



Rules for the 2024 Transplant Football World Cup

Rules Source: These rules are based on The Football Association Small Sided Football Rules found in the FA Handbook 2023-24 (<https://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/lawsandrules/fa-handbook>), section 36 “Small Sided Football” (pg. 648) except as modified herein:

Team Size and Composition

Teams will consist of a minimum of seven players (ten strongly recommended) and a maximum of sixteen players. Team members may be male or female. Juniors 16 and older are permitted.

Each team should have two sets of uniform shirts available, one white and one dark. Each shirt should have a legal number printed on the back, no smaller than eight inches high. If it is not possible for a team to have two different sets of uniform shirts, arrangements will be made.

Game

The size of the pitch is 50mx35m with goals 6 meters by 2 meters. The games will be two 15 minute halves (running time), with unlimited substitutions using the “roll-on-roll-off” rule when the ball is not in play. The format of the competition may be subject to change due to weather conditions, medical matters, or other logistical considerations.

Rules of Play

All free kicks are direct and can be taken as soon as the ball is stationary. Free kicks must be taken where the offence was committed and opponents must be 2 meters from the ball. Players may not shoot free kicks into “walls” of players from the other team.

Throw ins will be a normal overhead throw, and corner kicks will be taken with the feet.

The goalkeeper should wear a shirt that distinguishes him/her from all other players. The goalkeeper can pick the ball up anywhere inside the penalty box area, the regular back pass rule applies. They are allowed to leave the penalty area but cannot handle the ball once outside. Distribution may be made only by throwing/rolling or playing from the ground (Kicks

directly out of the hands or 'Drop Kicks' are not permitted). Once the ball is placed on the ground, other players are permitted to play it.

Goal kicks must be taken from inside the box, by any player. The ball must be kicked from the ground, not thrown (the ball may be thrown if the goalkeeper picks the ball up in play).

Sliding tackles are not permitted; an infringement of this rule will lead to a free kick being awarded to the opposition. Arm/elbow contact with the chest will not be allowed. If it occurs, it could result in a player being penalized and booked. The taking of a penalty will be in line with the one step rule. Abusive language will be penalized at the referee's discretion by awarding a direct free kick.

If a player commits a foul that would normally result in a yellow card, s/he will be sent off for 2 minutes and the team will play with a one-person disadvantage. The second infraction will result in a yellow card. A third yellow card infraction will mean that the player must leave the game and cannot play in the next game. If a player receives a straight red card, s/he will be sent off, will not be able to play in the next game, and there may be points deducted from the team depending on the offense.

If a player receives 3 yellow cards in the group stage, s/he will incur a 1 match ban. This will reset at the end of the group stage.

Match Ties

If a match is tied at the end of regulation time, the tie will be resolved by a penalty kick shootout.

Group Stage Ties

Teams will be ranked in each group by using recognized FIFA procedures:

1. Points (3 for win)
2. Goal difference (goals scored minus goals conceded)
3. Goals scored
4. Head-to-head result
5. Head-to-head goal difference
6. Head-to-head goals scored

Equipment

Shin Pads are compulsory. Participants may wear body protection if determined necessary by his/her doctor or if the participant feels it is necessary to protect his/her organ graft. Jewelry should be removed or taped to the satisfaction of the referee.