



# POLICIES, PROCEDURES & RULES, 2026

## International Tournament U14 - U18

*The objectives of The Robbie are:*

*(a) to promote the game of soccer through sportsmanship, fair play and quality competition, and*

*(b) to donate proceeds from the tournament and festival to Cystic Fibrosis Canada.*

*These policies, procedures and rules are intended to support those objectives, and every participant, whether player or official or volunteer, is expected to act in a manner that brings credit to the game. Doing so will add to the enjoyment of everyone.*

Note: Policies, Procedures & Rules posted at [www.therobbie.ca](http://www.therobbie.ca) shall take precedence over any others.

### PART A: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### 1. Team Eligibility & Application to Enter

Teams must be registered for the current season with their provincial, state or national association.

Application to enter is made online only using GotSport.

Teams will be accepted to play at the sole discretion of The Robbie.

Any team withdrawing after **May 1** will forfeit its entry fee.

#### 2. Team Acceptance

Team acceptance will be given at the sole discretion of The Robbie and **only when all of the following is completed prior to the posted deadlines or prior to the division reaches capacity – whichever comes first:**

1) Paid the entry fee.

2) Uploaded approved Permission to Travel to the team's GotSport account prior to **May 1** or prior to the division reaching capacity. (Note: Travel permits are not required for TO Soccer Inc. clubs.)

In addition, international teams must upload to their GotSport accounts **by June 1**.

3) Uploaded stamped Ontario Soccer Roster **for the 2026 Outdoor Season** (or equivalent association roster).

4) Create a GotSport generated Robbie Event Roster **prior to May 1**

5) Evidence of medical coverage (for non-Canadian teams) for all players (including Guest and Call-up Players) and all team officials.

6) Proof of receipt of **visas** to enter Canada, if applicable.

7) Confirmed accommodations for teams requiring visas.

#### 3. Age Divisions

Players must be born on or after **January 1st** of the following years, *no exceptions*:

Division	Birth Year
Under-14	2012
Under-15	2011
Under-16	2010
Under-17	2009
Under-18	2008

The Robbie reserves the right to combine two undersubscribed Age Divisions. Any team not wishing to participate in a combined division may withdraw from the tournament without penalty **prior to May 1**

#### 4. Team Officials

Maximum of four (5) team officials. All must be registered with Ontario Soccer or their provincial or state

association.

## 5. Team Rosters

Players	Maximum 20
Dress per Game	Maximum 20
Team Officials	Maximum 5

Note: Girls may play “down” one birth year on a boys team.

## 6. Call-up & Guest Players

### 6.1. Call-ups

**A maximum of 3 Call-up Players** are permitted. Call-ups are players (the same birth year or younger) from the same club/academy as the team entered in the Tournament.

### 6.2 Guest Players

**A maximum of 3 Guest Players** are permitted. Guest players from another club/academy must be registered with their provincial, state or national association.

## 7. For creating GotSport generated Robbie Event Roster:

- Enter mandatory player information required: name, date of birth, registration number and jersey number.
- Enter team officials (maximum four). Mandatory information required: name, email, phone number and registration number.
- Upload for Call-up Players the current district/federation approved **Official Team Roster for 2026 Outdoor Season** in which they appear
- Upload for Guest Players a Temporary Eligibility Permit for each player as per Ontario Soccer Rules and Regulations or equivalent as per their governing body.

