

COPA RAYADOS SAN ANTONIO

RULES OF COMPETITION

February 5-7, 2027 • San Antonio, Texas



TOURNAMENT CONTACTS

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TOURNAMENT HQ

STARR Soccer Complex
5103 David Edward Dr
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Updated for the 2026/27 seasonal year

1. General Tournament Information

Premier Soccer Services is proud to partner with Liga MX CF Monterrey Rayados to bring a world-class tournament experience to San Antonio. The event is open to U9-U15 boys and girls teams and will be played February 5-7, 2027 at STARR Soccer Complex.

TEAM RESPONSIBILITY

Coaches and managers are responsible for ensuring that the team roster/application includes accurate phone numbers and email addresses. They must also be familiar with these rules, online team check-in procedures, and credential requirements.

All games shall be played in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game, except as specifically superseded by these tournament rules.

2. Laws of the Game & Match Standards

Law 1 - The Field

Field and goal sizes will be age appropriate in accordance with U.S. Soccer / US Youth Soccer small-sided game recommendations and tournament standards.

Law 2 - The Ball

Age Group	Ball Size
U12 & younger	Size 4
U13-U15	Size 5

GAME BALLS

The home team is responsible for providing game balls.

Law 3 - The Players

The tournament will use the 2026/27 seasonal-year structure for U9-U15. Playing formats are:

Age Group	Format	Maximum Tournament / Game-Day Roster
U9-U10	7v7	18 players
U11-U12	9v9	18 players
U13-U15	11v11	22 players

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Players may not play on two different teams during the tournament. Only players listed and approved on the GotSport event roster for this tournament are eligible to participate.

Roster / Game Eligibility

Only players who are eligible for a particular match may be dressed and equipped to participate. Eligible players on the team sideline must be dressed for the match.

Players who are on the tournament roster but are not eligible for that particular match may remain on the team sideline; however, they may not be dressed in the team's game uniform or otherwise equipped to participate. Non-eligible players must wear a clearly different uniform, training attire, or regular clothing so they can be easily distinguished from eligible players.

Small-Sided Game Modifications

- U11 and younger: no heading.
- U10 and younger: no punting and no heading.

Substitutions

Unlimited substitutions may be made by either team at any stoppage of play, at the referee's discretion. Substitutes should be ready at midfield. Players being substituted should exit at the halfway line on their team-side touchline unless otherwise directed by the referee.

Law 4 - Players' Equipment

- All soccer equipment must adhere to IFAB standards.
- The HOME team is responsible for wearing the lighter-colored uniform and changing in the event of a color conflict. If the home team is international and the away team is domestic, the domestic away team is responsible for changing.
- A player must not use equipment or wear anything dangerous to themselves or another player, including jewelry.
- The referee shall inspect casts, braces, headgear, or other special equipment/protective coverings and determine whether participation presents an unreasonable risk.
- Jersey numbers should correspond with the numbers listed on the team roster.
- Teams should have two sets of jerseys in contrasting colors. Players should wear matching team shorts and socks; one set of each is acceptable.

3. Match Duration & Tie Procedures

Law 7 - Duration of the Match

Age Group	Format	Minimum Players	Match Duration
U9-U10	7v7	4	2 x 20 min
U11-U12	9v9	6	2 x 25 min
U13-U15	11v11	7	2 x 35 min

U12 teams playing an 11v11 format are subject to the rules and match standards of the U13 division.

WEATHER / DELAY ADJUSTMENTS

The tournament reserves the right to shorten any match(es) due to weather, field conditions, schedule delays, or other circumstances necessary to complete the event.

Semifinal & Championship Final Tie Procedures

Round-robin and consolation matches may end in a tie.

- Semifinal Matches: If tied at the end of regulation, the match proceeds directly to kicks from the penalty mark. No overtime is played.
- Championship Final: If tied at the end of regulation, teams receive a five-minute rest and then play two overtime periods (NO SUDDEN DEATH).

Age Group	Overtime Duration
U12 & younger	2 x 5 min
U13-U15	2 x 10 min

If the Championship Final remains tied after overtime, kicks from the penalty mark will determine the winner.

4. Competition Format & Standings

Division format will be based on the number of teams in the division. The following formats apply:

Division Size	Competition Format
4 Teams	3 round-robin matches; 1st and 2nd advance to Championship Final.
5 Teams	4 round-robin matches; final standings by points/tiebreakers; no Championship Final.
6 Teams	Two brackets of 3; 2 bracket matches; top 2 from each bracket to Semifinals; 3rd-place teams play consolation; Semifinal is the 3rd guaranteed match for advancing teams; Semifinal winners to Final.
7 Teams	4 round-robin matches; final standings by points/tiebreakers; no Championship Final.
8 Teams	Two brackets of 4; 3 bracket matches; each bracket winner advances to Championship Final.

