

## Rules and regulation for the 11 vs. 11 tournament format - BA CUP

The BA Cup 11-a-side soccer regulations fully adhere to FIFA rules; however, there are some differences based on adaptations specific to this tournament format. It is essential that each registered player reads and becomes familiar with the guidelines outlined below.

### **RULE #1: NUMBER OF PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Each match will be played by two teams, each consisting of a maximum of eleven players, one of whom must be the goalkeeper. A match may not begin or continue if a team has fewer than seven players.

Teams may register up to 20 players per age category on their official roster, and all of them are eligible to participate in every match.

- A player may leave the game and then re-enter, which means substitutions with **re-entry are permitted**.
- However, to minimize interruptions, each team will have **four** opportunities to make substitutions during the course of the match, and they may also make substitutions at halftime.
- If both teams make a substitution at the same time, it will count as one substitution opportunity for each team.

The coach may remain at field level, within the technical area, to give instructions to the players. If a team is reduced to six players due to expulsions or injuries, the match will be terminated, and the team responsible for the suspension will be declared the loser.

### **What happens to the result?**

The team that is reduced to fewer than 7 players automatically loses the match. They are considered responsible for the suspension of the game, whether due to red cards, injuries, or absences.

### The final score may:

- Remain as it was at the moment the match was stopped, if the opposing team was already winning, or
- Be adjusted to an official default score 3–0.

### RULE #2: DURATION OF THE MATCH

- **2013–2014, 2011–2012 and Men’s 48+:** The game’s duration is 60 minutes, divided in two 30-minute halves.

**Note:** There will be a **5-minute halftime** to switch sides.

### RULE #3: GUEST PLAYERS / ROSTER EXCEPTIONS

- **Masters Tournament (Adults):** Each team must choose only one of the following options (they cannot be combined):

**Option A:** A maximum of two players who are up to two years younger than the age group’s age limit are permitted. If the goalkeeper is up to 2 years younger, they count under this option and occupy one of the two allowed spots.

**Option B:** Teams may field 1 goalkeeper who is up to 4 years younger than the age group limit. At no time may he/she play as a field player.

Any player may participate in two age groups, considering that **(1)** they meet the age requirements and **(2)** they are registered with both teams. **Players may not play for more than one team within the same age group.**

**Note:** All players must meet the age requirements of the age group in which they compete. Age eligibility is based on the calendar year of birth, not the exact birthdate. Therefore, a player must be, or turn, the required age by **December 31 of the tournament year.**

- **Youth Tournament**

Each team may have two exceptions for players who are no more than one year older than the age limit for the age group.

School teams from countries with different academic calendars may register players born one year earlier, but only in the youth 11-a-side format age groups.

Any player may participate in **two age groups**, considering that **(1)** they meet the age requirements and **(2)** they are registered with both teams. **Players may not play for more than one team within the same age group.** Girls are allowed to play on boys' teams up to and including the U16 age group.

**TIE-BREAKING RULES:** If two or more teams have the same number of points after the group stage, the group standings will be determined as follows (Read carefully Disciplinary Rules document regarding point deductions due to the accumulation of yellow and/or red cards):

1. Goal difference
2. Most goals scored
3. Result of the match played between the tied teams
4. Fewest goals conceded
5. Penalty shootout, in accordance with FIFA regulations

**Notes:**

- Players are generally required to remove any ear, nose, or body piercings, as well as earrings or any other objects that could pose a risk of injury to another player. If removal is not possible, these items must be covered.
- All players are required to wear shin guards at all times.

**OBSERVATION**

ANY OTHER NON-SPECIFIED RULE WILL BE EQUIVALENT TO FIFA 11V11 REGULATIONS.