## 8. Roster Changes

- From registration date until June 14th at 5:00 pm, teams are free to make any adjustments they need. Any necessary documents, such as a new or additional Ontario Soccer roster, must be uploaded to support the changes.
- Between June 14th at 5:01 pm and June 21st at 7:59 am, no roster changes will be permitted. Rosters will be locked during this time as Robbie Admin does the final check to ensure that all the criteria specified in the Robbie Event Roster guidelines at [www.therobbie.ca](http://www.therobbie.ca) have been met. If they have not been met, teams will be asked to correct the errors. Requests to unlock rosters will be denied.
- Roster changes between June 21st at 8:00 am and June 24th at 8:00 am can be made for a fee of \$25 per written request. Payment must be made via e-transfer before the change can be approved and entered. Robbie Admin will only approve the change request if it aligns with all the criteria specified in the Robbie Event Roster guidelines available at [www.therobbie.ca](http://www.therobbie.ca).
- For roster changes requested between June 24th at 8:01 am and June 26th at 9:00 pm, there is a fee of \$50. Payment must be made via e-transfer before the change can be approved and entered. Robbie Admin will only approve the change request if it aligns with all the criteria specified in the Robbie Event Roster guidelines available at [www.therobbie.ca](http://www.therobbie.ca).
  - **EXCEPTION: For teams in the U17/U18 division, roster changes can only be made between June 24th at 8:01 am and June 25th at 9:00 pm for the same \$50 fee. This is because U17/U18 division games begin on the night of June 26th.**
- Any game day changes must be completed in person at Robbie headquarters, a minimum of one hour before your team's first round-robin game, for a fee of \$100. Cash payment is the only accepted method for game day changes, and appointments are required. Robbie Admin will only approve the change request if it aligns with all the criteria specified in the Robbie Event Roster guidelines available at [www.therobbie.ca](http://www.therobbie.ca).

## 9. On-Field Team Check-in

- 1) One (1) hour prior to the team's first game, a team official must report to the Field Convenor to pick up their approved team roster (kept by the team for the entire tournament), wristbands and team welcome package.
- 2) All players and team officials must report to the field convenor at least 45-minutes before their first game wearing their wristbands and presenting the validated team roster form and their official identification.
- 3) If applicable, every player and team official must present a player book/card, photo roster with their photograph duly authorized by their provincial, state or national association, or a passport (international teams only).
- 4) At the discretion of the Field Convenor this process may be repeated prior to subsequent games as well.

## 10. Wristbands

Only players and team officials on the approved roster and wearing a wristband are allowed on the team bench.

### **No Wristband, No Play.**

If a wristband must be replaced, the player and team official must report to the field convenor, presenting also the approved roster and identification.

**Note:** if a wristband comes off during a game it must be replaced before the team's next game. The player and team official must report to the field convenor with the team roster and player / team official identification.

## 11. Field Convenors

Field Convenors appointed by The Robbie are responsible for:

- a) Distributing approved team rosters, wristbands and team packages prior to the team's first game. Convenors will check-in teams by checking team rosters, verifying players/team officials against their photos on their stamped rosters, and that all are wearing wristbands.
- b) Supplying signed Game Sheets to referees.
- c) Completing hand written Game Sheets using approved team rosters presented by team officials prior to quarter- final, semi-final and final games.

Field Convenors are not authorized to explain or interpret tournament rules. Field convenors are authorized to enforce the conditions of the field permit, including the right to require participants including spectators to leave the field and environs.

## 12. Concussion Protocol

If a player/team official/parent suspects that a player has been concussed/received a head injury, the Robbie in following the mandate by the Government of Ontario and Ontario Soccer to direct the athlete to a facility for medical attention.

## 13. General

The Robbie and/or the TO Soccer Inc. will not be responsible for:

- a) Refunds of entry fees if the tournament is cancelled or abandoned in whole or in part.
  - b) Refunds for any games not played due to the withdrawal or dismissal of a team.
  - c) Expenses including accommodations costs, local travel and parking tickets incurred by teams and families.
- The Robbie, a Committee of the TO Soccer Inc., reserves the right to resolve all matters pertaining to The Robbie International Soccer Tournament. The Robbie's interpretation of the policies, procedures and rules and all other aspects of the Tournament is final.

## **PART B: RULES OF PLAY**

### 14. Laws of the Game

All games shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as observed by FIFA, CS (Canada Soccer) and OS (Ontario Soccer) as well as competition rules set by The Robbie.

### 15. Duration of Games

Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures, Sec. 8 Competitions, Procedure 5.8 limits maximum playing time per team per day.

Division	Time Limit per Team per Day
U-14	150 minutes
U-15 & older	180 minutes

There shall be a minimum of one hour between each game played by any team.

#### 16. Game Length

Tournament Division	Preliminary, Quarter-Final & Semi-Final	Final
U14	2 x 25-minutes	2 x 40-minutes
U15 & Older	2 x 30-minutes	2 x 45-minutes

A quarter-final, semi-final or final game tied after regulation time shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark. Only players on the field of play at the end of regulation time shall be eligible to take part.