MATCH GUARANTEE

The number and type of matches are determined by the division format above. Teams are not guaranteed three preliminary matches in addition to a semifinal or final.

Group Tie-Breaker Procedures

1. Results of head-to-head competition
2. Goal Differential (4-goal maximum per game)
3. Least Goals Allowed (4-goal maximum per game)
4. Number of Shutouts
5. Most Goals Scored (4-goal maximum per game)
6. FIFA penalty kicks, at a time and location determined by the Tournament Director

5. Tournament Policies

Stay-to-Play Policy

Copa Rayados San Antonio is a Stay-to-Play event for teams traveling from outside the San Antonio area. Teams subject to the Stay-to-Play requirement must follow the tournament's official housing policies. Hotel information, booking instructions, and applicable housing requirements will be provided through the tournament website and official tournament communications.

Payment Terms, Cancellation, Weather & Refund Policy

By registering for the event, the team/club authorizes Premier Soccer Services to charge the credit card on file for any outstanding balances, including but not limited to registration fees, late fees, housing non-compliance fees (if applicable), and other applicable charges associated with participation in the event.

Teams that withdraw after acceptance will not receive a refund. Weather or other circumstances may require matches to be shortened, rescheduled, relocated, or canceled. Cancellation of individual matches does not automatically result in a refund.

If the entire Copa Rayados San Antonio event is canceled, any credit or refund will be determined in accordance with these Rules of Competition after accounting for unrecoverable event costs. A full refund is not guaranteed.

Head Injury Policy

- The tournament adheres to applicable national governing-body policies for head injuries.
- Players suffering a suspected head injury must be removed from play and evaluated by event medical staff before any return to play.

6. Conduct, Discipline & Team Areas

Red Cards / Suspensions

Any player who receives a red card is automatically suspended for a minimum of one (1) match. Depending on the nature and severity of the offense, the Tournament Director may impose an additional suspension.

A player serving a red-card suspension is not eligible to participate in the team's next match. If a team uses a suspended player in a match, that match will be declared a forfeit. Additional disciplinary action may also be imposed by the Tournament Director.

Players sent off or coaches removed for fighting will not be allowed to return to the tournament.

Conduct & Discipline

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their spectators. All participants and spectators must follow the conduct policies of the associated parks departments and facilities.

FACILITY CONDUCT STANDARDS

No alcohol • No smoking • No verbal or physical abuse of any kind

Violations of conduct policies will be reviewed by the Tournament Director and may result in expulsion from the complex and/or tournament. For disciplinary matters, including red cards, the tournament will report incidents to member organizations and the U.S. Soccer Federation as required.

Racism / Discriminatory Conduct Protocol

Copa Rayados San Antonio has a zero-tolerance policy for racist, discriminatory, or abusive conduct. Any reported incident will be reviewed by the Tournament Director and tournament administration. The tournament reserves the right to impose disciplinary action, including player or coach suspension, match forfeiture, removal from the facility, and/or expulsion from the tournament, as appropriate based on the circumstances.

Coaching / Technical Team Areas

- Teams are to occupy the same side of the field, with all parents/spectators on the opposite side.
- Coaching areas extend 10 yards on each side of the halfway line.

7. Forfeits

Unless superseded by a ruling from the Tournament Director or an appointed representative, there is a 15-minute grace period. Forfeit time occurs at the end of that grace period.

Format	Minimum Players to Begin / Continue
7v7	4
9v9	6
11v11	7

A forfeited match results in a 4-0 win / 0-4 loss. The forfeiting team may continue in the tournament unless its actions are cause for expulsion.

8. Weather, Storm & Delay Guidelines

Every attempt will be made to have all matches played. Rescheduled games may be played under lights in the evening or scheduled earlier than the normal starting time at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

During rainstorms, matches will continue as scheduled unless conditions become unsafe. Games will be suspended only by the Tournament Director or an appointed tournament representative in the event of:

- Lightning
- Hailstorms
- Unplayable field conditions

FINAL AUTHORITY

Tournament Director decisions regarding tournament-wide suspension, resumption, rescheduling, or abandonment of play are final and are not subject to appeal.

Rescheduling attempts will be made as quickly and fairly as possible, considering referee and field availability and the orderly progress of the tournament. As a final solution, a coin toss may be used to determine teams advancing in knockout stages.

The safety of players, referees, and spectators is the tournament's primary concern, followed by fairness to affected teams and the orderly flow of competition.

