BUDAPEST YOUTH CUP

TALENTS MEETING

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

COMPETITION RULES

U8

15–16 MAY 2027 · BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

2019 BIRTH YEAR / DRAFT FOR ORGANIZER REVIEW

FOUNDATION

PURPOSE & GENERAL RULES

1. § THE AIM OF THE TOURNAMENT

The aim of the Budapest Youth Cup is to organize international competitions for youth football players born between January 1, 2019, and December 31, 2019, within structured frameworks, ensuring high-quality matches. It also aims to facilitate discussions filled with outstanding professional content, exchanges based on current international trends in pre-academy football cultures both domestically and across Europe. Promoting the popularity of the sport is essential both domestically and internationally. This includes upholding the principle of Fair Play and promoting fair play behavior.

2. § GENERAL RULES

The matches of the Budapest Youth Cup shall be governed by the rules of football applied in Hungary, which comply with the generally applied rules of FIFA. In the event of any dispute regarding the rules, the English-language regulations or their interpretation shall prevail. By signing and submitting the entry form, participating teams in the Budapest Youth Cup acknowledge, understand, and fully agree with the regulations of the competition. Teams registered for the Budapest Youth Cup shall be assigned to various groups through a random draw.

FAIR PLAY FIRST

High-quality international competition and professional exchange between European youth academies.

ADMINISTRATION

ACCREDITATION & DATES

12 MAY
PLAYER & STAFF LIST

14 MAY · 22:00
LAST FORMAT UPDATE

3. § ACCREDITATION AND AGE VERIFICATION

Every team participating in the Budapest Youth Cup must send the list of players and staff (name, date of birth, ID/passport number) to the Organizing Committee of the Budapest Youth Cup by May 12, 2027. Prior to the start of the tournament, the entry form must be submitted during registration to the competition committee. The competition committee verifies players with photographic identification documents. At the request of the opposing team's coach, every player must be able to provide identification before the match, with particular attention to age, by presenting a photo ID, student ID, player's license, or passport. Teams may not submit protests for overage players after the start of the match. Therefore, it is the responsibility of every team coach to verify the age of their players. If this is not done upon request by the opposing team's coach before the match, the opposing team wins the match by a score of 3:0.

4. § MATCH VENUES AND DATES

The Budapest Youth Cup 2027 will take place at UTE Sportközpont, 1046 Budapest, Tábor utca 24, on May 15–16, 2027. The official organizing committee may change group assignments and match times until 22:00 on May 14, 2027. Team leaders will be informed of any changes in due time.

MATCH FORMAT

PITCH, BALL & EQUIPMENT

5. § FIELDS AND MATCH SPECIFICATION

1 × 17 min	DURATION	4 + 1	ON THE FIELD
40 × 20 m	PITCH SIZE	3 × 2 m	GOAL SIZE
Size 4	BALL	7 m	PENALTY SPOT
5 m	WALL DISTANCE	6 m radius	PENALTY AREA

Penalty area: a 6-metre radius measured from the outer edge of the goalposts. Match time is centrally controlled. FIFA-approved size-4 balls are used.

PLAYING SURFACE REQUIRES CONFIRMATION

The 2026 U8 rules specify natural grass. Confirm the playing surface at UTE Sportközpont for the 2027 edition.

MATCH OPERATIONS

PREPARATION & SUBSTITUTIONS

6. § PREPARING FOR MATCHES

PLAYER ATTIRE

Every player's jersey must be numbered, and this number must correspond to the number listed on the team roster. The numbers should be on the back of the jersey. Two players on the same team cannot use the same number in a single match. If the referee decides that one team needs to change its jersey (for better distinguishability), then that team must change its jersey to a different color, particularly if it is listed second in the official match announcement. It is recommended that every team ensures they have at least two sets of jerseys in different colors to prevent any issues.

BEFORE THE MATCH

Every team must be on the field 10 minutes before kickoff. The team leader must ensure that their players are ready to play the match. This is the personal responsibility of the team leader. It is mandatory for every player to wear shin guards. The referee checks the shoes and other equipment before the start of the match, and if found to be too dangerous, they may require them to be changed. Teams are responsible for the completeness and safety of their equipment, as well as the behavior of their supporters.

SQUAD ADMINISTRATION

PLAYERS & SUBSTITUTIONS

7. § PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTIONS

A team can register up to 12 players for the Budapest Youth Cup. Every registered player can participate in the Budapest Youth Cup. A sports organization can enter 2 teams within a particular age group. Players from one team cannot switch to the other team throughout the tournament.

ROLLING SUBSTITUTIONS

5 players (4 outfield players and 1 goalkeeper). The number of substitutions is unlimited. A substituted player can be re-entered at any time. The game does not need to be stopped for substitutions. Each substitution must take place legally at the halfway line.

12 PLAYERS
MAXIMUM SQUAD

4 + 1
MATCH FORMAT

PLAYING REGULATIONS

MATCH RULES & DISCIPLINE

8. § RULES OF PLAY

- The offside rule is not valid
- The goalkeeper cannot handle back-passes with their hands
- During goal kicks, the ball must be played from the ground only and cannot be kicked directly across the halfway line
- The ball can be put into play along the sideline with an overhead two-handed throw or a flat pass below the knees, neither of which can directly result in a goal.