#### 17. Game Sheets

Pre-printed Game Sheets/Cards will be supplied to field convenors.

**Note: If a player or team official is not going to participate in a game,** a team official must advise the field convenor at least 45 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time so they can be stroked off the game sheet. As per Ontario Soccer, all players and team officials whose names appear on a game sheet will be deemed to have participated. No other player or team official not on the approved roster can be added to replace anyone who is removed from the game sheet.

Teams participating in quarter-final, semi-final and final games must handwrite Game Sheets supplied by field convenors and provide the approved roster for verification. This must be done at least 45 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time.

#### 18. Player Uniforms and Equipment

The equipment of all players must conform to the Laws of the Game as set out by FIFA. All players must wear a number on the back of their shirt. This number must coincide with the player's name and number as shown on the game sheet. Each player on a team shall have a different number.

If team colours clash, the home team shall be responsible to change colours; the home team being the first team listed in the schedule. At the discretion of the Robbie Committee, a team that does not observe the colour change or number requirements of this rule may forfeit the game.

**Shin guards are mandatory.**

#### 19. Game Balls

Divisions U14-U18 shall use a Size 5 ball. Game balls may be supplied by the home team; if not, each team will supply a regulation size ball, from which one will be selected by the referee to be used in the game.

#### 20. Substitutions

Unlimited substitutions may be made at any stoppage of play at the discretion of the referee. No substitution shall be allowed for a player ejected from a game.

#### 21. Determining Group Winners

Each team will be awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie and zero points for a loss. At the end of the preliminary round, the group winner shall be the team with the most points. If teams are tied on points, the following criteria shall be used to determine the winner:

- a) Most wins
- b) Best goal differential (i.e. goals for minus goals against)
- c) Winner of the game between the two teams tied (applies to 2-way ties only)
- d) Most goals scored.
- e) Fewest goals against.
- f) A drawing of lots at a time and location determined by The Robbie with or without the presence of team officials.

**Note 1:** Teams will be scheduled for a minimum of three (3) games. Should any of those games not be played due to the dismissal or withdrawal of an opponent, the game will be forfeited and recorded as a win (3 points) with a score of 2-0 for the non-offending team.

**Note 2:** The score of a game incomplete due to extraordinary weather (see section 23 below) or other similar event shall be recorded as the score of the game at the time the game ended.

### **20.1 Wildcards**

Wildcard teams selected for quarter-final or semi-final games will be those with the best non-qualifying record determined by the number of points accumulated. If tied on points, criteria 19a, c, d, and e shall apply.

In the first play-off round, no wildcard team shall play against a team from the same preliminary group. In such an event, all **second named** teams shall be rotated forward until there is no conflict.

To calculate the points and goal differential in a group of five (5) teams where all other groups are four (4): divide total points and goal differential by 4 and multiply the result by 3.

## **22. Forfeited Games**

If a game is forfeited, the non-offending team shall be awarded a win and a 2-0 score in group standings; the offending team a loss with a 0-2 score.

If a team is dismissed from the Tournament for any reason, its games and all entry fees shall be forfeited without recourse to appeal, and the matter may be reported to the governing body of the team involved.

## **23. Failure to Show**

A team needs a minimum of seven (7) players and the game shall be started if a team has at least that number of players. Teams shall be allowed a 15-minute grace period after the scheduled kick-off time before they are considered to have failed to show. In the event of a failure to show, the offending team shall forfeit that game.

## **24. Game Abandoned by Referee**

The Robbie shall review the circumstances of any game abandoned by the referee. Whether a game abandoned results in a forfeit will be determined by The Robbie.

The finding and decision of The Robbie shall be final and not subject to any appeal. The matter may also be referred to the home district of the team(s) involved for disciplinary action.

## **25. Extraordinary Weather**

In the event of severe weather conditions (e.g., continuous heavy rain, lightning, excessive heat or poor field conditions), The Robbie may:

- a) Relocate and/or reschedule any game.
- b) Reduce the scheduled duration by up to 50 percent.
- c) Cancel any preliminary game that has no bearing in determining group winners or wildcards.
- d) Consider a game complete if 50 percent or more of the game was played when abandoned by the referee due to the extraordinary weather conditions.
- e) If less than 50 percent of a game is complete when abandoned by the referee a 1-1 score shall be entered regardless of the score when the game was halted.
- f) Abandon all or part of the Tournament.

