

WESCO United



2023 Apple Classic Tournament Rules & Information

1. Tournament Information

Name of Tournament: WESCO United Apple Classic

Name of Hosting League: WESCO United FC

Date of Tournament: September 23-24, 2023

Age Group(s), Division(s) and Gender(s):

Boys: 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2007, 2005

Girls: 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2005

The Apple Classic Tournament will follow the Norcal Premier 2023/24 age group matrix and playing format

	U9-U10	U11	U12	U13	U14-U19
Birth Year	2015-2014	2013	2012	2011	2010-2005
* Field Size (yds)	55/65 L	70/80 L	70/80 L	100/120 L	100/120 L
	35/45 W	45/55 W	45/55 W	50/80 W	50/80 W
**Number of Refs	1	1	1	1	1
Number of Players	7V7	9v9	9v9	11v11	11v11
Minimum # of Players	5	6	6	7	7
Goalkeeper	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Playing Time	2x25	2x30	2x30	2x30	2x35
Half-Time	5 mins	5 mins	5 mins	5 mins	5 mins
Time Between Games	20	10	10	10	15
Ball Size	4	4	4	5	5
Goal Size (ft)	6.5x18.5,7x21	6.5x18.5,7x21	6.5x18.5,7x21	7x21,8x24	8x24
Offside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Substitutions	At Any Stoppage				
Fouls (free kicks)	Indirect & Direct Free Kicks				
Free Kick clearance	8 yd	8 yd	8 yd	10 yd	10 yd
Throw-in	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Penalty Kicks	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Heading	No Heading		As per the Laws of the Game		
* Build-Out Line	Yes	None			

* Use of cones for lines allowed

** Recommended minimum number of Referees (for 2023/24 due to low numbers of certified referees)

2. Fees

\$600 for U9-U10
\$700 for U11-U12
\$800 for U13-U19

Pay online using credit card. Your card will not be charged until your team is officially accepted.

Or send check payable to:
WESCO United
P.O. Box 423
Sebastopol, CA 95473
Memo: Apple Classic

3. Guest Player Policy

A total of 3 guest players per team will be accepted in this tournament.

4. Application Information and Deadline

Tournament application deadline: Sept. 1, 2023

Teams applying after the deadline may be considered only if there are any existing vacancies and if no timely applicants are rejected in order to accommodate a late application. The tournament Director will not consider applications if they are not accompanied by entry fees. In the instance that the tournament fills all brackets prior to the application deadline, the tournament reserves the right to declare that it is full and closed to applications.

Notification of team acceptance or rejection will be sent to every timely applicant on or soon after Sept. 5, 2023. A refund of the team's entry fee (if submitted) will be included in notices sent to rejected teams.

5. Selection Process

Random selection of timely applicants with similar competitive level. Other criteria include field availability and an attempt to accept at least half of the participating teams from outside the local area. Date of application will also be considered.

6. Refund Policy

There will be no refunds after a team has been formally accepted.

7. Withdrawal Policy

Any team withdrawing from the tournament must do so by a written notice sent via certified mail, return receipt requested and postmarked no later than 14 days prior to the tournament start date. Failure to do so will result in a forfeiture of tournament entry fees.

8. Locations

Tournament Headquarters: A Place to Play park in Santa Rosa, CA

Playing Sites: Analy High School, El Molino High School, Brook Haven Middle School, and A Place to Play Community Park

9. Credentials Requirements and Mandatory Check-In:

Credentials from the 2023-24 season(s) will be accepted in this tournament. All teams will be grouped based on the age group matrix for the 2023-24 season.

For US Youth Soccer Teams the following credentials must be presented at the mandatory team credentials check-in:

1. A properly approved official team roster, including guest player approvals.
2. Properly approved US Youth Soccer member passes from the same seasonal year for each player (including guest players).
3. A properly completed membership form as approved by the State Association with the medical release and hold harmless declarations signed in original ink by the parent or guardian (or by the player in the instance where the player is 18 years of age) for each player and guest player.
4. Each team must have at least two properly credentialed adults present on the sidelines of each match.
5. In addition to being checked at the pre-tournament credentials check-in, all members' passes will be checked prior to the beginning of each match.
6. **Mandatory Credentials Check-In**

Each team is required to have their team credentials (roster, player passes and medical release waiver) checked in at a mandatory pre-tournament check in.

