

AFC Rustenburg Youth Cup 2019 Rules and Format

1. TOURNAMENT DATES AND VENUE

- (a) The group stages shall be played on Thursday 28th and Friday 29th November 2019
- (b) The Youth Cup Super 8 Championship Series (knockout stages, Quarter-finals) shall be played on Saturday 30th November 2019.
- (c) Semi-finals, Third Place Play-off, and Final shall be held on Sunday 1st December 2019
- (d) The venue for the entire tournament is the Karlien Park Sports Grounds.
- (e) Only online entries shall be considered.
- (f) The closing date for entries is Friday 11th October 2019.
- (g) The official draw for the group stages shall be held on 18th October 2019, at a venue to be disclosed.

2. ELIGIBILITY

(a) All players born in the year 2002 and thereafter (i.e. a player must NOT turn 18 in 2019) are eligible to play in the 2019 AFC Youth Cup tournament.

(b) All players must have their Identity document/smart card or valid passport available for purpose of registration and identification.

(c) If a player is not able to produce proof of identification, such a player will be deemed to be ineligible and will not be allowed to play in the tournament.

(d) All players are compelled to go through the scrutiny / screening process before they will be allowed to play in the tournament.

(e) The Youth Cup Committee reserve the right to perform random checks on players during the duration of the tournament.

(f) Teams found using an ineligible player/s will be immediately disqualified from the tournament.

3. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

(a) Sixteen (16) teams divided into four (4) groups (A to D) of four (4) teams each shall contest the tournament.



(b) The four (4) teams play each other once in their group and a league table of the results is drawn up.

(c) The two (2) top teams in each group shall progress to the second round of the Youth Cup Super (8) Championship Series (Winner Section, Quarter-finals).

(d) In the event of two (2) teams ending with the same number of points in their groups, the team with the superior goal difference shall be declared the higher group finisher.

(e) If the teams cannot be separated by goal difference (refer to point above), the team that scored the highest number of goals will then be declared the higher group finisher.

(f) If the teams cannot be separated by the highest number of goals scored, the corresponding result between the teams in the round robin stage will be declared the higher group finisher.

(g) If the teams are still tied (having referred to the points above), kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken (as per FIFA guidelines). Both teams shall require not more than eleven eligible players on the field for the purpose of the penalty kicks.

(h) Should a team refuse to take penalties, then the opponent will be declared the higher finisher in the respective group.

(i) The format for the knock-out stages shall be as follows:

- Playoff/QF 1 A1 vs D2
- Playoff /QF2 A2 vs D1
- Playoff/QF 3 B1 vs C2
- Playoff/QF 4 B2 vs C1
- Semi-final 1 winner QF 1 vs winner QF 2
- Semi-final 2 winner QF 3 vs winner QF 4
- Third Place Playoff Semi-final losers
- Finals Semi-final winners

4. MATCH DURATION

- (a) Group stage (16 teams, 4 groups, round robin):
 Each league round robin match shall consist of two (2) halves of 20 minutes each with no extra time.
- (b) Knockout format for the Youth Cup Super 8 Championship Series, winners' section:
 - (i) The duration of the last eight (8) matches will consist of two (2) halves of twenty-five (25) minutes each way.



- (ii) The semi-finals will consist of two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each way.
- (iii) The third place play-off and the final will consist of two (2) halves of forty (40) minutes each way.
- (iv) In the event of the scores being level at full time, a further duration of eight (8) minutes each way shall be played.
- (v) Grace of ten (10) minutes ONLY shall be allowed by the referee for late coming to kick-off. After which the late team shall forfeit the game. The referee's decision is final in this respect.

5. POINT SYSTEM

The points system is applicable to the qualifying league (group stage, round robin) round only and will be allocated as follows:

- Three (3) points for a win.
- Two (2) points for a score draw.
- One (1) point for a goalless draw.

6. GENERAL RULES OF COMPETITION

- (a) Registration:
 - (i) Participating teams shall register a squad of a maximum twenty (20) players. Plus a maximum of four (4) members in the technical staff (24).
 - (ii) No guest players will be allowed. Only online registrations shall be considered.
 - (iii) A registration fee of R500 per team entry is to paid into the following account in order to cover basic tournament services, e.g. first aid / paramedic presence, match officials.
 - Bank Nedbank Rustenburg
 - Account Name Rustenburg Athletico Youth Cup
 - Account Number 2010855388
 - Proof of Payment (PoP) should be e-mailed to <u>admin@afcrustenburg.co.za</u>.
- (b) A total of four (4) substitutes (including the goalkeeper) are allowed in all games.

(c) A player having received two (2) cautions in different matches shall serve an automatic onematch (1) suspension.

(d) All cautions will fall away after the round robin stage.



(e) A player dismissed from the field of play (red card) during any match shall serve a one-match (1) suspension.

(f) Such a player may be summoned to appear before the Tournament Disciplinary Committee at the discretion of the tournament organisers.

(g) The Disciplinary Committee will have the right to review the one-match suspension.

(h) If a player was sent-off in the last match of the round robin stage, the suspension will carry through to the knock-out stage.

(i) The referee's decision shall be final and binding and the Tournament Committee shall entertain no protests.

(j) In the event of a colour/s clash, the second (2nd) team mentioned on the fixture will affect the change of strip. Should a team fail to affect an alternative strip they will forfeit the match.

(k) All teams shall have an alternative strip available for the tournament.

(I) The referee will decide if there is a clash of colours or not.

(m) All teams shall participate in all programs arranged by the organisers, and or sponsors as part of the tournament.

(n) Teams will not be allowed to display their sponsor's branding on the venue without consultation and permission from the organisers.

(o) Failure to do so will be deemed as misconduct, and bringing the tournament into disrepute.

(p) Any team bringing the tournament into disrepute shall not have any claim to any awards and/ or prize monies.

(q) All teams shall make themselves available for squads, as well as individual photographs. Teams shall also avail themselves for media interviews if required to do so.

7. DISCLAIMER

Neither the Youth Cup Committee, nor the Sponsors or the host club can be held responsible for the following:

(a) Damages to or theft of vehicles belonging to spectators, visitors or players.

(b) Any injuries sustained as a visitor or player. First aid will be available throughout the tournament especially for players.



(c) The loss of personal items.

(d) The loss of playing kit or valuables from the dressing rooms or anywhere in the proximity of the sports field.

8. INCENTIVES

(a) The tournament organisers shall have the sole right to decide on the incentives to teams, players, managers or coaches.

(b) At the time of going to website, sponsors were being sought for incentives. Hence, a comprehensive description of all incentives shall only be published at the tournament.

9. LIST OF AWARDS AND INCENTIVES

The complete list of incentives shall be published at the tournament. However, the minimum that can be expected is as follows:

- Semi-Finalists: Kit for each player registered
- First, Second and Third Place: Keepsake Trophy and Team Medals