**Note:** Permit issuers (City, School Board, College, University, private facilities) retain the right to cancel fields at

their sole discretion.

#### **24.1 In the Event of Lightning**

Canada Soccer policy is to halt play as soon as thunder is heard. "More people are struck before and after a thunderstorm than during one...When considering resumption of any athletics activity wait at least thirty (30) minutes after the last flash of lightning or sound of thunder before returning to the field." (Canada Soccer, July 17, 2017)

#### **26. Discipline**

The Robbie Tournament is guided by Ontario Soccer Procedure 7.0 – Discipline at Tournaments and uses a DBR (Discipline by Review) or DBH (Discipline by Hearing) system as appropriate directly after the game in which the misconduct was reported.

DBR offences have automatic penalties and cannot be appealed. Any player ordered from the field of play by the referee for misconduct shall receive an automatic one game suspension and shall sit out his/her next scheduled game. This includes players who receive two cautions in a single game. Note: Yellow Cards are not cumulative.

In cases of violent conduct or ejection of a team official, immediately following the game, and before the next scheduled game, they must attend a hearing before a Discipline Panel. The Panel may, where justified, suspend any person dismissed during, or after, a game, from all further participation in the Tournament. Such dismissals shall be reported to the team's home district or association for discipline.

If the Panel is unable to deal with an offence in a satisfactory manner after the game in which alleged misconduct occurred:

- a) The offender shall not be permitted to participate any further in the Tournament;
- b) Within 48 hours after the completion of the tournament, The Robbie must forward the Match Official's report, together with any other reports, to the TO Soccer Inc.

Anyone player disputing his/her ejection from a game may request a hearing. Such request must be made in writing accompanied by a \$100 hearing fee in cash. The person requesting a hearing must notify the field convenor of his/her intentions within 30 minutes of the conclusion of said game, and then attend a hearing at a location determined by The Robbie.

All team officials are entirely responsible for the behaviour of spectators associated with their team.

#### **27. Match Official Assault**

In a case of Match Official Assault, the offender shall be immediately suspended from all soccer related activities, pending a hearing an Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel (or equivalent for non-Ontario teams).

- a) The match official shall submit his/her report to the District Association in which he/she resides and to Ontario Soccer;
- b) The Robbie shall immediately after the completion of the Tournament notify TO Soccer Inc.
- c) Within 24 hours after receipt of notification of the Match Official Assault, TO Soccer Inc. shall notify the District Association (or provincial, state or national federation) with which the offender's club/academy is affiliated who will in turn notify the accused, the club/academy of the accused and the league which he./she plays, that the accused is suspended from all soccer related activity until being dealt with by an Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel.
- d) Harassment: Team Official can now be given a Caution and Dismissal during a match for continuous harassment of match official

#### **28. Player Code of Conduct**

##### **A player shall:**

- maintain high standards of conduct which includes self control and responsible behaviour. An athlete should always consider the well being of others and display courtesy and good manners at all times to teammates, opponents, match officials, spectators, coaches and administrative staff.
- avoid profane or abusive language and disruptive behaviour including behaviour that is dangerous to self and/or others including acts of violence, racism, harassment, physical or sexual abuse.

- abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Robbie Festival and / or Tournament.
- abstain from the use of alcoholic beverages, cannabis products, tobacco products and or illegal substances when participating in sanctioned activities. These include training/practice sessions and competition events.

Failure to comply with this player code of conduct may result in:

- a warning,
- disciplinary action, and / or removal or suspension from competition or activities

#### **29. Protests**

Protests must be made in writing by the team manager or coach and must be accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 in cash to The Robbie Headquarters located at 45 Fairfax Crescent. Scarborough M1L 1Z6. Protests must be received at The Robbie Headquarters within one hour of the conclusion of the game being protested, and those making the appeal must attend a hearing at a location determined by The Robbie. If a protest is successful, the protest fee shall be returned. No one may protest a game in which his/her team has not participated. A referee's in-game decision cannot be appealed.

#### **30. Arrival Time for Tournament Finals**

All players and team officials playing in the final game must report to the field convenor 45-minutes before kick-off wearing their wristbands and presenting the approved tournament roster and player/team official books/cards.