



COPITA
ALIANZA

TOURNAMENT RULES

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1. Team Registration and Enrollment Regulations

The team registration process consists of three stages: **Online Registration**, **Pre-registration**, and **On-site Registration** at the event.

1.1 Online Registration

All teams wishing to participate in **Alianza de Fútbol** tournaments must obligatorily complete their registration and enrollment payment through **www.alianzadefutbol.com**, following these steps:

- Online team registration and online payment of the corresponding enrollment fee.
- Review and confirmation of participation by the **Organizing Committee**, which is subject to availability and compliance with established requirements.
- Online registration of all players who integrate the team's official roster.
- Digital signature of the **Liability Waiver** by each player (or legal guardian in the case of minors).

Each player over the age of 18 must sign the liability waiver online. In the case of minor players, said document must be signed online by their father, mother, or legal guardian. **No player may participate** in the event without having completed their registration and without having the waiver duly signed.

1.2 Pre-registration

With the objective of expediting the accreditation process, all teams will be summoned to a **pre-registration meeting**, which will take place one day before the event. The date, time, and location must be confirmed with the Organizing Committee.

Failure to comply with any of the previous steps may result in the **cancellation of the team's registration without the right to a refund**, as determined by the Organizing Committee. For doubts or clarifications regarding the registration and payment process, please contact: **alianza.info@forsoccer.com** or **415-455-3023**.

2. Liability Waiver

All players enrolled in **Copita Alianza** must have their duly signed liability waiver as an **indispensable requirement** to participate in the tournament. Players over 18 years of age must personally sign their waiver. Minor players must have the waiver signed by their father, mother, or legal guardian.

All players enrolled in Copita Alianza must have their liability waiver duly signed as a mandatory requirement for participation. This document **releases Alianza de Fútbol**, its organizers, collaborators, sponsors, and venues from any **civil, criminal, or administrative liability**

derived from accidents, injuries, or incidents that may occur during the tournaments or within the facilities, understanding that **each player participates at their own risk**. Likewise, Alianza de Fútbol is **not responsible for medical, hospital, pharmacy, or ambulance transport expenses**, being the exclusive responsibility of each team or participant to have their own accident insurance or, in its absence, to assume the totality of the costs derived from any injury or medical emergency. The Liability Waiver must be signed **exclusively online** through **www.alianzadefutbol.com**, and it is the obligation of each team to verify that their entire roster has complied with this process before the start of the tournament. **No player may be accredited or participate** in official matches without this requirement, leaving final validation to the Organizing Committee, whose decisions will be **final and non-appealable**.

3. Punctuality, Documentation, and Accreditation

In order to guarantee the punctual start of the matches, coaches or representatives of each team must present themselves at the registration tent **one and a half hours prior** to the start of their first match to carry out team accreditation, review mandatory documentation, and collect official wristbands.

3.1 Mandatory Documentation (Roster and Liability Waiver)

Each player registered on the team's roster must show a duly signed Liability Waiver in digital format. **One Liability Waiver will be required per player, without exception**. The failure to present complete documentation and established requirements before the start of the team's first match will be grounds for **direct disqualification**, without exception.

4. Player Identification

For registration and validation in the digital roster, any of the following **official identification documents** will be accepted:

- Official credential of the league in which the team participates, provided it is affiliated with a **US Soccer association**.
- Driver's License.
- Passport or Consular Identification (Matrícula Consular).
- Original Birth Certificate, accompanied by a photo identification.
- **USSF** affiliated ID card.
- Official state-issued identification.

It is **mandatory for coaches to maintain original documents** in their possession in order to verify the age of the players in case of clarifications or protests. Once it is corroborated that the players are duly registered in the official roster, the registration staff will place an **official wristband** on each player, which will accredit them as a qualified player to participate **exclusively in their category** within the tournament.

- Every player must wear their wristband during matches.
- Any player who removes, loses, or drops their wristband **may not participate** until a replacement is obtained.
- The replacement of the wristband will have a cost of **\$5 dollars**, without exception.

If a player participates **without a wristband**, they must immediately leave the field and go to the registration tent to verify their status: If the player appears on the roster, they will be given a new wristband and may rejoin the match. If the player **does not appear on the roster**, it will be considered an **ineligible lineup**, and the team will **lose the match (3-0)**.

5. Roster and Eligibility

5.1 Registration of Players and Coaching Staff

All teams must register a **minimum of 11 and a maximum of 18 players** on their Roster. Each team may register a **maximum of two (2) members of the coaching staff** with the Organizing Committee.

