



# STEEL CITY WORLD CUP

## TOURNAMENT RULES

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### GENERAL

#### **ROSTERS**

- Each team must submit a roster to Steel City World Cup (SCWC) officials with a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 12 players. Rosters must include at least 2 women and/or female-presenting players. As per our Inclusivity Statement below, we welcome all players and spectators who participate in SCWC to identify and present fully as themselves.
- Rosters must be submitted and a waiver form must be signed before any player may take the field.
- No player who is not on your roster and/or did not sign a waiver form may play in the SCWC.
- No player shall play for more than one team, regardless if the player's team has been eliminated from the tournament.
- If there are two teams from the same country in the tournament and one is eliminated, the two teams cannot combine or share players.

#### **WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

- All participants must agree to and sign the SCWC waiver of liability.
- Team Captains are responsible for gathering all signed player waivers.
- All participants in the SCWC assume the risk of injury. The SCWC organizers, its volunteers, and employees shall not be liable for injury to person, loss or damage to personal property arising from or in any way resulting from participation in the SCWC.
- A trainer will be present at all games.

#### **PROVIDED AT FIELD – WHAT TO BRING**

- We will provide referees, game balls, water, snacks, and music.
- All players should bring a white AND color shirt.
- Consider bringing warm up balls, drinks, canopy tents, and lawn chairs.

### RULES

#### **START TIME AND KICK OFF**

- A captains coin toss at center field will determine defending goals and kick-off.

- All players are expected to join their captain at center field for the coin toss and shake hands with the other team.
- All games will start at their scheduled time.
- A team can start play with a minimum of 5 players
- If a team does not have enough players to start the game by 5 minutes after the scheduled start time, the team will forfeit the game.

## **GAME LENGTH**

- Regulation games consist of the following:
  - Group Stage - Two 18 minute halves with a 3-minute halftime.
  - Rounds of 16, 8, 4, and Championship – Two 24 minute halves with a 5-minute halftime.
- Teams will switch sides at halftime.
- SCWC games will use a running clock. However, the referee maintains discretion to stop the clock for injury or extraordinary circumstances.
- Group stage games on Saturday 10/23 that end regulation in a tie will be recorded and scored as such. There will be no overtime or penalty kicks in Group Stage games.
- All single elimination stage games on Sunday 10/24 that end regulation in a tie will go immediately to a 3-person shoot out. At least one shooter must be a female. If the game is still tied after 3 penalty kicks for each team, sudden death penalty kicks will follow until a winner is determined. No player may shoot a second time until all players have shot at least once and so on.

## **EQUIPMENT AND FIELD RULES**

- Soccer cleats or flats are permitted. No metal studs.
- Shin-guards are strongly recommended, but are not required.
- Mouth guards are strongly recommended, but are not required.
- Goalies may use their own gloves.
- Tournament balls will be provided for game play only.
- No food, sunflower seeds, or chewing gum on fields.
- No glass bottles on the field.
- Please place trash in trash bins. Help us keep the facilities clean.
- Use of tobacco products and illegal drugs are prohibited.

## **GAME PLAY**

- Games will be played 7 on 7 (inclusive of goalies).
- A minimum of 2 women / female presenting players must be on the field at all times. This rule will apply even in the event of injury, no show, etc. If for some reason a team cannot meet this requirement during game play, the team will be required to play shorthanded until the team can meet the 2 women / female presenting players minimum rule.
- Games will begin with a kickoff at the center. The ball may be kicked forward or backwards. The defending team must stand no closer than three (3) yards to the ball.
- Kickoffs are used at the beginning of the game, the beginning of the half, and after any goal scored.
- Except as otherwise noted below, all standard FIFA soccer rules and regulations will be used and enforced.

- Defensive players must be three (3) yards away from corner kicks.
- Defensive players must be three (3) yards away from the touchline on all opponent's throw-ins.
- Goalkeeper may not handle the ball when a teammate has deliberately kicked the ball to the goalie (pass-back rule).
- Goalkeeper may not punt the ball. Restarts as a result of this infraction are indirect free kick three (3) yards outside the goal box.
- No slide tackling.
- No offsides.
- All kicks are indirect with the exception of penalty kicks.
- Throw-ins will be called by referees.
- Substitutions can be made on the fly from within the designated area.

## **POINTS AND SEEDING**

- For group stage games, teams will receive 1 point for a win, 1/2 point for a tie, and no points for a loss.
- The top two teams from each group will advance to the round of 16 on Sunday 10/24 plus the next highest ranked teams needed to arrive at 16 total teams. Teams will be seeded based on the results of group stage games.
- Seeding for the knock-out stage will be determined using the following criteria in the stated order:
  - Group stage winning percentage
  - Head-to-Head record
  - Goal differential
  - Goals allowed
  - Coin toss
- Qualifying teams will be notified via email and text of seeding and 10/24 game times by 8:30 PM on 10/23 (we will do our best to notify teams sooner than this). It is the responsibility of the team captain to notify all teammates of 10/24 starting times.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP, FOULS, AND MISCONDUCT**

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

- Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Any behavior that is deemed violent, harassing, and/or inappropriate in any way, as witnessed by the referee or tournament staff/volunteers, may result in disciplinary action up to and including removal from the tournament.
- Captains are to be the team liaison to discuss any call or rule with an official during game play.
- A player who is ejected from a game must leave the field immediately. Play will not resume until the ejected player has left.
- Officials reserve the right to end a game or call a timeout at any point if the overall sportsmanship is out of line.
- SCWC tournament officials reserve the right to remove a player from the tournament for any reason at any time if the player's conduct – on or off the field – warrants such action.

### **YELLOW AND RED CARDS**

- Yellow and red cards may be issued in accordance with FIFA rules and regulations.
- If a player receives a second yellow card within a game, an automatic red card will be issued.
- If a red card is issued, the offending player must immediately leave the field and the team will play down a player for the remainder of the game.
- Any player that receives a red card will not be permitted to play in the next game, if applicable.
- Any player that receives a red card for violent, dangerous, or abusive behavior, towards participants, referees, or staff will be ejected from the tournament.

## **INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT**

The SCWC stands united behind the principles of respect, inclusion, and acceptance. We welcome and are committed to providing a fun and safe environment for all persons regardless of race, ethnicity, color, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, age, disability, veteran status or national origins.

We welcome all players and spectators who participate in SCWC to identify and present fully as themselves. Our gender requirement for team rosters and minimum player requirement during game play is meant to encourage teams to be diverse and inclusive and not composed of only male players. Non-binary and gender non-conforming persons are encouraged to register and participate as they feel comfortable doing so and are encouraged to communicate with their team captain (or with tournament organizers if they are the captain) if there are any questions or concerns about this requirement.

## **COVID-19 STATEMENT**

The safety of all SCWC attendees is our number one priority. SCWC will be held in accordance with all federal, state, and local COVID guidelines, restrictions, and requirements for safe outdoor play and gatherings. Players and spectators are encouraged to wear masks when not playing, social distance, and sanitize hands frequently. By registering or attending SCWC, all players and spectators agree to follow any protocols required by the organizers and/or authorities.

Under no circumstances should any player or spectator attend the event if exhibiting any symptoms associated with COVID and/or if currently under required quarantine due to infection or exposure.

SCWC organizers reserve the right to establish requirements to ensure player and spectator safety and to remove any attendee from the facility who does not follow required protocols.

If for any reason, the SCWC is postponed or cancelled, credits and refunds will be offered to all registrants.

**Have fun, be safe, and respect one another!**