



## Alden Soccer Tournament Rules 2026 June 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

### **Tournament Location:**

- Robert O. Smith Park, 12800 W Main St, Alden, NY 14004
  - Divisions hosted: U10 – U12, U15 – U17
  - Fields: 1, 2, & 3
  
- Alden Town Park, 13140 W Main St, Alden, NY 14004
  - Divisions hosted: U12 – U14
  - Fields: 1 & 2
  
- Locations are 0.8 miles from each other

### **Tournament Director:**

- Jamie Johnson
- Cell Phone Number: (716) 515 – 5217
- Email: [AldenSoccerTourney@gmail.com](mailto:AldenSoccerTourney@gmail.com)

### **Entry Fee:**

Deadline for tournament registration is June 6, 2026

- U10 Registration Fee is \$450 (fee is non-refundable once accepted)
- U12 – U17 Registration Fee is \$525 (fee is non-refundable once accepted)

### **Guideline Format:**

<b>Divisions</b>	<b>Ball Size</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Roster Min. # of Players</b>	<b>Roster Max. # of Players</b>	<b>Length of Play</b>	<b># of Games</b>
U10	4	7 v 7	7	14	25 min. halves	Minimum of 3 NO Championship
U12	4	9 v 9	9	16	30 min. halves	Minimum of 3 Championship: Top 2 in Division
U13 – U17	5	11 v 11	11	18	30 min. halves	Minimum of 3 Championship: Top 2 in Division

**Rules:**

NYSWYSA & FIFA Laws of the Game will be used to govern this Tournament.  
All referee's decisions are FINAL!

**Registration & Team Eligibility:**

All players and teams must be registered with a State or National association, have a certified roster, and player passes.

Invitation of BWNYSJL Teams in Division II or below will have priority to register.

**Requirements:**

Tournament roster, player passes, insurance forms, parental permission slips, and waivers.

The final roster must not have more than the maximum number of players listed and only those players listed will be allowed to participate. Each team may have up to two guest players.

**Player Passes:**

Coaches are to maintain possession of player passes and medical releases at all times. The Tournament Committee will conduct random audits of submitted rosters against player passes prior to the commencement of selected matches.

**Guest Players:**

Two (2) guest players are permitted. NO Olympic Development, Premier, or All-Star teams guest players are permitted. NO player may play for more than one (1) team in a division. No player may play below his or her normal league participation level.

**Divisions:**

- Male U10
- Male U11 – U12
- Male U13 – U14
- Male U15 – U16
- Male U17 – U19
- Female U10
- Female U11 – U12
- Female U15 – U16
- Female U13 – U14
- Female U17 – U19

### **General Information:**

- You will be contacted via e-mail regarding the tournament schedules and maps one week prior to the tournament date. The schedules and field map can be viewed under the tournament section of our website.
- Rosters may not be changed after the tournament registration process has been completed.
- Tournament fees are non-refundable.

### **Check-in:**

Upon arrival at the Tournament at least 30 minutes prior to first game, check in at headquarters located at designated park.

- For U10 and U15 – U17 check in at Robert O. Smith.
- For U12 – U14 check in at Alden Town Park

### **Liability Release & Medical Consent Forms:**

You must submit a copy of the Liability Release and Medical Consent Forms listing all of the players who will be participating in the tournament. For each minor participant, we require a parent/guardian signature. Participants 18 and over can sign on their own. These forms must be e-mailed to us as part of the registration **no later than June 13, 2026** prior to the start of the tournament.

### **Player Equipment:**

Players are required to wear shin guards, and proper uniforms to coincide with FIFA, USSF, and NYSWYSA guidelines. No jewelry shall be worn by any player during match play.

The Home team (first listed on the official tournament schedule) must provide the ball for the match, subject to approval by the referee.

Ball Sizes:

- U10 -12 #4
- U13 -19 #5

### **Jersey:**

In the event of a conflict with jersey color, the Home team (first listed on the official tournament schedule) must change to an alternate color.

### Game Length:

- All preliminary games will have NO OVERTIME and may end in a tie
- U12 – U 19 games will be 60 minutes (2 halves @ 30 minutes)
- U10 games will be 50 minutes (2 halves @ 25 minutes)
- There will be a five-minute interval between halves.

