

39th Shimizu Cup Amateur Junior Soccer League Guidelines

1. **Main Hosts:** Japan Football Assoc. (JFA); Shizuoka Pref. Football Assoc.;
City of Shizuoka; Shimizu Football Assoc.; Shizuoka Football Assoc.
(Shimizu Cup Amateur Junior Soccer League Organizing Committee)
2. **Co-Host:** The Asahi Shimbun Company
3. **Body in Charge:** Shimizu Cup Amateur Junior Soccer League Executive Committee
4. **Sponsor:** DAIICHI SANKYO HEALTHCARE CO., LTD.
5. **Support:** Japan Sports Agency; Shizuoka Pref.; Shizuoka Pref. Board of Education; Shizuoka City Board of Education; Shizuoka City Council; Shizuoka City Sports Assoc.; Shimizu Ward Athletic Fed.; Shizuoka Asahi TV; The Asahi Gakusei Shimbun Co.; Nikkan Sports News; The Shizuoka Chamber of Commerce & Industry; SURUGA Marketing & Tourism Bureau; Shizuoka City Residents' Assoc. Fed.; J-League (Japan Professional Football League); WE LEAGUE (Japan Women's Empowerment Professional Football League); Nadeshiko League (Japan Women's Football League)
6. **Collaboration:** YONEX Co. Ltd.; The Shimizu Bank Ltd.; The Shizuoka Bank Ltd.; Suzuyo Group; ITEC Corp.; TOKAI Group; JA Shimizu; Shimizu Women's Club; Shimizu Hotel Inn Union; Shizuoka City Hotel & Ryokan Assoc.; Fuji City Hotel & Ryokan Business Assoc.; S-Pulse; IAI Corporation; and others
7. **Tournament Period:**

Boys' Division			
Premier Cup: Sat 20 to Sun 21 Dec 2025			
Sat 20 Dec	09:00: League matches	Hebitsuka National Shimizu (tentative)	Sports Training J-Step; Ground; Center etc.
Sun 21 Dec	09:00: Tournament matches based on league rankings 15:00: Final match	IAI Stadium (tentative)	Nihondaira
Prince Cup: Fri 26 to Sun 28 Dec 2025			
Fri 26 Dec	09:00: League matches	Hebitsuka National Shimizu	Sports Training J-Step; Tokai Blue Official Field; etc. (tentative)
Sat 27 Dec	09:00: Tournament matches based on league rankings		"
Sun 28 Dec	09:00: Tournament matches based on league rankings 11:35: Final Match	IAI Stadium (tentative)	Nihondaira
Girls' Division			
Princess Cup: Sat 20 to Sun 21 Dec 2025			
Sat 20 Dec	09:00: League matches	Hebitsuka National Shimizu (tentative)	Sports Training J-Step; Ground; Center etc.

Sun 21 Dec **09:00:** Tournament matches
based on league rankings
15:00: Final match IAI Stadium Nihondaira
(tentative)

8. Venue: IAI Stadium Nihondaira; National Training Center Shimizu J-Step; Hebetsuka Sports Ground; Tokai Blue Official Field; etc.

9. No. of Teams: **Boys' Division, Premier Cup:** 24 teams
Boys' Division, Prince Cup: 72 teams (3 blocks of 24 teams)
Girls' Division, Princess Cup: 24 Teams
Numbers of teams subject to change (reductions). Particulars for running matches in section 18(2) may change depending on number of teams.

10. No. of Registered Participants per Team: 5 Trainers
8-16 Players (please inquire if you plan to bring 17 or more)
*Only registered players and up to three coaches (ideally at least two) are permitted on the bench for each match.

11. Eligibility for Participation:

- (1) Players and teams must be registered with the Japan Football Assoc. (JFA).
- (2) Players must agree to and uphold the values of JFA's "Respect Project".
- (3) Players in the Boys' Division must be elementary school students born between 2 April 2012 and 1 April 2016.
- (4) Players in the Girls' Division must be female elementary school students born between 2 April 2013 and 1 April 2019.
- (5) For the Boy's Division Premier Cup, each JFA-registered team must participate as a single team.
- (6) Teams must be enrolled in sports-related accident insurance.
- (7) Teams must agree to and uphold the 39th Shimizu Cup Amateur Junior Soccer League guidelines, and all other rules related to the running of the tournament.
- (8) Teams with selected players may not participate.
- (9) Association teams and teams from abroad must apply to the Executive Committee in advance and receive approval before being allowed to participate.
- (10) In principle, any association team restructuring must be done within the same prefecture.
- (11) Teams must participate in all events during the competition period.
- (12) In addition to the above, teams must fulfill one of the following criteria to participate in the Boys' Division Premier Cup.
 - a. Teams that have placed first or second in this competition.
 - b. Teams that have achieved good results in tournaments held by prefectural football associations, and that the executive committee deems suitable to take part in this competition.
 - c. Teams from J-League subsidiary organizations.
 - d. Other teams that the executive committee deems equivalent to those in a to c above.

