

Elgin Middlesex District Soccer League District Cup Rules & Regulations

The Competition

- 1.1 EMDSL will hold an annual cup competition for both Indoor and Outdoor U13 and older age divisions, known as the District Cup.
- 1.2 Teams reaching the finals will each receive an award accordingly, “Champions” or “Finalists”.
- 1.3 All cup competitions of the League, Association and the (OSA) Ontario Cup take precedence over all games under the jurisdiction of the League.
- 1.4 In the event of a tied game at the completion of regular time for any Cup game, the game will go directly to 5v5 FIFA penalty kicks. If a team official requests a rest at the completion of regular time, a maximum of five minutes rest period shall be granted prior to the commencement of penalty kicks. Only players on the field at the end of regulation time are permitted to participate in the penalty kicks. If one team has more players on the field at the end of regulation than their opponent, they must reduce their eligible kickers to the same number. All eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick.
- 1.5 If the referee determines that natural conditions exist that prevent the completion of the game, (e.g. bad light, inclement weather, etc.), then the entire game shall be replayed at a later date and time arranged by the League Scheduler. There is no $\frac{3}{4}$ rule in District Cup Competition.

The Rules

- 1.6 The EMDSL Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules & Regulations are in full effect for all District Cup games except where noted within these rules.
- 1.7 All EMDSL teams in the U13 to U18 Tier 1 and 2 divisions must participate in the District Cup. Teams failing to do so, unless for overriding OSA games, (e.g. Ontario Cup), or OSA player situation (Provincial Team games), will be fined, according to EMDSL Rules & Regulations. For Tier 3 teams please see the EMDSL Rules & Regulations for the opt out provision.

The Competition Format

- 1.8 U13 to U18 age groups will play a single knockout format.

The Draw

- 1.9 The schedule will be determined by random draw prior to the start of each season. All clubs are welcome to attend the draw. The dates and locations of the draws will be communicated to member Clubs.
- 1.10 No two (2) teams from the same club may be drawn together in the first round of pool play, unless there is only one group. The second team drawn will be moved to the next available group.

Game Locations and Scheduling

- 1.11 Outdoor Cup season preliminary and quarter final rounds will be played at the home team's venue. It is the home team's responsibility to book the field. The home team will assume the cost of field rental. Teams participating in the preliminary and quarter final rounds will need to schedule the game as per the deadline set by the League. Failure to do so will result in the League scheduling the game and recovering costs from the offending team(s).
- 1.12 The schedule and host venues for the outdoor District Cup Semifinals and Finals will be posted on the EMDSL website. Rescheduling of semifinal or final Cup games will only be allowed in extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the League.
- 1.13 The indoor Cup competition will be held at the BMO Centre and all games will be scheduled by the League. Rescheduling of Indoor Cup games will only be allowed in extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the League.

Match Officials

- 1.13 In the U13 to U18 age divisions all semi-finals and finals of the Outdoor District Cup will have assistant referees.
- 1.14 The League will pay all match official fees related to the Outdoor District Cup in the semi finals and finals only. Preliminary and quarter finals match official fees will be paid by the away team. This provides a cost sharing basis for these games. The home team will pay for the field and the away team for the Match Official(s).
- 1.15 The League will pay all Match Official fees related to the indoor District Cup.

Player Eligibility

- 1.15 A player can only play for one team to which they are registered in any EMDSL District Cup Competition and must be in possession of an OSA ID Card, which must be validated at least 72 hours before the game. Players on permits are not permitted to play in any District Cup. Players are not allowed to be called up to play in any District Cup games. Players are Cup tied to the first team they play for in the Cup in situations where they are registered to multiple league teams. Indoor and Outdoor Cups are considered different competitions.
- 1.15.1 At all District Cup games, it is the responsibility of the Team Officials to ensure the player verification process is completed at least fifteen minutes prior to game start time.

Protests

- 1.16 Protests of preliminary and quarter final District Cup games must be filed with the League within 24 hours of completion of the game.
- 1.17 Protests of a semifinal or final District Cup game must be filed within one hour of completion of the game to the League representative at the playing venue.

- 1.18 All protests must be accompanied by the appropriate protest fee. Where a protest is received, the Cup Competition in that division will not move to the next round until the issue is resolved.
- 1.20 The decision of the League Cup Committee shall be binding on all parties and not subject to appeal.
- 1.21 Any team found guilty of using ineligible players will forfeit all games and all awards pertaining to The District Cup and will be fined in accordance with the League Fees and Fines Schedule.

(Revised September 2023)