### Heading the Ball:

- NO intentional heading of the ball is allowed for Division U10 - U12
  - o Whenever the ball strikes a player in the head, the proper restart depends upon whether the player deliberately played the ball with his or her head.
    - If deliberate, the proper restart is an indirect free kick to the opposing team.
    - If this occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken anywhere inside the goal area for the defending team.
    - For the attacking team, the indirect free kick will be at the outside of the goal area (Top of the 6-yard line).
    - If the play by the head is deemed inadvertent, "PLAY ON".

### Scoring:

- Scoring will not be recorded for all U10-U12 Divisions
- Preliminary Round for U12 – U17 Divisions:
  - o Win - 3 points
  - o Tie - 1 point
  - o Loss - 0 points
  - o Shutout Win - Extra 1 point for scores **NOT** ending in a tie
  - o **Red Cards Issued: Offending Team receiving a red card during a game will lose 1 point.**

### Tie Breakers:

- In the event of a tie in a group, the tiebreakers will be determined as follows:
- Head to Head (If 2 or more teams are tied proceed to the next tie breaker)
- Most games won
- Goal differential (maximum 3 goals differential per game)
- Least goals against
- Goals for, divided by goals against, ratio
- FIFA penalty kicks
- All divisions (except U10) must have a winner.
- In the case of a team that is considered a no show, forfeit or cancellation, a score of 3-0 (3 points) will be awarded to the winning team.

- All championship games that end in a draw will have 2 overtime periods of 5 minutes each. There will be a 2-minute break between the overtime periods. If the game is still a draw after the overtime periods, penalty kicks per FIFA rules will be used to determine the CHAMPION and the Runner-up.

### **Officials:**

- Three (3) officials per game will be used for all U13-U19 games; one (1) referee plus two (2) assistant referees.
- One (1) official will be used for U10-U12 games.
- The referee has sole jurisdiction over the game.
- The referee abandons the game. The offending team, regardless of score or time left, will forfeit any games abandoned by the referee due to conduct of any person (player, coach, spectator). If in the referee's opinion both teams are equally at fault, no tournament points are awarded in the match.
- The forfeit scoring will follow the forfeit rules as stated in "Scoring".
- The officials or winning team coach will report the score of all games.
- Scores will be posted at the main tent and posted on our web site.
- Red cards and sideline ejections will also be recorded.

### **Forfeit:**

A forfeit is declared when:

- A team does not show up for or cannot field the minimum required number of players at the scheduled start of a match (See Guideline Format Section above for minimum number of required rostered players). A grace period of 10 minutes from the scheduled start time, or the completion of the preceding game (whichever is later) is allowed.
- A team abandons the game. The team that precipitated the abandonment will forfeit the match.
- The referee abandons the game. If in the referee's opinion both teams are equally at fault, no tournament points are awarded in the match.
- A team fields an illegal player. The winning team will be awarded three (3) points and the match score will be recorded as 3-0.

### **Fouls and Misconduct:**

- Any player receiving two (2) yellow cards or a red card during match play will be asked to remove themselves from the field of play. The player may not participate in his or her next tournament game.
- A violent (hard) red card will warrant disqualification from further play in the tournament as determined by the Tournament Committee.
- Any coach ejected will not participate in any remaining games for that team.

- Any team receiving a red card (player or coach) will also lose one point in overall tournament scoring. (See Scoring for more information.)
- Any spectators asked to leave will be removed from all tournament sites for the duration of tournament.

### **Substitutions:**

A player may be substituted at any stoppage of play with the permission of the referee. Free and unlimited substitution is allowed at all age groups.

### **Spectators:**

During games, both teams and their coaches shall sit on the same side of the field. Spectators shall be located on the opposite side of the field from the players and coaches. No exceptions unless caused by the field layout or requested by the referee. There shall be no more than three coaches with the players at their bench area.

### **Inclement Weather & Schedule Changes:**

- Coaches and players must appear on the field, ready to play, regardless of weather conditions, unless advised by the tournament committee.
- Only the referee or tournament committee may cancel or postpone a game due to weather.
- In cases of inclement weather before the game, the tournament committee may reschedule games, change locations of games, delay it, or shorten the length of it.
- It is the responsibility of each coach to check at the main tent periodically for any changes, at the end and the beginning of each day.
- Every attempt will be made to contact each team based on the contact phone number given at registration.
- Any rescheduled games that are missed will be recorded as a forfeit.

### **Tournament Committee:**

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the tournament, including interpretations of the rules and regulations.