- 12. Fees:**
- (1) a. Boys' Division Premier Cup and b. Girl's Division Princess Cup
Total Participation Fee: 20,000 JPY per team
*Entry fee of 10,000 JPY plus program fee of 10,000 JPY
(20 programs to be distributed to each team).
 - c. Boys' Division Prince Cup
Total Participation Fee: 25,000 JPY
*Entry fee of 15,000 JPY plus program fee of 10,000 JPY
(20 programs to be distributed to each team).
 - (2) All transportation and accommodation costs are to be borne by the teams themselves.

- 13. Applications:**
- (1) **Boys' Division Premier Cup**
There will be no general applications. Teams will be selected by the executive committee.

Teams wishing to participate in the Boys' Division Prince Cup and Girls' Division Princess Cup should apply via the website (<https://www.kusa1987.jp>).

- (2) **Boys' Division Prince Cup**
 - a. Applications for teams in charge of venue operations open Tue 3 June 2025.
 - b. General applications open 18:00, Tue 17 June 2025
(applications can be made for up to two teams).
- (3) **Girls' Division Princess Cup**
 - a. Applications from teams in charge of venue operations open Tue 3 June 2025.
 - b. General applications open Tue 17 June 2024, 18:00 (1st team) and Tue 24 June 2025 (2nd team).

- Application deadline: Wed 20 August 2025
- Please transfer the participation fees immediately after applying (transfer fees are to be borne by the applicant).
- In principle, participation in the Boys' Division Prince Cup and Girls' Division Princess Cup will be confirmed in order of fee payment. Participation in the Boys' Division Premier Cup will be confirmed via the executive committee's team selection process.
- Participation fees will not be refunded if teams cancel (due to their own reasons) after participation has been formalized.
- If the tournament is cancelled due to reasons out of the control of the organizer, such as earthquake, storm, flood, incident, accident, illness, the decision as to whether and to what extent participation fees will be refunded will be made considering actual costs incurred up to the point when cancellation was decided.

- 14. Registering Players and Officials:**
- Confirmed teams must register participating players and officials via the Shimizu Cup website by Wed 8 October.
 - Changes to registration details can be made up until Tue 21 October, after which the program will be finalized. In principle, changes beyond this date will not be accepted.

- 15. Groupings:** Groupings will be decided by the Shimizu Cup Executive Committee.

- 16. Accommodation Applications:**
- When applying to participate via the Shimizu Cup website, teams should state whether they require accommodation.
 - Teams that require accommodation will be contacted directly by a travel agency

designated by the executive committee. Please apply via this travel agency.

- 17. Running of Matches:**
- Matches will be run mainly by the Competition Management Committee and the teams in charge of each venue.
 - In principle, the referees for this tournament will be high school students from Shizuoka City (Level 4 Referees), and records will be taken by junior high school students from Shizuoka City.
- 18. Particulars for Running Matches:**
- (1) Match rules: Equivalent to Japan Football Assoc. (JFA) rules.
 - (2) Match Style: League matches in groups of 3 teams, followed by a rank-based tournament.
 - (3) Methods for determining league rankings:
 - By number of victory points (win=3, tie=1, loss=0)
 - When still undecided, alternative methods will be used in the following order: a. the victor when the applicable teams faced each other, b. goal differentials, c. total goals scored, d. coin toss (lottery in the case of 3 or more teams).
 - (4) Match Length:
 - Two halves of 20min each, with a 5min break in between. No extra time.
 - In principle, there will be 15min allocated after each match for a friendly match. (This excludes the 2nd day of matches in the Boys' Division Premier Cup and the Girls' Division Princess Cup, as well as the 3rd day of matches in the Boys' Division Prince Cup.)
 - If a team needs to withdraw from a friendly match due to internal reasons, they must first obtain the opposing team's consent and report it to the venue headquarters.
 - If a victor has not been determined within the above time during rank-based tournament matches, the victor will be determined via penalty shootout (3 players per side).
 - (5) Procedure for events such as bad weather, natural disaster, or outbreak of infectious disease:
 - a. Competition dates, content, match lengths, and kickoff times may be changed, or the competition cancelled due to bad weather, natural disasters, etc.
 - (i) If, as at 4am, a warning has been announced, competition's head office will hold a meeting from 5am and consider how to respond. If an advisory is announced, the head office will consider whether to hold a meeting.
 - (ii) If the head office gives instructions to cancel part of the competition or change its contents, the persons in charge at each venue will decide rankings using whichever method is possible given the circumstances. The method used is to be stated on the record form and the results (including rankings in the case of league matches) are to be reported. The aforementioned methods are to be used in the following order of priority: ①Shortened match length; ②Penalty shootout; ③Coin toss. *Wins and losses for a given day's matches must be decided during the same day, by one method or another.
 - Method for determining rankings if even one of the league matches is conducted using the above methods: ①Victory points; ②The victor when applicable teams faced each other if both teams have the same number of victory points; ③Coin toss (or lottery in the case of 3 or more teams)
 - (iii) In an emergency, emails will be sent to the head chaperone for each team and to each match venue.
 - b. In the event of an earthquake with seismic intensity of 5 or more, all matches for the day will be cancelled and evacuation will take place. The tournament's head office will give instructions on how to proceed. Any matches that were in

progress at the time of the earthquake will be recorded as 0-0 draws.

