

Plant City FC Strawberry Classic (U8-U19)

<http://www.plantcityfc.com>

February 17-18, 2018

Tournament Headquarters: Tournament headquarters and all tournament games are located at the Otis M. Andrews Sports Complex, located at 2602 E. Cherry St., Plant City, FL 33563 or the Ellis Methvin Sports Complex located at 2402 E. Cherry St., Plant City FL 33563. Tournament Director is David Spivey (813) 917-1756. All tournament information can be found at <http://www.plantcityfc.com>

Tournament Hotels: Teams from out of town are not required to stay in club-approved hotels. A list of local hotels will be displayed on Plant City FC's website (<http://www.plantcityfc.com>) only as a guide to help teams looking for proximity to the fields. It will be the responsibility of all teams to make hotel accommodations they deem suitable for the tournament.

Team Check-In: Check in will occur Friday, February 16th from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm at the Tournament Headquarters at 2602 E. Cherry St., Plant City, FL 33563 (concession stand). Check-in may also occur up to one hour before a team's first game. The following documents are required:

- Five (5) copies of an approved official team roster either FYSA, other State association or US Club Soccer
 - Make sure to cross off any primary players not attending
 - Make sure jersey numbers are listed for each player on roster and in team account on Gotsoccer
- One (1) guest player form for **EACH** guest player this is from outside your club. The form will need to be completed and signed by the guest player's Club Registrar or Agent of Record. All guest players must have the same type of player passes as the rest of the team (FYSA, US Club, etc.)
- Laminated Coach and Player Passes from either USYS State Association for the 2016-17 seasonal year. All coaches and players, including guest and club pass players must have laminated passes with photos and be from the same rostering organization (no mixing of passes from different organizations). **NO PASS, NO PLAY, NO EXCEPTIONS**
- One (1) player medical release form for each and every player participating. No notarization is required of the form, just a signature and a date

Team and Player Eligibility:

- The Plant City FC Strawberry Classic shall be open to all teams comprised of properly registered youth players from all USSF Affiliates, provided such team is in good standing with its youth association.
- Player are only allowed to be rostered for one (1) team during the tournament. Players are considered tournament-tied to the first team they participate with. If a player illegally participates with more than one (1) team in the tournament, games for the team(s) with illegal participants will be recorded 3-0 in the opponents favor.
- Age classifications for this tournament are:
 - U19 – Birth Year 1999
 - U18 – Birth Year 2000
 - U17 – Birth Year 2001
 - U16 – Birth Year 2002
 - U15 – Birth Year 2003
 - U14 – Birth Year 2004
 - U13 – Birth Year 2005
 - U12 – Birth Year 2006
 - U11 – Birth Year 2007
 - U10 – Birth Year 2008
 - U9 – Birth Year 2009
 - U8 – Birth Year 2010
- Maximum rostered players and game formats for the competition shall be:

- U8 Futures – Twelve (12) rostered players playing 7 v 7; a minimum of 5 players must be present at the start of a game to prevent forfeiture
 - U9-U10 – Twelve (12) rostered players playing 7 v 7; a minimum of 5 players must be present at the start of a game to prevent forfeiture
 - U11-U12 – Sixteen (16) rostered players playing 9 v 9; a minimum of 7 players must be present at the start of a game to prevent forfeiture
 - U13-U19 – Twenty-two (22) rostered players playing 11 v 11; a minimum of 9 players must be present at the start of a game to prevent forfeiture
- Five (5) maximum guest/loan players are allowed for all age groups. Club pass players are allowed and will not count toward the five guest player maximum. You may only use guest/loan players from the same US Youth Affiliation and they must be legally registered through their US Youth Affiliation. (FYSA teams can only have players with FYSA passes, US Club teams can only have players with US Club passes, etc). For guest player instruction, visit <http://www.plantcityfc.com/guestplayers.html>

Pre-Game Procedures:

- Prior to each game, all coach and player passes and official rosters will be verified by the center referee of the game. Please be at your respective field at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the game. A player arriving after the start of the game will not be allowed to enter the game until proper verification is done by the center referee.
- If both teams' jerseys are of similar color as determined by the center referee, it is the responsibility of the home team to change colors. Goalie jerseys should not be similar to either the home or visiting teams' colors or the referees' shirts.