5.2 Player Eligibility

No player may participate in more than one team within the same category in the tournament. A player may participate in a higher category only if their age permits, that is, when they are younger than the maximum age of the category in which they wish to compete. It is **strictly prohibited to register or line up players whose age is higher** than permitted for the corresponding category. The use of players outside the established category will be considered an **ineligible lineup** and will be sanctioned with the **loss of the match (3-0)** or **disqualification of the team**, as determined by the Organizing Committee.

5.3 Age Categories

The following categories will participate in Copita Alianza:

Copita Alianza	
U7: 2019-200	U13: 2013-2014
U9: 2017-2018	U15: 2011-2012
U11: 2015-2016	U17: 2009-2010
U12G:2014-2015 U15G: 2011-2012	U19:2007-2008

6. Uniforms and Numbering

All players must wear a **visible number** on the back of their jersey. The player must use the **same jersey and the same number** throughout the entire tournament. No number changes will be permitted once the tournament has started. In the event that a team does not have numbers on the uniforms, they may reach a **prior agreement with the referee**. The lack of numbering will not be grounds for disqualification.

7. Proof of Payment

The payment for team registration must be made **exclusively online**. Coaches are requested to have the **printed or digital proof of payment** for any clarification that may be required.

8. Competition Regulations

The **Copita Alianza** competition will take place in two phases: a **first qualifying phase** and a **second phase of direct elimination finals**.

8.1 First Phase – Qualifying Stage

Game Format: The first phase will be played under a **single-round round-robin format**, in which all teams in the group will face each other once.

Scoring and Classification: The position of the teams in the group table and in the general classification will be determined according to the following criteria:

- **Three (3) points** per match won.
- **One (1) point** per match tied.
- **Zero (0) points** per match lost.
- **Note:** There will be **no extra time**. In the event that a match ends in a tie, the result will remain as a tie.

According to the number of teams registered in Copita Alianza, the **Organizing Committee** will define the number of teams that will advance to the final phase. This information will be communicated along with the match schedules, which will be published at **www.alianzadefutbol.com** during the week of the tournament.

8.2 Tie-breaking Criteria – First Phase

In case of a tie in points between two or more teams within the same group, the position in the table will be defined by applying the following criteria in the indicated order:

1. **Highest points** accumulated in the group phase.
2. **Best goal difference** (goals scored minus goals received).

3. **Result of the direct match** between the teams involved.
4. **Highest number of goals scored** in the qualifying phase (productivity).
5. **Round of five (5) penalty kicks** to define the position.

General Considerations and Classification Criteria

Tournament Format: The definitive format of the first phase will be determined by the number of teams registered per category and the configuration of the corresponding groups. Said format will be **officially announced** during the week of the scheduled tournament date, before the start of the matches.

Competition System and Classification Criteria: The Organizing Committee will establish the competition system, the classification criteria, and any other guidelines necessary for the development of the tournament. The criteria will be officially released during the week of the tournament, and teams must consider them **valid and mandatory** from their publication.

Acceptance of Format and Criteria: The participation of a team in the tournament, including the play of its first match, implies **full knowledge, acceptance, and conformity** with the competition format, the system of play, and the classification criteria officially published by the Organizing Committee. Consequently, no team or player may present a protest, claim, or dissatisfaction based on ignorance, different interpretation, or disagreement with said criteria once their first match in the tournament has started.

Final Decisions: All decisions related to the tournament format, group configuration, classification criteria, and competition development are **final and non-appealable**. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to make adjustments it deems necessary for the correct development of the tournament, without this generating a right to claim, compensation, or appeal.

Second Phase – Direct Elimination

Game Format:

In the final phase for the championship title, matches will be played at **direct elimination** until the grand final. There will be **no match** to define third place.

Categories	Game Format	Players on field
U7	7v7	7 players
U9, U11 y U12G	9v9	9 players
U13-U19	11v11	11 players

Tie-breaking Criteria: In the event that the score ends tied at the conclusion of regulation time, the winner will be defined by a **round of five (5) penalties**. If the score remains tied at the end of the five regulation penalties, the match will be defined in **sudden death**.

Extra Time and Penalties: There will be **no extra time**. The winning team will be the one that scores a higher number of goals than its opponent during regular time. If the score ends in a tie in any round of the second phase, the winner must be defined in a **penalty series** immediately after regular match time is consumed.