Check in will be held at:

Location: Tournament table at site of your first game on Saturday ONLY or if new player added

Date: September 23, 2023

Time: 30 minutes prior to game time

Who: All players need to be present

Teams failing to attend the mandatory check-in without prior approval of the tournament director will forfeit all games.

10. Length of Games and Half Time period

Age Group	Preliminary Games	Championship / Consolation Games
U9-U10	25 min. halves, 5 min. half time	25 min. halves, 5 min. half time period
U11-U12	30 min. halves, 5 min. half time	30 min. halves, 5 min. half time period
U13	30 min. halves, 5 min. half time	30 min. halves, 5 min. half time period
U14-U19	35 min. halves, 5 min. half time	35 min. halves, 5 min. half time period

In preliminary round games, ties will stand. If a championship, consolation or semi-final game is tied at the end of regulation play, two overtime periods of 5 minutes each will be played. If still tied at the completion of the overtime periods, the game will be decided by penalty kicks as per FIFA laws of the game. At the discretion of the Tournament Committee, overtime periods may be shortened or eliminated if the game has been significantly delayed at the start. The length of any game may be shortened to shorter but equal halves if the Tournament Committee deems it necessary due to field conditions, weather conditions or darkness.

11. Substitutions

Unlimited substitutions are allowed with referee approval in the following situations:

- Prior to a throw in for either team
- Prior to a goal kick by either team
- Prior to the restart of the game following a goal being scored by either team
- Prior to the restart of the game for the second half
- Prior to the beginning of an overtime period
- Prior to the restart of the game following an injured player being removed from the field (either team may sub)
- Prior to the restart of the game following a player being cautioned, the referee will give the coach the choice of substituting the cautioned player (the player could re-enter at his/her team's next substitution opportunity)

12. Ejections

Any player, coach, assistant coach or registered team official who is sent off will automatically be suspended from their next game. The send-off report will be forwarded to the Tournament Director and Tournament Disciplinary Committee. Additional penalties may be imposed. Send-off reports and member passes, which must be retained if the penalty has not been served in its entirety, will be handled per the member organization directives.

13. Scoring System

- 6 Points for a win
- 3 Points for a tie
- 1 Point for shutout win or tie
- 1 Point per goal to a maximum of 3 per game
- 6 Points for BYE

Maximum number of points allowable per game: 10

Excessive goal differential is when a winning team scores 8 or more goals than their opponent in any one match (Examples: 8-0, 9-1, 10-2 is considered 8 goal differential. 7-0, 8-1, 9-2 is considered less than 8 goal differential). For excessive goal differential situations, the tournament Director reserves the right to deduct 2 points if the circumstance warrants intervention.

Forfeited games will be scored as 1 to 0 (8 points) in favor of the team that did not forfeit. In the case a team withdrawing at the last minute or not showing, all preliminary games for that team will be scored as a forfeit.

14. Tie Breaking Procedure

In case of a tie in tournament points following the completion of preliminary games, the advancing team will be determined based on the following criteria in the order specified:

- 1) Two Teams: Head to Head competition – team that won the head to head competition between the teams that are tied will advance. If the two teams did not play each other then use the following tie-breaking procedure:
 - a) Goal Differential. Team with the lowest goal differential is eliminated.
 - b) Compare wins. Team with the least wins is eliminated.
 - c) Compare goals allowed. Team with most goals allowed is eliminated.
 - d) Compare goals scored. Team with least goals scored is eliminated.
 - e) Kicks from the penalty spot as per FIFA rules. The team with the most successful kicks advances.

- 2) Multiple Teams: Should there be a tie in tournament points between three or more teams, the tie-breaking procedure is as follows:
 - a) Goal Differential. Team with the lowest goal differential is eliminated.
 - b) Compare wins. Team with the least wins is eliminated.
 - c) Compare goals allowed. Team with most goals allowed is eliminated.
 - d) Compare goals scored. Team with least goals scored is eliminated.
 - e) Kicks from the penalty spot as per FIFA rules. The team with the most successful kicks advances.

When and if only two teams remain tied at any point while using this multi-team procedure, return to step 1 (Two Teams Tiebreakers) and continue until there is one team remaining.

During championship and consolation games, if a score is tied at the end of regulation play, there shall be two overtime halves played of 5 minutes duration each. Both overtime halves must be played; at the end of the overtime period, the highest scoring team is the winner. If the game is still tied, then the winner will be determined by kicks from the penalty spot as per FIFA rules.

