International Youth
Flag Football Tournament
United World Games 2027
Klagenfurt am Wörthersee/Austria
June 24-27, 2027
www.unitedworldgames.com

Unter der Patronanz der

Sports Venues

Stadion Landskron
Hochfeldstraße 33
9523 Villach

Regulations Flag Football

The United World Games Flag Football Tournament will be played according to the official rules of the International Federation of American Football (IFAF). Except for the rules specially mentioned in the following points.

Most Important Rule – FAIR PLAY

It should be needless to say, but we expect fair play from all teams! Please respect your opponents, your own team as well as the decision of the referees and try to play as fair as possible.

1. Age Groups & Playing Time

Mixed:

Categories	Cutoff Date	Playing time Prelims	Minimum number of players
U 13	01.01.2014 and younger	2 x 15 minutes	5 players
U 15	01.01.2012 and younger	2 × 15 minutes	5 Players

Playing Time

- The game is played using a running clock with 2 timeouts per half. If only one timeout is used in the first half, it may be carried over to the second half.
- The duration of each timeout is 45 seconds
- The clock will not be stopped during the final 2 minutes of the game.
- The halftime break lasts 5 minutes
- If, at the two-minute warning in the second half, the point difference is more than 18 points, the game is automatically ended.

Exception permits:
Due to different cutoff dates of the various national flag football associations, exceptions may be issued in accordance with our statutory exception rule. As per this rule, it is permitted that in the **U15 Mixed and U13 Mixed** age category each team may have up to **2 players** on the Squad List who **exceed the cutoff date for the respective age group by up to 6 month.** These players must be reported to the organizing committee and must be listed on the squad list with a note indicating the special exemption.
In the **U13 Mixed category, at least one female player must be on the field during the entire match**
As a result of the tournament organizers **combining the U15 Boys and U15 Mixed** categories, it is **not mandatory to have a female player on the roster**. However, in the **U15 Mixed** category, it is additionally permitted that for each female player on the roster, one **male player may exceed the age cut-off date by up to one year.** This player must be reported to the organizing committee and must be listed on the squad list with a note indicating the special exemption.

Categories	Number Players of Exception permits	Deadline of Exception permits
U 15 Mixed	2 Player	01.07.2013 and younger
U 13 Mixed	2 Player	01.07.2011 and younger

2. Squad List & ID Checks

Each participating team must submit its **squad-list** online via the UWG account at https://my.unitedworldgames.com/ **by May 31st, 2027**, which then will be approved.
A team can only complete check-in and receive its relevant documents after the squad list has been successfully reviewed and approved.
If the squad list is not completed, an additional processing fee will be charged.

Coaches are required to carry the **UWG-approved squad list** and **player ID cards/passports** for all games. It is highly recommended to have a printed version of the squad list on hand to avoid any issues due to potential internet problems at the venues and to ensure access at all times.

During the tournament, coaches have the right to request a pre-game ID check of the opposing team and verify players. If this check is not requested before the match starts, the right to do so expires.

If a team:
1. uses players who do not meet the age requirements,
2. uses players who are not listed on the official squad list, or
3. uses a squad list that has not been approved by UWG,

the current match will be automatically recorded as a defeat for the respective team.
In the case of a repeated violation of the squad list regulations, the team will be disqualified from the tournament.

It is generally allowed for a player to participate in two different teams, as long as they are not competing in the same competition category. In such cases, the player must be listed on both squad list. (Example: A player competing in the U13 mixed category may also be listed on a U15 mixed team and play for both, as long as the match schedule allows it).
If a club enters multiple teams in the same category, players may not be moved between teams. Each player may only appear on the squad list of one team per competition.

3. Arrival at the Sports venue

All teams must arrive at their designated venue **no later than 15 minutes before** the start of the match and must check in with the **tournament director.**
If a team arrives, for example, only 10 minutes before the match or fails to check in properly, the game will be officially forfeited. However, the tournament director may decide whether the game will actually be forfeited or played as scheduled. If the team that arrived on time insists on the forfeit, it will be enforced accordingly.

The changing rooms will be available before the match. Please note that changing rooms are shared with other teams. Teams are kindly asked to vacate the changing rooms promptly after the match to ensure a smooth transition and cleaning for the following matchday.

4. Team Size

A team may have a maximum of 15 players, who must be clearly identified by wearing a game shirt.
In addition to the players, a maximum of 2 coaches are allowed on the sideline, provided that they maintain a 3-yard safety distance from the field (exceptions must be approved by the tournament management before the first game on the first day of the tournament). Furthermore, up to 2 medical staff members are permitted (provided that one of them is a doctor; otherwise, only one physiotherapist is allowed).

5. Field Size

In general, the field dimensions of the IFAF are used. However, if necessary, these may be adapted to the local field conditions at the venue in Landskron. Existing fixed field markings will be incorporated appropriately into the dimensions.

6. Games, Points & Play-Off

During the preliminaries the teams will be divided into groups and play a round robin.

