

## **\*\*Players interested in competing in the VAMO: RVA Sweet Sixteen can register at [vamosoccer.com](http://vamosoccer.com).\*\***

---

### **Format:**

- There will be sixteen teams in total, four groups of four.
- The group stage will consist of two matches per team (Saturday matches). The first match will be randomly assigned. The second match, winners will play winners from within your group. Losers will play losers from within your group. (NOTE: Two of the “losers” matches will take place on the covered field, dress accordingly).
- Three Points for a win, one point for a tie, zero points for a loss.
- In case of a tie after your first match, whatever team scored the first goal in the tie, will be the “winner”. If it is a 0-0 tie, the “winner” will be decided on the flip of a coin. Reminder, both teams still walk away with a point each.
- Group stage matches will determine seeding for the single elimination tournament.
- Tie breakers: (In order) Head-to-head, goal differential, goals scored, goals conceded.
- After group play, teams will be seeded for a sixteen team single elimination bracket.
- FIRST ROUND elimination matches will take place Saturday night. Quarters, semis, and finals will take place on Sunday. (Three matches each day for teams qualifying for the finals)
- Winning team will be given \$2,000 (given to the captain after the finals).

**\*\*Tournament format/details subject to change\*\***

### **Participating Players:**

- Appointed captains will be responsible for team registration and fees (\$515 a team).
- Participants must be at least 18 years of age or older (if found not 18 later, subject to forfeit matches participated in.)
- Any players interested in registering after initial roster deposits will pay an additional \$35 per player (link can be found online at [vamosoccer.com](http://vamosoccer.com), late player registration form).
- Participants must fill out and sign an online or in person waiver prior to the start of the event.
- Participants will be required to check/sign in the day of the event AND sign off on team waiver.
- Teams participating with unregistered players will forfeit matches participated in.
- Participants are limited to one team.
- Each roster is limited to 20 participants to a team.
- Participating teams are permitted 1 coach and 1 assistant coach per team/sideline.

- Shinguards required.
- Players wishing to register beyond February 26<sup>th</sup> (add/drop period) will pay an additional \$35 (late player registration fee).

## -----On The Field Rules-----

All matches will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as issued by SCOR (Sports Center of Richmond) except as modified in the RVA Sweet Sixteen. Modifications/consistencies are as listed:

- 7v7, 6 Field players and a goalkeeper.
- 25 Minute halves.
- 3 Minute half time. (Players will be given 2-5 minutes on field before match)
- Field dimensions: 60X30 Yards (Turf and boarded fields). See SCOR website for full images and videos.
- Regulation size 5 soccer ball (not a futsal ball).
- Substitutions are made on the fly. Incoming players cannot enter the field until both feet of the exiting player are over the touchline. Having too many players on the field will result in a direct free kick for the opposing team and a yellow card for the entering player.
- Dead ball situations are guaranteed substitutions. Goals, kick offs, and net violations. Fouls will not be considered dead ball situations.
- Fouls and net violations are restarted with 3 feet of the infraction.
- The following are the restart points on the field of play:
  - \*\*\*Center Mark – Restart Mark for all Kickoffs, or a superstructure violation on a kick-off.
  - \*\*\*Center Mark of Red Lines – Restart Mark for Superstructure Violations, three Line Violations, & Shootouts.
  - \*\*\*Red Mark at the Top of the Goalkeeper's Arch – Restart Mark for all Goalkeeper Violations (Outlined under Rule 10).
  - \*\*\*Corner Marks – These are the restart points for all corner kicks.
- A Superstructure Violation occurs when the ball contacts any part of the building above the field of play. The restart mark is the Center Dot on the Red Line on the side of the field closest from where the ball was last played.
- Any restart from a spot/mark on the field is deemed to be a ceremonial restart and must restart on the referee's whistle.
- A player has 5 seconds to get the ball into play on a restart or they are in violation and the opposing team will retain possession.
- If neither team has clear possession of the ball at a stoppage, then the Referee restarts play with a Dropped Ball.

