



DOWNTOWN SOCCER TORONTO PLAYOFF POLICY

Downtown Soccer Toronto is a not-for-profit amateur sporting organization whose purpose is to provide gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer-positive individuals the opportunity to play recreational soccer in a safe and sportsmanlike environment.

This Playoff Policy provides the framework for running the year-end tournament to determine the season's champions and final seeding based on 8 active teams in the league. The Executive Committee (hereafter, The Executive) endeavours to apply this policy in such a way that it respects the league's objectives as well as time and other constraints.

SEEDING

- 1.1 In order to determine the initial seeding for the final tournament, all teams will be ranked in descending order based on number of points accumulated during regular season play. In the case of a tie in points between two or more teams, the ranking of these teams will be determined by the following criteria:
 - 1.1.1 The team with the most goals for;
 - 1.1.2 The team with the least goals against;
 - 1.1.3 The team with the lowest goal differential (Goals for – Goals against);
 - 1.1.4 The team with the least Red cards;
 - 1.1.5 The team with the least Yellow cards;
 - 1.1.6 The team with the most wins;
 - 1.1.7 The team with the most draws;
 - 1.1.8 The team with the least losses;
 - 1.1.9 Comparing head-to-head play, the team with the most wins;
 - 1.1.10 Comparing head-to-head play, the team with the most number of goals;
 - 1.1.11 Coin toss.
- 1.2 All teams from the regular season will participate in the quarterfinal round, with winning teams proceeding towards the championship round and losing teams progressing to consolation and ranking rounds. See Appendix 1 for playoff chart.
- 1.3 Matching teams for the quarterfinals will be in favour of the higher placed teams, with the first placed team playing the last, second playing second-to-last, etc. The scheduled time of the matches will also favour the higher placed teams with regards to sunlight and temperature. See Appendix 2 for schedule.

GAME DETAILS

- 1.4 Each match shall last 90 minutes of regular play, comprising two periods of 45 minutes, with an interval of 10 minutes in between.

- 1.4.1 If, in accordance with the provisions of this policy and the leagues laws, extra time is to be played as the result of a draw at the end of normal playing time, it shall always consist of two periods of 10 minutes each, with an interval of five minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time.
- 1.4.2 If the score is level after extra time, penalty kicks will be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedure described in the Laws of the Game.
- 1.4.3 At the end of the two periods of normal playing time (45 and 90 minutes), the referee shall indicate orally, the number of minutes that he/she has decided to allow for time lost. This also applies to the two periods of 10 minutes of extra time.
- 1.5 Other than the modification listed in this policy, the DST modified Laws of the Game will continue to apply for the playoffs.

SANCTIONS & APPEALS

- 1.6 Sanctions from regular season play that remain to be served will apply during playoffs. The player's staging in our disciplinary policy will also continue to apply during the playoffs. Additionally, the following will apply:
 - 1.6.1 2 yellow cards in different games will result in ejection from the current game as well as suspension for the first half of regular play in the subsequent game.
 - 1.6.2 2 yellow cards in the same game will result in the ejection from the current game as well as suspension for the entire subsequent game.
 - 1.6.3 1 red card (not being the result of 2 yellow cards) OR 3 yellow cards (in any configuration) will result in suspension for the remainder of the tournament.
- 1.7 Due to the time constraints, appeals must be submitted to the executive no more than 15 minutes after the end of the game. For the period from 7pm Sunday September 24th to 8am October 2nd, any off-field protest or complaint must be received by the Ombudsperson no later than 9am, October 2nd in order for it to be processed and reviewed.
- 1.8 All protests and complaints will be resolved prior to the next scheduled game for the player involved and the results will be given to the officials.

ATTENDANCE & GAME SHEETS

- 1.9 The Executive will establish an official reporting area to be manned during the playoff period. This will be the area for referees to prepare and be briefed as well as the location of the playoff chart and results.
- 1.10 Captains will be required to provide their attendance sheet (see Appendix 3) to the referee at least 5 minutes prior to the beginning of play. The referee will determine if there are players under sanction at this time.
- 1.11 The referees will submit game sheets immediately after each game in order to update the playoff chart. Teams will be able to verify the time of their next game 15 minutes after the end of their most recent game.

Role of the Executive

The Executive will enforce this Playoff Policy; the Operations Coordinator will review all appeals to this policy and recommend action to the Executive as required.