for or against to determine the tiebreaker for advancement

In the event that a winner must be declared, "Penalty Kicks" will be guided by 10.iv.

- iv. cancelled - the Tournament Director has the right to cancel any match. Any game that is not started and is cancelled [as opposed to postponed] due to weather or other external conditions, will be recorded as a 0-0 tie. Canceled games will not be rescheduled.

Inclement weather may include:

- i. Lightning or sever weather. In the event of lightning of severe weather, the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) Lightning Safety/Severe Weather policy will be followed. As soon as thunder is heard, the play will stop and teams will be strongly encouraged to get to a safe place. Games will not resume until 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder. The CSA guide can be found at https://canadasoccer.com/wp-content/uploads/resources/Referee/EN/Lightning_Policy_EN.pdf?file=pdffilename
- ii. Poor air quality. Tournament organizers will monitor local Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) information and follow the guidelines issued by Saskatoon Youth Soccer (<https://saskatoonyouthsoccer.ca/article/84777>). AQHI of 7 or above is considered to be dangerous for strenuous activities. The match official can consider cancelling the game at their discretion if they consider conditions to be dangerous, activating the weather and air quality policy indicated above.