Penalty Shootout Regulations:

- The shootout will be carried out under the system of **five (5) shots** from the penalty mark.
- At the end of the game, **any player who is on the team's official roster** may participate in the penalty shootout, regardless of whether they were on the bench or on the field at the end of the match.
- **Goalkeeper Change:** The change of the goalkeeper for any player on the roster is allowed, regardless of whether the player enters from the bench or was part of the lineup that finished the match.
- If the tie persists after the first five shots, **alternating shots (sudden death)** will be executed until a winner is found.

9.1 Match Duration: First and Second Phase

The duration of each match will be as follows and controlled by the head referee:

Copita Alianza Play Time:

- **U7, U9, U11, U12G:** 2 periods of **20 minutes** each.
- **U13, U15G, U15, U17, and U19:** 2 periods of **25 minutes** each.

This information will be published along with the match schedules at www.alianzadefutbol.com during the week of the tournament. Play times and schedules may be modified in case of tournament delays. The head referee and the Organizing Committee will be responsible for communicating any change in time or schedule before the start of each match.

9.2 Punctuality and Grace Period

Teams must present themselves at the registration tent **1 hour and a half before** the start of their first match for accreditation and document delivery. The head referee may grant up to **five (5) minutes of grace** if a team does not have the minimum number of players to start a match. The grace period will **not be replaced** at the end of the match.

9.3 Lineup, Minimum Number of Players, and Default

In categories **U7 to U12 Femenil**, the number of players will depend on the local rules of each city. For categories **U13 to U19**, it is mandatory to line up at least **7 players** to start the match. After a **tolerance of 10 minutes**, the referee may declare **victory by default (3-0)** for the team present that meets the regulatory minimum, while the losing team will not be sanctioned. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to invite teams that incur a default next year.

Only substitutes and **two members of the Coaching Staff** are allowed on the bench. Any player who has left the field as part of a substitution may re-enter the field for the remainder of the match, as there is **no limit on changes** during the course of the game. It is permitted to change the goalkeeper for any player on the roster (group phase, finals, or penalties). The referee is the sole authority to deny a change if they consider that it is being done deliberately to waste time or take advantage of the remaining play time. **Female players** may participate **one year above** their division (e.g., born in 2006 in category 2007).

9.4 Match Apparel (In Accordance with FIFA Regulations)

According to **Law 4 of the FIFA Laws of the Game**, the mandatory equipment of the players consists of:

- Match jersey
- Shorts
- Socks
- Shinguards
- Football footwear suitable for the playing surface

Each player must wear a **visible and unique number** on the back of the jersey. Players with repeated, missing, or non-visible numbers **may not participate** until the infraction is corrected. The referee may order the temporary departure of the player to correct their equipment, without stopping the game. Re-entry will only be permitted with **referee authorization**. **Note:** This infraction will not be a cause for disqualification or loss of the match.

The use of objects or accessories that represent a **danger to the player or other participants**, such as rings, bracelets, necklaces, watches, earrings, or similar objects, is **strictly prohibited**. These must be removed before the start of the match; otherwise, the player may not participate.

The referee will determine if the uniforms of both teams could lead to confusion due to similarity of colors. In such a case, the referee will order the change of jerseys or, failing that, the use of **scrimmage vests (pinnies)**, a decision that will be defined by a **coin toss** if necessary. Players must wear a uniform that clearly distinguishes them from the field players and the opposing team.

The organizing committee will **gift a set of uniforms to the two finalist teams**, which must be used **exclusively in the final match**. It is **mandatory** for the finalist teams to present

themselves to play the final match with the uniforms gifted by the organizing committee. In case of not doing so, the referee will have the power to delay the start of the match until both teams comply with this provision. If any of the teams **refuses to use said uniform**, it will be **automatically disqualified**. Match time will not stop for the teams to put on the uniform.

9.5 Match Balls

The ball must be in **optimal conditions** for its use and be **approved by the head referee** before the start of the match. It is the responsibility of each team to present at least **two (2) match balls** in good condition for the development of the match. Regarding technical specifications, categories **U7, U9, and U11 will use a size 4 ball**, while categories **U13, U15, U17, and U19 will use a size 5 ball**.

The organizing committee will **gift a ball to each finalist team**, which must be presented and used **mandatorily** to play the final match. In the event that any of the finalist teams does not present the gifted ball, the referee will have the power to stop or delay the start of the encounter until both teams comply with this provision. Any situation related to the match ball will be resolved by the officiating crew and/or the organizing committee, and their **decision will be final**.