During the Game Procedures:

- All games will follow the FIFA "Laws of the Game". U9/U10 (7 v 7) and U11/U12 (7 v 7) will play in accordance with the US Youth Soccer Official Under 12 & 10 Playing Recommendations
 - Substitutions are unlimited during the game. They can occur prior to a throw in by your team, after a goal is scored, during an injury timeout or at the beginning of the second half/overtime. Proper notification by the coach is required for substitutions to occur.
 - Shin guards are mandatory to be able to participate in a game (worn under the socks). Under FYSA Rule 402.2, player equipment shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Affiliate, FYSA and FIFA rules. Additionally:
 - a.) Screw in cleats are permitted; however, judgment as to their safety is at the discretion of the referee.
 - b.) Orthopedic casts can be worn at any sanctioned FYSA tournament with written approval from a doctor and written permission from a tournament official, final judgement as to its safety is at the discretion of the referee.
 - c.) Soft braces can be worn with written approval from a doctor, and judgement as to safety is at the discretion of the referee.
 - d.) It is the policy of FYSA that no player be allowed to wear ANY jewelry while participating in any FYSA sanctioned match. The only exception that may be allowed is a medical alert bracelet or necklace when taped to the body. The referee shall make the decision as to the safety of the player and the referee's decision is final.
 - For ages U11 and above, one center referee and two assistant referees will be used. For U8-U10 games, only a center referee is required. If an assigned referee (center or assistant) is unable to attend a game, a replacement of suitable quality and certification will be assigned by the Referee Assignor and the game(s) will be played as scheduled.
 - U8-U10 duration of games will be (pool play, semifinals and finals): 2 x 25 (minutes) = 50 minutes total. There will be no overtime in a semifinal or final. The game will go straight to penalty kicks according to FIFA's "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark". U9 and U10 games will use the Build Out Line.
 - 7 v 7 BUILD OUT LINE – There will be a build out line on 7 v 7 modified fields
- USYS Rule – The build out line is used to promote playing the ball out of the back in an unpressured setting.
- a) The Build out Line Rule becomes effective when the goalkeeper gains possession of the ball.
 - b) This Rule is governed by the principal of "Fair Play."
 - c) Like a Free Kick, the goalkeeper has the option of waiting for the opponents to be outside the build

out line, or take a quick re-start. There is no consequence to any player if the ball is lost after a quick re-start is played.

- d) Punts and drop kicks by the goalkeeper are prohibited. If the keeper punts or dropkicks the ball, the Referee will stop play, place the ball at the spot from where the keeper kicked the ball, and play is restarted by the keeper kicking the ball to teammate. The opponents must be outside the build out line and the teammate must be inside the build out line.
 - e) Goalkeepers may throw the ball, place the ball on the ground and kick the ball, or place the ball on the ground and dribble the ball. When placed on the ground for a kick, the ball cannot be moving.
 - f) The first kicked pass must be to a teammate inside the build out line. The keeper may release the ball by throwing beyond the build out line.
 - g) Opponents must stay outside the build out line until the second touch on the ball. A keeper dribbling the ball will be considered a second touch.
 - h) Goal Kicks are subject to the build out line rule.
 - i) Free kicks inside the build out line but outside the penalty area are not subject to the build out line rule.
- U11-U12 duration of games will be (pool play, semifinals and finals): 2 x 30 (minutes) = 60 minutes total. There will be no overtime in a semifinal or final. The game will go straight to penalty kicks according to FIFA's "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark". **HEADING IS NOT ALLOWED** in U11 or U12 games at the tournament.

Heading Guidelines 2016-17

In conjunction with US Soccer and US Youth Soccer, Florida Youth Soccer Association will be instituting a heading ban for players age 10 and younger.

In accordance with the recent U.S. Soccer recommendations on concussion risk management:

FYSA has eliminated heading in matches for player's age 10-years-old and younger (2006-11u and younger), per the new calendar year registration guidelines. 2005-12U teams will participate in non-heading divisions until December 31, 2016 and then heading divisions shall be permitted Jan 1, 2017.

The guidelines apply to leagues, tournaments, and other FYSA sanctioned events that include 2006-11u and younger age group teams (2005-12U in 2016) heading will not be permitted.

