



## 2024 Amherst Soccer Club/Hampshire United SC – 31st Annual Memorial Day Classic Tournament Rules of Conduct

The Amherst Memorial Day Classic tournament is an event for our young players to enjoy the game of soccer. As the Tournament Committee, participating coaches, referees, parents and spectators; we are responsible to create a safe, enjoyable and competitive atmosphere that makes the game fun for all the players. Therefore, the following Tournament Rules of Conduct have been instituted. The backbone of these rules is the FIFA rules with specific interpretations unique to this tournament.

1. **Interference by spectators:** All spectators shall be positioned on the opposite side of the field from both teams during the match. If the field complex provides viewing from the goal line, then the spectators must be at least 10 yards from the pitch. Under no circumstances will spectators be allowed to view matches from along the goal line within the area outlined by the penalty area lines of the field, extending off the field infinitum. The tournament considers encouraging violent play, foul language, intimidation, or un-sportsman like behavior from a spectator as interfering with a game. If a spectator interferes with a game in progress, the referee has the discretionary power to stop, suspend, or terminate the game. Referees will not start the match, nor shall they continue the match if there are spectators behind the goals. Spectators will be the responsibility of the team’s head coach. The tournament expects the coaches to stop any interference from their teams’ spectators. In the event that the referee terminates the game, the Tournament Co-Directors will decide the outcome of the game.
2. **Player receiving a yellow card:** If a player receives a yellow card from a referee, the player does not have to leave the game. Two yellow cards within the same game will result in a red card. Yellow cards do not carry over from one match to the next.
3. **Player receiving a Red Card or multiple yellow cards:** If a player receives a red card or two yellow cards within a game, the player is ejected from the game, and cannot play in the next game including any playoff game. A second ejection of the same player results in ejection from the tournament.
4. **Coaches Conduct:** The tournament considers the coach to be the role model for the team and expects the coach and other team officials to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. The tournament considers the following to be examples of inappropriate behavior:
  - Challenging referee decisions
  - Encouraging violent play
  - Un-sportsman like behavior towards players, coaches, referees, tournament officials or spectators

**Any coach who has been dismissed from a game by a referee must leave the field and surrounding areas immediately upon dismissal for the remainder of that game and will not be allowed to coach for a minimum of one full additional game. Coaches may view any games he/she is suspended from on the opposite field side of the team. The use of electronic devices to communicate with their team during their absence because of dismissal will disqualify the team from any play-offs.** Based on a conduct review by the Tournament Committee, suspension may be extended for additional games or for the remainder of the tournament. If the game is terminated due to a coach’s misconduct, game results will be referred to the Tournament Co-Directors for final determination.

**Technical Area:** Coaches will remain in the team’s designated Technical Area and must conduct themselves in a responsible manner. This area is defined as 1 yard from the team’s bench in either direction along the touchline and no closer than 2 yards to the touchline and 5 yards from the halfway line. In the event there are no benches or insufficient space, the Referee will designate an area considered to be the Technical Area. In the event that a referee or tournament official designates the Technical Area, alterations of the area by any team official, player or substitute will be considered Unsporting Behavior and sanctioned accordingly. Spectators will not be allowed on the team side of the field, behind goal or on goal line.

5. All decisions made during the game by the referee on rules of the game are final. Protesting referee decisions on rules of the game will not be accepted.
6. Protests other than referee calls on rules of the game must be communicated in writing to the Tournament Co-Directors within two (2) hours of the match in question. The Directors will decide all protests. The Directors’ decision is final.

**All teams/players will be covered by insurance at the time we participate in this tournament. A full Amherst Soccer Club general medical release form will be completed for each player prior to participation in the tournament. I have read the Tournament Rules of Conduct and agree to abide by these rules. A club representative signing the application on behalf of the coach accepts responsibility to ensure that the coach receives and accepts the Rules of Conduct.**

Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age/Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Forms and payment to:**  
Amherst Soccer Club  
PO Box #853  
Amherst, NH 03031