9.6 Hydration

It is recommended that all players, coaches, families, and attendees carry **water or other means of hydration** during the days of the tournament. The tournament may provide hydration in a limited manner to the participants; however, it is **not responsible for the personal hydration** of the players nor for the consequences derived from a possible dehydration caused by negligence of the coach, the player, or the team. It is recommended that each player take at least three (3) partial water intakes during the match, taking advantage of natural game pauses or pauses authorized by the referee. The referee may authorize **additional hydration breaks** when weather conditions merit it.

10. Sanctions for Misconduct

It is the responsibility of each coach, team, player, and supporter group (porra) to maintain **appropriate and respectful conduct** inside and outside the field, before, during, and after the matches. Any unsportsmanlike, violent, or disrespectful behavior will be sanctioned according to what is established in these regulations.

10.1 Yellow Cards

Players who receive **two (2) yellow cards** in the same match will be **automatically expelled** from the field. The player expelled for a double caution will be sanctioned with a **one (1) match suspension**, regardless of whether the match corresponds to the qualifying phase or the final

phase. There will be **no accumulation of yellow cards** throughout the tournament; only cautions received within the same match will be considered.

10.2 Red Cards

Every player who receives a **direct red card** must immediately leave the field and may not continue participating in the match. The sanctioned player will be **automatically suspended for the following match**, whether in the qualifying phase or finals. If an expelled player participates in the next match despite being suspended, they will be sanctioned with **two additional matches of suspension** and their team will **lose the match** in which they participated improperly, **without the right to appeal**.

10.3 Appearance before the Organizing Committee

Any player expelled during the tournament may be required to **appear before the Organizing Committee**, accompanied by their technical director or person responsible for the team registered on the official roster. The Organizing Committee will have the power to evaluate the severity of the offense committed and determine if the player can continue participating in the tournament or if they should be **permanently removed**. The Committee's decision will be **final and non-appealable**.

11. Protests

The conduct of the game is under the authority of the referee, and the tournament **will not overturn referee decisions**. All disputes outside the field of play will be resolved by the Organizing Committee. If necessary, the **Tournament Director** or their representative will take the decision, which will be **final and non-appealable**.

Grounds for Protest:

- Protests are accepted **only** to report fraudulent lineups or non-compliance with the regulations by players of opposing teams.
- Protests for interpretation of the rules of the game, referee decisions, or incidents outside of what is regulated by the Official Regulations of the tournament **will not be accepted**.
- Only **members of the coaching staff** registered on the roster, either the coach or the assistant coach, may present a protest.
- Protests from players, parents, relatives, or other attendees **will not be accepted**.

Deadlines for presenting the protest:

- **Players who started and played the first half:** the coaching staff has until the **end of the first half** to present the protest before the referee and at the registration tent.
- **Players who enter in the second half:** the protest must be presented **before the end of the match**.

- **Note:** No protest will be accepted after the match has concluded.

Protest Process:

- The protest must be delivered at the registration tent to the Organizing Committee.
- The protested team will have **10 minutes** to present the documents and evidence requested, once the team is notified.
- If the protested team does not present the documentation within the period, they will **lose the match in the office with a score of 3-0**, lose the points won, and may be **expelled from the tournament** without the right to a refund and barred from future tournaments for fraud.
- The resolution will be communicated only to the members of the coaching staff of both teams.

Cost per Protest:

- Each protest requires a **deposit of \$200 USD in cash**.
- If the protest proceeds, the deposit will be **returned** to the coach.
- **Note regarding multiple players:** The cost of the protest increases proportionally to the number of players protested: 1 player: **\$200 USD**; 2 players: **\$400 USD**; 3 players: **\$600 USD**; and so on.

Evidence Requirements:

- The protest must be supported by **written evidence and official documents**.
- **Video, photography, or other types of audiovisual material will not be accepted as proof.**
- Imprecise, misleading protests or those without sufficient evidence will **not be refunded**.

Scope of Decisions:

- **No match will be repeated**, rescheduled, or altered in its schedule by reason of protest.
- All decisions are taken to protect the interest of the tournament and the Organizing Committee, and are **final and non-appealable**.

12. Expulsion from the Tournament

The Organizing Committee will have the power to expel from the tournament any player, coach, member of the coaching staff, or entire team that incurs in any of the following behaviors:

- Violent attitude or serious unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Physical or verbal aggression toward members of the Organizing Committee.
- Physical or verbal aggression toward the public or supporter groups of opposing teams.
- Physical or verbal aggression toward the officiating crew.

