



# U8 Festival Guidelines

## 2023



## District Contacts

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\*Please note that these are only general guidelines. Clubs approved for hosting can be creative and make the festival unique and their own. The goal is always fun!

## Club Participation

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All clubs in Huronia District are invited to attend all U8 Festivals. These festivals are for players born in 2015.

- U7 players are permitted to play on a U8 Game Day Roster provided the player has been evaluated using the appropriate [Ontario Soccer Fast Tracking & Player Development Document](#)

## Registration & Rosters

Players must be pre-registered by clubs with the HDSA office. Registration includes:

- Name
- Date of Birth
- Sports Engine Membership ID Number

Clubs must confirm the number of participants *no later than 7 days* from Festival date. Please note that boys, girls, and mixed teams can participate. There may be mixed-gender matches.

To encourage participation from all clubs, there is flexibility with roster minimums.

- Clubs with less than 7 players can coordinate through the district to arrange a team with another club prior to the festival
- Participants will be rostered on teams with a minimum of 7 players and a maximum of 10 (i.e. Clubs with 30 players will have 3 teams participating)

## Scheduling & Scoring

The schedule will be set by the District Administrator and sent to participating clubs one week prior to the festival date, revisions can occur!

No scores or standings are maintained; the spirit of the festival is fun!







- Spectators are to stay outside of the full field boundaries.

## **Volunteers & Referees**

To help facilitate the event, a minimum of 1 club representative must be present throughout the event, however, multiple volunteers are recommended.

The host club is responsible for providing referees.

- It is strongly recommended to have a referee mentor available for the event
- It is recommended that Referees are assigned to no more than four games per day

*Lastly, the host club shall complete a report and distribute it the HDSA and participant clubs within 7 days following the event.*

## **HDSA Responsibilities**

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HDSA will manage the host club application process, invite clubs to apply for hosting, and establish a rotation of hosts. The district will also provide a funding reimbursement up to \$625 per festival with supporting invoices from the hosting club. HDSA will notify clubs of festival dates & locations well in advance. Other duties include:

- Receive club entries and general expected number of players from each club (no later than 14 days prior)
- Receive rosters from participating clubs (no later than 7 days prior to the event)
- Distribute information for visiting clubs prior to festival (i.e. schedule, rules, maps etc.)
- Coordinate balancing rosters prior to the festival (such as combining teams)
- Provide t-shirts to each festival participant
- Provide HDSA support at the event (minimum of one volunteer) to assist host club as needed
- Liaison with host club to determine the schedule and distribute it to clubs (ideally 7 days prior to the event)
- Ensure all participants have equal playing time as per Ontario Soccer guidelines
- Ensure each team has appropriate rest in between games