Leagues and tournaments shall allow for 2005-12u heading age divisions after January 1, 2017. Leagues and tournaments will be permitted to form 2005/2006-12u non-heading divisions. (see playing up guidelines)

Teams that opt for 2005-2006-12u non-heading divisions shall only participate in non-heading divisions in league play, tournaments, and all events. Sanctions will be made against teams that do not follow this guideline.

- U13-U15 duration of games will be (pool play, semifinals and finals): 2 x 30 (minutes) = 60 minutes total. There will be no overtime in a semifinal or final. The game will go straight to penalty kicks according to FIFA's "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark".
- U16-U19 duration of games will be (pool play, semifinals and finals): 2 x 35 (minutes) = 70 minutes total. There will be no overtime in a semifinal or final. The game will go straight to penalty kicks according to FIFA's "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark".
- Any team that is not present fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled match time with the required minimum number of players is subject to a forfeit. The Tournament Director may extend the wait time based on unforeseen circumstances or make the decision to declare a forfeit and award the victory to the other team. A score of 3-0 will be recorded in the case of a forfeit. Any additional penalties as a result of a forfeit will be reviewed by the Tournament Discipline Committee. Additional penalties may include:
 - Not allowing the team to be declared a division winner or wild card team
 - Forfeit one you forfeit all. The forfeiting team may play all remaining Group Play

- Matches (using referees) as official exhibitions.
 - The decision of the committee will be final
- In any FYSA sanctioned match a break will be given at the midpoint of each half of regulation time and at the end of each overtime period (if played) for player hydration. This break will be given at a normal stoppage of play and it is mandatory for any FYSA sanctioned match during which the air temperature is or is expected to reach eighty-five (85) degrees. Violation may result in charges under FYSA's Code of Ethics. Game clock will continue to run during the breaks.
- Pursuant to Florida Statutes (FS 943.0438), Florida in 2012 enacted a very stringent Head Injury and Concussion Law. If the referee (or assistant referee) believes that, in his/her opinion, a player has suffered a head injury or possible concussion, the match must be stopped IMMEDIATELY. The injured player, if able to leave the field on their own, must be escorted to their coach and the coach must be told that the player cannot return for the duration of the match. If a trainer is brought onto the field because the player is incapacitated, the referee must still notify the coach that the player cannot return to the game. It is the responsibility of the coach and the player's parent(s) or legal guardian to seek medical attention. The player may not resume participation until he/she has been cleared by a medical doctor. The referee HAS NO FURTHER responsibility beyond removing the player from the match in which the player was injured. The referee crew must ensure, that UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES or due to appeal from any coaching staff that the player is allowed to return to the game.
- **There will be NO PROTESTS. Decisions by referees may not be appealed. All disputes will be resolved immediately by the Tournament Director. These decisions will be final.**

Post- Game Procedures:

- At the end of every game, teams should congratulate each other in the spirit of good sportsmanship.
- We ask that all coaches of all teams to please make sure that their sideline areas is clean of all trash following the conclusion of each game.
- The coach or team representative must sign/initial the game report that the center referee will complete after the conclusion of each contest. The center referee will return all player/coach passes to the coach/team manager after both teams have signed the game report. Ultimately, the responsibility for the collection of passes from the referee lies with the coach/manager of the teams participating.
- The center referee will turn in a completed game report to the tournament director with scores. Any special circumstances (cards, injuries, etc.) will be written on the bottom of the game report.

Determination of Group Winners/Playoff Finalists:

- Finalists will be determined through a seeding format or by a division winner's format, depending on the number of teams that enter in a particular bracket. The rules to determine tie breakers will be the same for either format. Each team will be awarded three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie and zero (0) points for a loss. In the event of a tie within a division, the following criteria will be used to determine who moves forward:
 - First tiebreaker – head to head results
 - Second tiebreaker – Net goal differential with a maximum of four (4) goal differential per game
 - Third tiebreaker – Least amount of goals allowed
 - Fourth tiebreaker – Goals scored with a maximum of four (4) goals per game
 - Fifth tiebreaker – Most shutouts
 - Sixth tiebreaker – Penalty kicks according to FIFA laws
- If Penalty kicks in accordance with FIFA "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark." is required to determine the winner for advancement after steps 1-6 still result in a tie, penalty kicks will be taken thirty (30) Minutes before the scheduled start of the elimination game or earlier if a mutually convenient time can be agreed upon with representatives of both teams and the Tournament Director.