In the event that the expelled person continues with a violent or unsportsmanlike attitude, or that said conduct is replicated by players of the team, coaches, staff, relatives, fans, friends, supporter groups, or **any individual related to the team**, the **entire team may be expelled** from the tournament, **without the right to appeal**, if the Organizing Committee so determines.

If a **pitch invasion** occurs and the supporter groups or people related to the teams participate in acts of violence, the case will be submitted for review by the Organizing Committee, who will determine if one or both teams will be expelled from the tournament. Any team that provokes or participates in confrontations that lead to **brawl-like scenarios** will be investigated and sanctioned.

In the event that a team is expelled from the tournament, **no refund will exist** for enrollment or participation registration. The team will be **excluded from future tournaments** organized by the committee for the period that it determines.

Spectators must remain on the **opposite side of the field** regarding their team's benches and maintain sportsmanlike conduct, avoiding mixing with the supporter group or fans of the opposing team. The presence of spectators on the **rival team's side will not be permitted**. Non-compliance with this provision may lead to sanctions or the **disqualification of the corresponding team**.

It is **strictly prohibited to enter with alcoholic beverages**. If detected, their immediate removal will be requested. **Recidivism** will be grounds for **disqualification** of the team from the tournament. The decisions of the Organizing Committee in relation to expulsion from the tournament will be **final and non-appealable**.

13. Cancellation and Suspension of Matches due to Force Majeure

The Organizing Committee and the officiating crew may suspend or cancel matches or the entire tournament for natural causes or **Force Majeure**, such as:

- Hail, storm, tornado, or electrical storm.
- Lack of security guarantees.
- **Pitch invasion** by people alien to the match.
- Aggressions or attempted aggressions that affect the development of the game or the **safety of the participants**.

When a match is affected by these causes, the Organizing Committee will evaluate the **time effectively played**:

- If **at least 50%** of the regulation time has been played, the match will be declared finished and the result at the time of the suspension will be respected.
- If **50% has not been reached**, the Organizing Committee will decide if the match is **rescheduled or concluded**.

There are two ways to terminate a match due to weather conditions:

1. When **at least 50%** of the regulation time has been played.
2. When, even without reaching 50%, the Organizing Committee determines that continuing the match affects the **development or scheme of the tournament**.

In case of **total cancellation** of the tournament before its start, the Organizing Committee will publish the only official communication on the official Alianza de Fútbol channels. It may reschedule the event on a new date. If the tournament is rescheduled, teams will have the right to **voluntarily withdraw**. If it is not rescheduled, teams may maintain their registration for the **next edition of the tournament**.

All decisions of the Organizing Committee will be **final and non-appealable**.

14. Official Refund Policy

1. Team Withdrawals (Dropping out): Tournament planning, field rentals, and scheduling happen months in advance. Therefore:

- **30 Days or Less:** If a team withdraws within **30 days** of the tournament start date for any reason (lack of players, travel issues, etc.), **no refund or credit will be issued**.
- **More than 30 Days:** If a team withdraws more than 30 days before the event, a refund may be issued minus a **\$100 administrative fee**.
- **Transaction Fees:** Credit card processing fees are paid to a third party and are **non-refundable** under any circumstances.

2. Full Tournament Cancellation (Force Majeure): If the tournament is canceled in full before it begins due to factors beyond the control of Alianza de Fútbol (such as **extreme weather, unplayable field conditions/city closures, government restrictions, or natural disasters**), teams will have two options:

1. **Partial Refund:** A refund of the registration fee minus a **\$75 administrative fee** (this fee covers non-recoverable costs like insurance, permits, and pre-event labor).
2. **Full Credit:** A **100% credit** of the paid entry fee to be used for any Alianza de Fútbol tournament during the **current calendar year or the following calendar year**.

3. Cancellations After the Tournament Starts: If an emergency or weather condition forces the cancellation or shortening of the event **once the first whistle of the first game has blown**, no refunds or credits will be issued. Alianza de Fútbol is not responsible for any expenses incurred by teams or individuals, including travel, lodging, or transportation.

4. Disciplinary Expulsion: Any team, player, coach, or spectator whose conduct leads to the team being expelled from the tournament (fighting, verbal abuse, etc.) **forfeits their entire registration fee**. No refunds or credits will be granted to teams removed for disciplinary reasons.

5. Refund Processing: Approved refunds will be processed within **30 business days** of the official announcement.