YELLOW CARDS, RED CARDS AND SANCTIONS

In the case of an offense warranting a warning, the offending player shall be cautioned with a yellow card. Receiving a second yellow card in the same match results in automatic expulsion (red card), and the player cannot return to the field for the remainder of the match, leaving the team with fewer players. The expelled player can participate in the next match. Serious or violent infractions and misconduct towards opponents—particularly the use of abusive or racist language—result in immediate expulsion (red card). Deliberate striking or kicking, as well as attempts thereof, also lead to automatic expulsion (red card). Expulsion from a match does not entail suspension from the following match, and yellow cards do not accumulate. In cases of egregious, severe infractions, the Budapest Youth Cup Arbitration Board decides on the player's further eligibility for the tournament.

COMPETITION FORMAT

GROUP-STAGE RULES

9. § GROUP-STAGE MATCHES

Teams participating in the Budapest Youth Cup are divided into four groups. The teams play round-robin matches, meaning each team in the group plays against every other team in the group once. Three points are awarded for a win, one point for a draw, and no points for a loss.

3 PTS	1 PT	0 PTS
WIN	DRAW	LOSS

The team with the highest number of points during the group stage will be ranked first, the second-highest will be ranked second, and so on. If two or more teams have the same number of points in the group stage, their ranking will be determined by the following criteria in succession:

TIE-BREAK CRITERIA (APPLIED IN ORDER)

01 Head-to-head: points, goal difference, goals scored, then fewer goals conceded

02 Overall goal difference

03 Overall number of goals scored

04 Five penalties per team if still tied

COMPETITION FORMAT

PLACEMENT DIVISIONS I

10. § CLASSIFICATION AFTER GROUPS

The first group stage determines the teams entering the four placement divisions. Each division plays a round-robin competition, with every team facing each other once.

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	FAIR PLAY
1st & 2nd	3rd & 4th	5th & 6th	7th & 8th

GOLD DIVISION — 8 TEAMS

Top two teams in each of the four preliminary groups advance to the Gold division. They meet once in a round-robin format; a win earns three points, a draw one and a loss none.

SILVER DIVISION — 8 TEAMS

Teams finishing third and fourth in each preliminary group advance to the Silver division. Matches use the same round-robin format and scoring: three points for a win, one for a draw and none for defeat.

CLASSIFICATION

The division rankings are determined by total points and, when necessary, the tie-break rules listed on the following page.

COMPETITION FORMAT

PLACEMENT DIVISIONS II

BRONZE DIVISION — 8 TEAMS

Teams finishing fifth and sixth in each preliminary group advance to the Bronze division. Matches are played in a round-robin format with three points for a win, one for a draw and none for defeat.

FAIR PLAY DIVISION — 8 TEAMS

Teams finishing seventh and eighth in each preliminary group advance to the Fair Play division. They play once against every team in their division under the same scoring and ranking system.

COMMON TIE-BREAK RULES — ALL DIVISIONS

If two or more teams are level on points, classification follows these criteria in sequence: (1) head-to-head points, goal difference, goals scored and fewer goals conceded; (2) overall goal difference; (3) overall goals scored; (4) a penalty shootout, with five penalties taken by each side, if the tie remains unresolved.

STRUCTURE INHERITED FROM 2026

Four preliminary groups of eight teams (32 U8 teams) are implied by this system. Confirm that the 2027 U8 registration count and format will be identical.

GOVERNANCE

OFFICIALS & APPEALS

11. § MATCH OFFICIALS

The referees of the Budapest Youth Cup are accredited referees. Every match of the Budapest Youth Cup is approved by the official Competition Committee of the Budapest Youth Cup or its delegates. Each match is officiated by one referee.

12. § SPORTS ARBITRATION BOARD

The decisions of the referee are final based on the facts of the match and the game situations. No appeals can be made against the decisions of the referee. Appeals cannot be based on perceived errors of the referee.

ADMISSIBLE GROUNDS FOR PROTEST

1. If the opposing team's players cannot provide personal identification, player licenses, or passports – IN THIS CASE, AN APPEAL CAN BE MADE BEFORE THE MATCH!

2. If the match is interrupted for any reason other than weather conditions or force majeure.

PROCEDURE AND FEE

The appeal must be submitted in writing, in Hungarian or English, to the Competition Center within 60 minutes after the match. The appeal must be signed by the team leader. The fee for the appeal is €1,000, which must be paid in cash upon submission of the appeal. If the Sports Arbitration Board upholds the appeal, the amount will be refunded.

RECOGNITION

AWARDS & PRIZES

13. § AWARDS AND PRIZES

At the conclusion of the matches held within the framework of the Budapest Youth Cup, the top-performing teams in the Gold Division will receive the following awards:

1	2	3
CHAMPIONS	**RUNNERS-UP**	**THIRD PLACE**
TEAM TROPHY + MEDALS	TEAM TROPHY + MEDALS	TEAM TROPHY + MEDALS

Gold medals for first-place players, silver medals for second place and bronze medals for third place. Each of the three highest-placed teams receives the corresponding trophy.

DREAM TEAM

During the tournament, a "Dream Team" will be selected in each age group, consisting of 5 outstanding individual performers, based on recommendations from the coaches. Each member of the Dream Team will receive a personalized trophy in recognition of their performance.

PARTICIPANT GIFTS

All participants of the Budapest Youth Cup, regardless of their final ranking, will receive a gift package as a token of appreciation for their participation.