The ranking will be decided by points:

Win	3 points
Draw	2 points
Loss	1 point
Disqualification	0 points

After the preliminary round, a table reflects the order of the teams. These are the criteria for determining the ranking in the group stage:

1. Number of points (Win: 3 points, Draw: 2 points, Loss: 1 point, Disqualification: 0 points)
2. Lower number of forfeited games due to disqualification
3. Better score difference (Points for – Points against)
4. Higher number of scored points
5. If two or more teams are tied in all of the above criteria, only the matches between these teams are considered to determine the ranking (criteria 1–4 apply in the same order)
6. If no decision can be made after applying all the above criteria, the ranking will be determined by a draw (automatic computer-assisted drawing)

If a comparison of the best second-, third-, fourth- or fifth-placed teams (etc.) across different groups is required, the following criteria apply:

1. Number of points / Number of games played
2. Number of forfeited games due to disqualification (DSQ) / Number of games played
3. Score difference / Number of games played
4. Number of points scored / Number of games played
5. If no decision can be made after applying all the above criteria, the ranking will be determined by a draw (automatic computer-assisted drawing)

7. Walk over (w.o.)

If a team fails to appear or arrives late without a valid reason, a 0:35 disqualification will be issued for the team that did not appear/was late. Late teams will be waited for up to 5 minutes. All further actions and decisions are at the discretion of the tournament director.

8. Sport Venues

Entry to the inner stadium area of the sports facilitie is only permitted with appropriate sports shoes. Bringing food or drinks onto the playing field is prohibited. **Exception**: PET water bottles.
Smoking is strictly prohibited within the inner stadium area, including the playing fields and their surrounding areas.

9. Match Balls

The tournament organizers will provide only the match ball. **Please bring your own balls for warm-up.**

10. Uniforms, flag belts, and protective gear

All uniforms must have a back number. Each team must bring a second, differently colored uniform set in addition to their primary set (preferably white), in case the referee considers the uniforms of both teams too similar for a match. If uniform colors are identical, the first-mentioned team (Hometeam) is required to change. The flags on the flag belt may be multicolored but must contrast with the color of the shorts. Headgear is only allowed if it has no visor, knot, or brim. The use of standard protective sports headgear is strongly recommended (Headgear Flag Football Headband or Goat Beast LOOP Softshell Headgear – Flag). Players are required to wear a colored mouthguard (not white or transparent).

11. Game Report Form and Penalties

After each game (no later than 15 minutes after the end of the match), the head coach or team representative must record the results, interceptions, and sacks, along with the names of the corresponding players and their jersey numbers, in the game report form. Accuracy must be confirmed with a signature.

Every disqualification must be noted by the referee on the game report:

- Level 1: Suspension for the current game
- Level 2: Suspension for the current game and the next 2 games
- Level 3: Suspension for the entire tournament day
- Exclusions for "Flagrant Fouls" automatically include a suspension for current game as well as for the next two games

Suspensions carry over to subsequent tournament days and do not expire before the playoffs/finals.

12. Insurance, Disclaimer & Theft

The participants are not insured through the organizers. It is up to the coach of each team to make sure that his/her players and all the participants of the team are insured during the event. The organizers do not assume any kind of liability in case of illness, accidents or loss/theft of personal belongings.
With their participation the athletes accept the disclaimer of warranty for any kind of damage. No claims can be asserted against the organizing committee, the event sponsors, the city of Klagenfurt and the province of Carinthia regarding damage or injuries.

Every athlete has to make sure that they are fully physically capable of participating without any medical objections.

For all players: Do not leave any valuable things and/or expensive clothing and/or shoes in the locker rooms.

13. Disciplinary Remark

Severe offenses and brutal fouls will result in an automatic ban for the next game. In addition, the tournament board will speak out a further suspension according to the severity of the offense. In case of a sending-off because of a brawl or insulting the referee, the concerned player will be disqualified for the whole remainder of the tournament.
Furthermore, the tournament board reserves the right to suspend entire teams from the tournament if they act disrespectfully towards the tournament organizers, referees, officials, opponents, their own teammates, or spectators, or otherwise engage in inappropriate conduct.

The use of swear words, insults, racist remarks, or discriminatory statements of any kind will automatically result in an **UNS (Unsportsmanlike Conduct)** foul, which will be enforced as follows:

- If committed by the offense:
  - 10-yard penalty
  - LOD (Loss of Down)
- If committed by the defense:
  - 10-yard penalty
  - AFD (Automatic First Down)

A player who receives a second UNS foul is automatically disqualified and excluded from participation for the remainder of the game day.
In particularly severe cases, the tournament organizers reserve the right to expel the individual from the tournament entirely (including if they are attending as a spectator), resulting in a **stadium ban**.

14. Final Remark

The organizers of the United World Games are at the understanding that each participant and team leader knows all the items as mentioned in these regulations.

IMPORTANT: In emergencies and during the night-time the emergency number 144 must be called. Please also note that if an injured athlete has to be transported to the hospital with an ambulance, a coach of the affected team must always go with them.