Conduct/Discipline/Suspensions:

- There will be a Discipline Committee selected prior to the tournament by the Tournament Director and will consist of three (3) members. The Committee will review and rule on all reports of unacceptable conduct by players, managers, spectators and coaches, using the FYSA standards as set forth under FYSA Rule Section 502 and all players, managers, spectators and coaches shall be subject to FYSA Rule Section 502 – Discipline and Sanctions.
- All players, coaches and spectators are expected to conduct themselves with the letter and spirit of the “Laws of the Game”. Any person or persons who chooses to abide by these rules can be removed from the premises by the tournament director and/or field marshal, It will be the coaches responsibility for the behavior of their respective fans. Repeated lack of following the rules by fans can result in a coach for that team being ejected.
- A player or coach shall receive a minimum of one (1) game suspension, regardless of the cause of the ejection. FYSA Guidelines and Policies will be used to determine minimum disciplinary actions for punitive measures. Depending on the severity of the conduct, the Discipline Committee may recommend a suspension up to the duration of the tournament. For more on suspensions, please refer to FYSA By-Law 504.1:

504.1 - Red card suspension or send off suspensions can only be served with the team with which the suspension was earned in games played by their team. Until the suspension is served the player/coach is suspended from any other team(s) to which the player/coach may be registered. Games may not be scheduled to “work off” suspension. Players may not serve suspensions as “guest players” nor may they “guest play” with any other team(s) until such time as the original suspension is served.

Issued during Tournament Play: Tournament Red Card Report filed along with game reports as required by Post-Tournament rules. FYSA office to send copy of Red Card Report and appropriate game reports to the appropriate RC in the next immediate mail out. RC will notify club of a discipline/sanctions remaining.

- The issuance of red and yellow cards and any other matter involving the conduct of a team, players, coaches or spectators will be reported to the home club and State Association of the team involved as well as US Youth Soccer National Office within seventy-two (72) hours of the conclusion of the tournament for possible further disciplinary action.
- Exhibiting or threatening violence of any sort by a player, coach, team official or spectator will be grounds for immediate expulsion for the duration of the tournament if such determination is made by the appropriate tournament officials.

Weather:

- In the event of inclement weather, the Tournament Director will have the sole authority to change games as follows in terms of location, duration, cancellation
- Games that have been started and subsequently suspended due to inclement weather or other external conditions, will be deemed complete if one half of play has been completed or the first half cannot be completed prior to the start time of the next scheduled game on that field. For any such game that is not completed, the score at the time of the suspension will be the final score. Any game that is not started and is canceled (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.

Refunds/External Conditions:

- The tournament director has the absolute authority to make changes that best serve the tournament and tournament participants in the event of any rescheduling or cancellation. If the event of a total cancellation, the tournament will follow rule 902.12 of the FYSA Tournament Rules. Refunds will be issued as follows:
 - o Within five (5) days after notification that the team is not accepted by their application.
 - o Within five (5) days upon cancellation of the tournament.
 - o Within ten (10) days of withdrawal request of the application by a team prior to acceptance of that application by the tournament.

- Any team that will not be permitted to play in the contracted age group shall have the option to withdraw and receive a full refund of all entry fees. All tournaments shall notify any participant not less than ten (10) days prior to the beginning of the tournament if any age group advertised will not be offered.
- Teams that cancel participation or pullout of the tournament following the registration deadline of February 1, 2016 will not be granted a refund.

Miscellaneous:

- Under no circumstances whatsoever, will the Tournament Committee, Plant City FC, or any State Association be responsible for any expenses (including tournament entry fee) incurred by any team. This includes a situation where the tournament or any game(s) is cancelled in whole or part, due to any factor including inclement weather.
- The Tournament Committee's interpretation of these rules shall be **FINAL** and reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the tournament.
- No sales of any kind are allowed without written consent from the Plant City Area Soccer Club, Inc. (Plant City FC)