ALL GAME RESULTS WILL BE CONSIDERED FINAL AND NO PROTEST OF THEIR OUTCOME IS ALLOWED

15. Format

Under 9-10 will play 7 v 7, Under 11-12 will play 9 v 9, and Under 13 and up will play 11 v 11. Each team will play a minimum of three games if their division has eight teams or more.

Tournament brackets may include 4, 5, 6 or 8 teams.

16. Awards

Team cups will be given to the champion of each division. Individual medals will be awarded to players on all first and second place teams in the divisions that play a single final match. Individual medals will be awarded to players on all first through third place teams in the divisions that play a final and consolation match.

17. Start Times and Forfeitures

Teams must be at the field 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of their game in order to be checked in by Field Marshals or appointed tournament officials. Games will be started within 5 minutes of the designated start time. If a team has not taken the field with a minimum of seven (7) players within the 5 minute grace period, the game will be forfeited to the team that has taken the field with at least seven (7) players. If neither team takes the field within the 5 minute grace period, no points will be awarded to either team and the game will be declared a double forfeit. The rest period between games shall not be less than 2 times the length of the halves of the games scheduled for a team, except that teams which win a forfeiture may be placed in a match in a shorter time. For example – a team plays 2-25 minute halves, their rest period before their next game will be at least 50 minutes.

The referee and/or Tournament Committee may terminate a game and award a forfeit if a team leaves the field during the game without the approval of the referee, the referee abandons a match due to excessive violent conduct and/or misconduct by the players, coaches or fans, or if a team is deemed to be in gross violation of US Youth Soccer, or rules of this tournament.

18. Home Team

The team listed first on the game schedule is the home team. Conflicts in jersey color will be resolved by the home team being required to change jerseys. The referee will determine if there is a conflict in jersey colors or keeper jersey colors. The home team will be responsible for providing 3 game balls. Coaches, Managers and players are expected to sit on one side of the field and spectators shall sit on the other.

19. Sportsmanship and Conduct

Good sportsmanship is expected of all teams, officials and fans. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, staff, parents and affiliated spectators.

20. Injuries and Medical Assistance

Any injuries must be reported to a tournament official so that an accident report form can be completed. A tournament official will call 911 (829-4400 = Sebastopol Police) for an injury at the coach's or parent's request.

21. Weather Conditions

If deemed necessary by the Tournament Committee, games may be shortened or cancelled due to extreme weather conditions.

22. Tournament Cancellation

If the tournament must be cancelled due to inclement weather, air quality, government shutdown due to pandemic, acts of civil disobedience, war, destruction of facilities or other circumstances deemed by the Tournament Committee to be beyond the control of the hosting league, the tournament may retain entry fees until the tournament's expenses are verified and approved by the Tournament Committee Director. Refunds will be postmarked and mailed to the teams within 60 days of the approved tournament date.

23. Housing and Hotel Information

Housing will not be provided. The individual teams must arrange hotel accommodations.

24. Prohibitions

Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances is expressly prohibited at any of the sport fields or complexes. Any team (including players, coaches, parents and affiliated spectators) found violating these rules will automatically forfeit all games played, face possible expulsion from the tournament and will not be invited to any future tournaments hosted by this league.

Use of tobacco products is prohibited at this tournament. Use of tobacco products on the grounds of any public school facility is a violation of California State Law.

****Dogs are prohibited at this tournament.** This will be strictly enforced.**

Referees will be instructed to abandon a game if, after being asked to do so, any person affiliated with the team refuses to remove a dog from the area of the soccer field, or if after being asked to do so, any person affiliated with the team refuses to cease the use of tobacco products or alcohol in the area of the soccer field.

All Portable Shelters (EZ ups, tents, etc.) must be at least 3 feet off the touch line and must be secured with either stakes or sandbags.

No Spectators/chairs on Tracks or Turf at any school field

25. Player Equipment

Shinguards are required for all players (no exception).

No hard casts are allowed.

26. Tournament Committee

The tournament committee shall consist of the Tournament Director and any other pre-designated Tournament Officials.

THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ESTABLISH POLICY AS DEEMED NECESSARY IN REGARD TO PROBLEMS AND CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY COVERED. THE DECISIONS OF THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE ARE NOT SUBJECT TO APPEAL.

27. Tournament Director Information

Name: Steve Yob

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 423, Sebastopol, CA 95473

Phone Number: 707-728-5220

E-Mail Address: appleclassic@wescosoccer.org

Tournament Website: <https://www.wescosoccer.org/apple-classic/>