

## **1. What teams receive prizes?**

Each player on a festival division (U8 and U9) will receive a participation prize (trophy or a medal). In competitive divisions (U10+), both teams participating in the final match will receive prizes (generally trophies).

## **2. Where do we go to collect our prizes?**

Festival teams (U8 and U9) will receive their prizes from their coaches after their last game. Coaches are given the prizes on registration night. In competitive divisions (U10+), both teams participating in the final game must proceed to tournament headquarters at Beacon Hill to receive their prizes. Teams should proceed to the Beacon Hill field right after completion of their final game.

## **3. What are festival divisions?**

Festival divisions (U8 and U9) are non-competitive divisions where prizes are not awarded based on how the teams place in the standings. The objective in festival divisions is let the kids, many for the first time, have a tournament experience without the pressures of winning. Quebec soccer federation rules actually forbid awarding prizes based on standings to children under 10 years old. For festival divisions, the game results are published however the standings are arranged alphabetically based on the team name and points are not shown.

## **4. In festival divisions (U8,U9), why do some teams play more games than others in the round robin?**

Festival divisions (U8 and U9) are non-competitive divisions. No prizes are handed out for finishing first. Each player on each festival division team receives a participation prize. Normally in a competitive division, the number of games each team plays in the round robin must be the same to be fair. This is not possible to do in the time we have if we allow for example, 7 teams in a division. It is not possible to produce a fair schedule where each team plays the same number of round robin games when there are 7, 9, 11 or 13 teams in the division. For this reason, we do not allow divisions with 7, 9, 11 or 13 teams in a competitive division, In a festival division, balance is not important since there are no prizes for finishing first. The objective in festival divisions is to let the kids play and have fun. For this reason, we do allow divisions with team counts of 7, 9, 11 or 13 in festival divisions but this means that some teams (chosen randomly), will play more games than other teams.

## **5. How are the Games Scheduled.**

The games are scheduled according to models that depend on the number of teams in a division and the age of the division.

#### **4 Teams in a Division**

Each team plays the other three teams once in the round robin stage. Top 2 teams advance to the final.

#### **5 Teams in a Division**

Each team plays the other four teams once in the round robin stage. Top 2 teams advance to the final.

#### **6 Teams in a Division**

Two groups of three teams. Each team in a group plays each of the other three teams in the other group. Top team in each group advances to the final.

#### **7 Teams in a Division (Unbalanced - Festival Only)**

7 Teams in a division is only accepted in festival divisions (U8 and U9). Each team gets three games against other teams chosen randomly. One team gets four games. Standings are NOT maintained in festival divisions.

#### **8 Teams in a Division**

Two groups of four teams. Each team plays the other three teams in the same group. Top team in each group advances to the final.

#### **9 Teams in a Division (Unbalanced - Festival Only)**

Three groups of three teams. Each team plays the other two teams in the same group and then plays a randomly chosen team from the other two groups. Since the opponents aren't the same for all teams, this model isn't perfectly balanced so is only used for festival divisions.

#### **10 Teams in a Division**

One group of 4 teams (group A) and two groups of three teams (groups B and C). Each team in group A plays the other three teams in group A. Each team in group B plays each of the other three teams in group C. The top team in each group advances to a semi-final round. A fourth team, called the wildcard team, is determined as the team with the best record from the 7 remaining teams (best of the rest). The winner of group A plays the winner of group B and the winner of group C plays the wildcard team. If the wildcard team is from group C then the winner of group A plays the winner of group C and the winner of group B plays the wildcard team. The winners of the semi-final games play in the final.

#### **11 Teams in a Division (Unbalanced - Festival Only)**

11 Teams in a division is only accepted in festival divisions (U8 and U9). One group of 5 teams and a group of 6 teams. Each team plays 4 games in its own group against teams chosen randomly. Standings are NOT maintained in festival divisions.

### **12 Teams in a Division**

Three groups (A, B, C) of four teams. Each team plays the other teams in its group. The top team in each group advances to a semi-final round. A fourth team, called the wildcard team, is determined as the team with the best record from the 9 remaining teams (best of the rest). The winner of group A plays the winner of group B and the winner of group C plays the wildcard team. If the wildcard team is from group C then the winner of group A plays the winner of group C and the winner of group B plays the wildcard team. The winners of the semi-final games play in the final.

### **13 Teams in a Division (Unbalanced - Festival Only)**

13 Teams in a division is only accepted in festival divisions (U8 and U9). One group of 5 teams and a group of 8 teams. Each team plays 3 or 4 games in its own group against teams chosen randomly. Standings are NOT maintained in festival divisions.

### **14 Teams in a Division**

Two groups (A & B) of four teams. Each team plays the other three teams in its group. Two more groups (C & D) of three teams where each team plays the other three teams in the other group. The top team in each group advances to a semi-final round. The winner of group A plays the winner of group B and the winner of group C plays the winner of group D. The winners of the semi-final games play in the final.

### **15 Teams in a Division**

Three groups of 5 teams. Each team plays the other four teams in its group. The top team in each group advances to a semi-final round. A fourth team, called the wildcard team, is determined as the team with the best record from the 12 remaining teams (best of the rest). The winner of group A plays the winner of group B and the winner of group C plays the wildcard team. If the wildcard team is from group C then the winner of group A plays the winner of group C and the winner of group B plays the wildcard team. The winners of the semi-final games play in the final.

### **16 Teams in a Division**

Four groups of four teams. Each team plays the other three teams in its group. The top team in each group advances to a semi-final round. The winner of group A plays the winner of group B and the winner of group C plays the winner of group D. The winners of the semi-final games play in the final.