- A Dropped Ball caused while the ball is inside a Penalty Arch takes place at the Free Kick Mark.
- All Restarts in Indoor Soccer are Direct, including the Kickoff.
- Keepers can throw/kick the ball over half. Keepers can NOT punt.
- No slide tackling permitted.
- **Blue Cards Offenses:** The Referee issues Blue Cards, and their associated 2-minute time penalties, shall be given for deliberate fouls, handballs, sliding (except the goalkeeper in his Penalty Arch), boarding, too many men on the field/substitute interfering with the state of play, etc...
- **Cautionable Offenses:** The Referee issues a Yellow Card for reckless Fouls and offenses described directly above, and for the following: (a) A second Blue Card/Time Penalty issued to the same player in a single match. (b) Unsporting Behavior by any non-player personnel (c) Provoking Altercation: Making physical contact with any opponent (I.E. pushing or poking), short of fighting, or using the ball in so doing. (d) Dissent a. Referee Abuse b. Breach of Penalty Area/Wall Decorum c. Entering the Referee Crease without permission (violation of Referee's personal space in a threatening manner) (e) Bench Dissent: After an initial "Warning", one or more unidentifiable players verbally abuse the Referee.
- **Ejectionable Offenses:** A person receives a Red Card for Fouls and offenses described directly above, which the Referee considers violent, through the use of excessive force, and for: (a) Third Blue Card/Time Penalty awarded to the same player (See Escalation of Time Penalties and Cards Below) (b) Elbowing: Intentionally elbowing an opponent in a violent manner, particularly above the shoulders (c) Vicious Slide Tackling: A tackle from the side or from behind directly into one or both legs of an opponent, seriously endangering him/her (d) Fighting (e) Leaving Team Bench or Penalty Area to engage in a fracas or confrontation with the opposition or a game official (f) Extreme Unsporting Behavior: Committing a particularly despicable act or behavior including: a. Spitting at an opponent or any other person b. Persistent use of extremely abusive language or behavior toward a Game Official c. Bodily contact with a Game Official
- **Time Penalties and Card Consequences:**
  - \*Blue Card: Will result in the team receiving a blue card playing man down for 2:00 minutes or until being scored on. The player who received the blue card must be the player to leave the field of play.
  - \*Yellow Card: Will result in the team receiving a yellow card playing man down for 2:00 minutes or until being scored on. The player who received the blue card must be the player to leave the field of play.
  - \*Red Card: Immediate dismissal of the player who received the red card. Players who receive straight red cards will sit the following match. Players who receive a double yellow will be allowed to compete the following match (for first occurrence). If the red card is classified as violent conduct by the referee and event coordinator, the player will

be done for the tournament. Team receiving the red card must play man down for the remainder of the match.

- Time will be kept on the scoreboard, not the referees watch.
- No offside.
- 1 Referee allotted per field. Subject to change/add additional referee.

### **Advancing and Tie Breakers:**

- Every team will be guaranteed three matches. You will play two games from your allotted group for your first two matches (second of which will be the “winners and losers match”), the following match will be a part of the 16-team single elimination tournament. Quarter finals, semi finals, and finals will take place on Sunday.
- Group stage point system: Three points for a win, one Point for a tie, zero for a loss. Group matches will determine seeding for the elimination bracket.
- Tie breaker systems: Head to head, followed by goal differential, followed by goals scored, followed by goals conceded.
- No overtime in group matches, just first goal scored or necessary coin flip (see above).
- Overtime in elimination matches.
- Overtime format. 2:00 Minutes of golden goal, first team to score wins. Next, additional two minutes, but both teams will pull a plyer (6v6). Next, additional two minutes, both teams will pull another player (5v5). This will continue until a goal emerges. If we have no winner after a 1v1 situation, there will be a penalty kick shootout.

### **Jerseys and Attire Requirements:**

- Teams are responsible for providing TWO options for their jerseys for the tournament.
- Those who do not will be provided numbered bibs.
- If team jerseys are too similar (as determined by the referee) to your opponents in color, the “away team” will have to change to an alternate or wear numbered bibs for the match.
- Shinguards are required for every match.
- The playing surface is artificial grass (turf). You are ALLOWED to wear cleats/studs, opposed to traditional SCOR rules.

