

BALTIMORE BLAST HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT

Rules & Guidelines

The Baltimore Blast Holiday Tournament is designed to provide a fun, competitive, and well-organized experience for players, coaches, and families. Good sportsmanship and respect are expected at all times.

TEAM & ROSTER RULES

- Maximum of 17 players per team roster.
- Players may only be rostered on one team within the same age division.
- Age verification is the responsibility of the team's Head Coach.
- Coaches are responsible for ensuring all players meet the age requirements for their registered division.
- Each team must provide a copy of its official roster to Tournament Administration prior to competition.
- Tournament officials reserve the right to request proof of age if a player's eligibility is questioned.
- Use of an ineligible or over-age player may result in a forfeit.

GAME FORMAT

- Games will be played 7v7 — six (6) field players plus one (1) goalkeeper.
- Unlimited substitutions are permitted.
- Substitutions may be made on the fly.
- Each team is guaranteed 3 games.
- Games will consist of a 24-minute running clock.
- There will be a 5-minute team break between games. Teams will have 5 minutes to be ready for the start of their next game.
- Games will begin promptly at their scheduled time. Teams should be ready to play before the previous game ends.
- A team that is not ready to play at its scheduled time may be subject to a shortened game or forfeit at the Tournament Director's discretion.
- Teams should have matching jerseys or shirts with visible player numbers whenever possible.

GOALKEEPER RULES

- Goalkeepers may use their hands within the designated goalkeeper/penalty area.
- When a ball is intentionally passed back to the goalkeeper by a teammate, the goalkeeper may play the ball with their feet and is permitted unlimited touches with their feet.
- There is no restriction on the number of times the goalkeeper may receive a pass from a teammate and play the ball with their feet.
- A goalkeeper may not use their hands to handle an intentional pass back from a teammate's foot.
- Standard indoor soccer rules regarding goalkeeper possession, distribution, and dangerous play will otherwise apply.

BASIC INDOOR SOCCER RULES

- The ball remains in play off the side walls/boards where applicable.
- No intentional boarding, checking, pushing, or dangerous play.
- Slide tackling is not permitted.
- Fouls may result in a direct or indirect free kick and/or player penalty depending on the severity of the infraction.
- Serious or repeated misconduct may result in a player being removed from the game.
- Referees have the authority to address unsafe or unsportsmanlike play at their discretion.

SPORTSMANSHIP & CONDUCT

Players, coaches, and spectators are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship throughout the tournament.

- Abusive, threatening, or inappropriate behavior toward referees, tournament staff, players, coaches, or spectators will not be tolerated.
- Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their players, team staff, and spectators.
- Fighting will result in immediate removal from the game and may result in removal from the remainder of the tournament.
- Any player, coach, or spectator may be removed from the facility for inappropriate conduct at the discretion of tournament management.

STANDINGS & TIEBREAKERS

Tournament standings will be determined by:

1. Win/Loss Record
2. Head-to-Head Result
3. Goal Differential
4. Goals Scored
5. Fewest Goals Allowed
6. Tournament Director's determination if teams remain tied

CHAMPIONSHIP

Division winners will be determined based on the tournament format and standings.

Champions will receive tournament recognition and one complimentary Baltimore Blast game ticket per player.

OFFICIALS & TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

- All referee decisions made during play are final.
- Judgment calls by referees are not subject to protest.
- Questions regarding rules, player eligibility, scheduling, or tournament administration should be directed to the Tournament Director.
- The Tournament Director has final authority regarding interpretation of tournament rules and any situation not specifically covered in these guidelines.

IMPORTANT

The Baltimore Blast reserves the right to modify tournament schedules, game formats, or rules when necessary to maintain the safety, fairness, and timely operation of the tournament.

Our goal is simple: great competition, good sportsmanship, and a fun Baltimore Blast experience for every player and family.