Games Suspended in the First Half

- Every effort will be made to complete one-half of the match before the next scheduled game.
- If one-half of the match is completed, the game is official and the score stands.
- If one-half cannot be completed before the next scheduled game, the match may be rescheduled at 0-0, rescheduled before normal play on Sunday at 0-0, or canceled with kicks from the penalty mark used when a winner is required.

Matches called at halftime or during the second half are considered complete and final; the score at that time stands.

Matches That Cannot Start at the Scheduled Time

- Teams must remain at the site and be prepared to begin the match at any point possible until 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the next match.
- The tournament will attempt to play two equal halves, changing ends at the midpoint with no halftime break.
- If the available shortened match time is less than half of the regularly scheduled match time, the match will be determined immediately by kicks from the penalty mark when a winner is required.

All matches must terminate at the designated start time of the next match unless superseded by the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director has authority to declare a delayed match final or abandon a match due to consecutive delays.

IMPORTANT

Teams must report to the scheduled game site before the scheduled starting time, ready to play, and may not leave until the match is canceled or otherwise released by the Tournament Director or tournament representative.

Rescheduled Match Information

Information will be available at Tournament Headquarters. Teams involved in a canceled match must have a representative check in with the Tournament Director at HQ for rescheduling information. The tournament will also attempt to contact teams using the contact information listed in GotSport.

9. Electronic Registration, Credentials & Match Check-In

Online team registration/check-in is REQUIRED for all teams. Teams will not be eligible to play without an approved tournament roster.

2027 ONLINE CHECK-IN DEADLINE

All required documents must be uploaded in GotSport by Saturday, January 23, 2027 at midnight. A team that does not complete online check-in as posted will be subject to a \$50 late fee and will be required to check in at Tournament Headquarters on Friday, February 5, 2027. On-site check-in time is TBD.

Required Online Check-In Materials

- Completed Copa Rayados San Antonio GotSport event roster, including coaches/staff and accurate jersey numbers.
- Readable images/PDFs of player passes/cards in roster order. Accepted passes include USYS, US Club, USSSA, AYSO, and SAY. International teams may use passport picture-page images as required.
- Guest-player passes and guest-player permission form, if applicable. Maximum of five (5) guest players.
- Medical Release Team Form signed by all players and staff.
- Code of Conduct Team Form signed by team staff.
- Permission to travel for teams outside Texas when required by their national association. US Club Soccer and USSSA rostered teams do not require permission-to-travel forms under their national association rules.

Roster Approval / Changes

Only players listed on the approved Copa Rayados San Antonio roster are eligible. Uploading a player pass alone does not make a player eligible. Once a team is checked in, the primary GotSport contact will receive confirmation and should carefully review the approved roster/match card.

Roster changes after initial check-in must be communicated to Brandon Abell at brandon@premiersoccerservices.com. No roster changes are allowed after the published roster freeze date.

MLS NEXT Teams

MLS NEXT teams are not required to provide traditional player cards when MLS NEXT policy permits. Player headshot photos and jersey numbers must be entered in GotSport, and a KITMAN Labs roster screenshot may be used to verify player eligibility.

Match Check-In

Prior to each match, teams must check in with the referee 30 minutes before kickoff. Required roster/credential information must be available. Referees will verify player eligibility against the approved roster/match card.

10. General Competition Administration

The number and type of matches scheduled for each team will be determined by the division format outlined in Section 4. Depending on division size, teams may participate in round-robin matches, semifinals, consolation matches, and/or a Championship Final. In a six-team division, the semifinal serves as the third guaranteed match for teams advancing from bracket play. Teams are not guaranteed three preliminary matches in addition to semifinal or final matches.

Referees will report scores to the referee assignor, and field marshals will report scores to the Tournament Director.

Protests**NO PROTESTS**

No protests are allowed. Judgment decisions of the referee are final and binding.

Equal Rest / Competitive Balance

Every effort will be made to provide scheduling that gives equal rest to each team; however, limited fields and weather conditions may prevent this. The objective is to complete the tournament in the time allowed. Divisions are flighted based on information provided in the application and tournament knowledge of the teams, with the goal of balancing competition as much as possible.

Final Authority & Liability

The Tournament Director reserves the right to decide all matters pertaining to the tournament, and those decisions are final. Premier Soccer Services, the Tournament Director, sponsors, and organizers are not responsible for expenses incurred by teams or clubs due to partial or full tournament disruption or cancellation. Refunds or credits, if any, are governed by the Payment Terms, Cancellation, Weather & Refund Policy in Section 5.