### **-----Off The Field Rules-----**

**The RVA Sweet Sixteen Tournament Directors and referees have the right to forfeit matches of teams who do not follow the rules of behavioral conduct or eligibility requirements.**

### **VIOLENT CONDUCT:**

The RVA Sweet Sixteen Directors will withhold cash prizes, forfeit future attendance, and have the right to suspend all remaining matches for teams engaging in violent conduct. Verbal abuse towards referees or tournaments directors will not be tolerated and will be carded/enforced appropriately. SCOR and VAMO Soccer LLC will have access to recorded video footage.

### **FORFEITS:**

- Failure to appear or suspension within matches WILL NOT result in a refund.
- If you withdraw your registration three weeks prior to the event or later, you will **not** receive a refund.
- Participation in future events will be reviewed by the Tournament Directors for forfeiting teams.
- A minimum of 5 players at the time of kickoff will constitute an eligible team.
- A match should not start nor continue if either team drops below 5 players.
- A forfeit shall be awarded if a team is not present and prepared to play within 10 minutes of the scheduled time of kick-off.
- Forfeit scores are 3-0 for the present team.
- A forfeit shall be awarded if a team starts the game and quits at any time during the game.

### **Weather Policy:**

Of the 31 matches within the RVA Sweet Sixteen Tournament, only 2 of which will be on the “covered” field. In case of any weather delaying those matches, VAMO Soccer will adjust start times and delay where necessary to assure matches are played. (See disclaimer section for cancelation policies)

### **Spectators**

- Spectators are expected to follow any and all behavioral policies set by VAMO Soccer LLC and RVA Sweet Sixteen Staff.
- VAMO Soccer LLC, Tournament Directors, and referees reserve the right to suspend or postpone matches based off of behavior of spectators affiliated with participating teams.
- Spectators are not permitted in “player specific areas”. Player specific areas include but are not limited to the fields, benches, and zones beyond crowd control fencing,

### **Alcohol Policy:**

- Alcohol brought to/inside SCOR (Sports Center of Richmond) is strictly prohibited. Turf’s sports café will serve alcohol within designated areas within the facility.
- Players are prohibited from participating in the RVA Sweet Sixteen while intoxicated as determined by referees and event officials.

- Players failing to follow alcohol policy guidelines will be removed from the facility.
- Prohibited items include but are not limited to weapons, illegal substances, and alcohol.

**Disclaimer:**

VAMO Soccer LLC, tournaments directors, and affiliated sponsors are not held responsible for expenses incurred by any person, team, or any other affiliate if the tournament is canceled in whole or in part. If the tournament is canceled in its entirety in advance, participants will be reimbursed. If the tournament is canceled in part during any time of the event, there will be no reimbursement. There will be no refunds once a team has registered and paid the entry fee, unless the event is canceled prior to its start.

If you are registering and competing in the RVA Sweet Sixteen or any events organized by VAMO Soccer LLC, you are confirming that:

- You are of legal consenting adult age in the country in which the event is being held.
- Your participation in an event is competitive and like all sports has a risk of physical injury and you fully accept responsibility for all such risks as a condition of participation.
- You understand and accept that VAMO Soccer LLC and any affiliated members do not accept liability of any sort for bodily injury, illness, or death sustained to or by you or loss of or damage to any of your possessions or goods whatsoever and howsoever their loss or damage is caused.

Each participant also consents to the recording of his/her voice, image, and likeness captured by any means including camera/telephones/mobile devices while present in, at or about the event and the transmission of these images/voices/video perpetuity by the organizer free of charge, by any means and waives all moral and legal rights in and to any recordings of sound, video, or images taken within the tournament.

By participating, I hereby agree to indemnify VAMO Soccer LLC and the event organizers for any and all the claims, loss, and expenses of any sort arising by reason of the terms of service and of my breach of the above conditions, unauthorized acts or otherwise. Any breach of these conditions or failure by the participant to obey the lawful directions of VAMO Soccer LLC or the event organizers hereby entitles VAMO Soccer LLC or the event organizers to terminate my participation in an event forthwith without any refund of fees or compensation of any sort.

**\*\*All questions regarding event details can be directed to [vamosoccer@gmail.com](mailto:vamosoccer@gmail.com) or (540) 335-5044\*\***