- c. If all the matches for a given day are cancelled due to factors such as bad weather or natural disaster, in principle, the schedule will be postponed to the next day or later. This may result in not all the matches in the competition being played.
- d. If a team withdraws during the competition, the team's matches for the day of withdrawal will all be recorded as 0-8 losses-by-default.
- e. In the case of withdrawals such as in the previous paragraph, in principle, the withdrawing team will be excluded when deciding match pairings from the following day onwards.

19. Competition Rules:

Equivalent to JFA rules (2024-2025) for teams of 8 players. Provided, however, that Shimizu Cup rules apply with regards to the following:

- (1) As a rule, the field length (touchline) is 68m, and width (goal line) is 50m.
- (2) The goals are youth sized.
- (3) The match ball will be an official Size 4 (Youth) Ball (prepared by the head office)
- (4) Matches will have four high school student referees (1 main referee, 2 assistant referees and a fourth referee).
- (5) Matches will not start if either team has less than 6 players. If, due to injury, there are fewer than 6 players left on a team during a match, the match will be stopped. In this case, the score will be 0-8.
- (6) The objective is for all registered players to play in each match.
- (7) Player substitutions will be made using the substitution zone. There are no limits on the number of players or times for substitution. Players that have left the field once during a match are able to return. (Free Substitution) Furthermore, approval is not needed for substitutions between field players. Substitutions involving goalkeepers must be done with the approval of the main referee, while the ball is out of play.
- (8) When a player is sent off, their team can use a bench player to fill their position. Players and coaches that are sent off will be banned for the following 1 match. This competition will not implement bans due to accumulated warnings from different matches.
- (9) Both field players and goalkeepers must bring uniforms in two different color options, with both color options bearing the same squad number on the back.
- (10) Players must wear a uniform bearing a squad number that has been registered for this tournament (registered squad number) on the back. However, when a field player takes on the role of goalkeeper (whether before or during a match) they may wear a goalkeeper uniform with a different number to their registered squad number, or a bib that is a different color to the field player uniforms (it doesn't matter whether the bib has a number, or what the number is). When a goalkeeper changes position to a field player during a match, they may keep on the same shorts and socks and wear a field player jersey with a registered squad number.
- (11) Taping, etc. attached to or worn over the socks does not need to be the same color as the socks.
- (12) Color of undershirts, undershorts, and tights is not designated. However, in principle, they should be the same between team members.
- (13) Players must bring a digital Player ID or registered players list (with photos of

player's faces) on the first day of the tournament and undergo a registration check at the venue. Players whose registration cannot be confirmed will not be allowed to play. (Teams from overseas will be checked using a different format of player list)

(14) Two copies of the team roster should be brought to the head office at least 30 min prior to the start of the match (roster forms will be available during the tournament).

(15) The team with the lower team number uses the benches on the left side facing the pitch and, in principle, wears their home uniform. Only those entered in the competition (and included on the members list) are allowed to sit on the bench. Substitute players should wear different color clothes (bibs) to players on the pitch.

(16) The green card system will be in effect.

(17) In principle, a match welfare officer will be positioned at all tournament venues.

20. Awards:

Overall Rankings

Winning Team: Certificates, victors' trophy, medals, City Council Chairperson's Cup

2nd Place Team: Certificates, 2nd-place trophy, medals

3rd Place Team: Certificates, 3rd-place trophy, medals

Special Awards

Fair Play Awards (Captain Tsubasa Award, Shimizu Women's Club Award), MVP Awards, Player of Distinction Awards (medals)

The top 10 teams in the Boys' Premier Cup at this tournament will be given priority invitations to participate in next year's 40th Premier Cup.

21. Other:

- All participating teams must submit the participation consent form (form 1) to the head office of the venue on the first day of the competition.
In addition, each player (or other participant) must submit a participation consent form (form 2) to the adult responsible for their team.
- Dates, costs, and other stipulations in these guidelines are subject to change due factors such as measures against Covid-19.

22. Contact:

Shimizu Cup Office

Location: Shimizu General Athletics Field Gym 2F

Address: 2-1-1 Seikai, Shimizu-ku, Shizuoka City, Shizuoka Pref. 424-0924 (Japan)

Tel: +81 54-337-0705 (weekdays 10:00 to 17:00)

Fax: +81 54-337-0722

URL: <https://www.kusa1987.jp>

Email: office@kusa1987.jp

*The contents of these guidelines are subject to change.