

# The Beach Soccer USA Cup

## EVENT RULES

### Event Duration

1. 3 day event
2. All teams play a maximum of 2 games per day.

### Competition Format

1. The competition shall be played in a group stage, followed by two knockout stages, the play-off for third place and the final.
2. In all stages, if a match is level at the end of normal playing time, extra time shall be played. Extra time shall consist of one period of three minutes. If the score is still level at the end of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedure specified in the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game.

### Group Stage

1. The 16 participating teams will be divided into four groups of four teams.
2. The teams in the four groups will be designated as follows:

<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>Group C</b>	<b>Group D</b>
A1	B1	C1	D1
A2	B2	C2	D2
A3	B3	C3	D3
A4	B4	C4	D4.

3. The system of play will be the league system, each team playing one match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three points for a win, two points for a win in extra time, one point for a win in a penalty shootout, and no points for a defeat.
4. The ranking of each team in each group will be determined as follows:
  - a. greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;

If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above criterion, their rankings will be determined as follows:

  - b. greatest number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;
  - c. greatest goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;
  - d. greatest number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
  - e. greatest goal difference in all group matches;
  - f. greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;
  - g. drawing of lots by the FIFA Organizing Committee.
5. The two teams finishing first and second in each group qualify for the quarter-finals.



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6. Only goals scored during regular time and extra time will be considered under the above resolution criteria.

## Quarter-Finals

The eight teams that qualify from the group stage will contest the quarter- finals as follows:

- Winner Group A v. Runner-up B = Winner 1
- Winner Group B v. Runner-up A = Winner 2
- Winner Group C v. Runner-up D = Winner 3
- Winner Group D v. Runner-up C = Winner 4

## Semi-Finals

The four teams that qualify from the quarter-finals will contest the semi-finals as follows:

- Winner 1 v. Winner 2
- Winner 3 v. Winner 4

## Final, play-off for third place

1. The winners of the semi-finals qualify for the FINAL.
2. The losers of the semi-finals will contest the play-off for third place.

## Beach Soccer Laws of the Game

All matches shall be played in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the translation of the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.

