

**2024 Football (Soccer) 12 Years and Under Boys  
School of Sport Education NT Championship Rules.**

**12 Years and Under Championship Model:**

- Compulsory components: Round Robin matches, PD sessions, Pool Matches, Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Skills session and Mix and Match Activity can be incorporated into warm up, excursion or PD session.
- All teams to play a Round Robin against each other each in shortened games. If too many teams, each will play a minimum of 5 Round Robin Games with at least one game against teams in each ability level.
- Pools will be determined to accommodate 2 groups of most similar ability – Pools do not need to have similar numbers of team in each – all teams will play against each other in their Pool. There will be no finals or play offs.
- If insufficient team numbers or just a small number of nominations, a full round robin could be played with no Pool games.
- Mix 'n Match activity which may or may not be related to the sport. The purpose is to mix all competing players into composite teams to encourage socialisation.
- Skills Session. In Region teams, students rotate through skill activities.

**Codes of Conduct:**

- Sport Education NT Codes of Conduct will apply to students, officials and spectators throughout the event.
- In all Sport Education NT programs, positive coaching is permitted only from the “specific sports” designated area by the appointed team officials. Coaching should be used to enhance the individual's skill development and improve gamesmanship at the moment of need.



**Safety:**

- Appropriate footwear to be worn.
- Shin Pads are compulsory.
- Sunsmart and Blood Rule information are provided in the Championship Program.

**Team Size:**

- Region teams 10 up to 12 students.
- 9 a side.
- Unlimited Interchange from half way line when the ball is out of play and direction provided from the Referee or Assistant Referee.

**NB** Interstate selection will be for 12 up to 14 students.

**Age:**

- Ages are to be calculated as at 31 December in the year of competition.
- Students must be a minimum of 10 years – i.e., born no later than 2014, and a maximum of 12 years – i.e., born no earlier than 2012.
- As Sport Education NT has been granted age dispensation by School Sport Australia up to 6 players of a team of 12 may turn 13 in 2024 between 1 July and 31 December i.e., born in 2011.

**Equipment / Playing area:**

- Size 4 ball to be used.
- Recommended field size is 70 x 50 metres.
- Pitches should provide adequate run - off areas.
- Modified Goalmouth Area to be marked, 20 metres wide, 10 metres deep. Penalty spot to be marked 8 metres from the goal line

- Goal posts must be secured, recommended size is 5metres wide, 2 metres high.

### Playing Rules:

- The Sport Education NT policy that all players have equitable playing time shall apply.
- Each student must play on each day of the Championship.
- Round Robin: 2 x 10 minutes each way. 5-minute half time.
- Pool Games: 2 x 15 minutes each way. 5 minutes half time.
- If the ball is passed deliberately back to the goalkeeper, he/she cannot handle it.
- When in possession the goalkeeper must throw, roll or kick the ball from the ground within 6 seconds.
- At a corner kick or free kick, the opponents must be at least 5 metres away until the ball is in play.
- The offside rule is to be played. Players can only be offside in the attacking third of the field marked with a broken line midway between the halfway line and the goal line.
- Cards should not be used. Should it be necessary the referee may send a player from the field for a set period of time (at the discretion of the referee). The player(s) may be replaced immediately.

### Points:

Pool Game points are as follows:

Win	3
Draw	2
Loss	1



### Team Trophies/Medallions

**Pool A:** Sport Education NT perpetual trophy  
Sport Education NT medallions for winning team members – players and officials.

Round Robin points do not carry over to Pool matches.

Awarded to the team/s with the highest number of points in the Pool A Matches.

Joint winners apply as differentiating by percentages, goal differences, extra times etc. are not within the 12 Years & Under Championship philosophy.

**Pool B:** Sport Education NT perpetual trophy  
Sport Education NT medallions for winning team members – players and officials.

One team will receive the Sportsmanship Award. Each team will vote after discussion between players and officials for the team they believe showed the best sportsmanship and attitude, on and off the field of play.

### Individual Awards:

Not applicable within the 12 Years & Under Championship Philosophy.

### Officials:

- Student referees are encouraged to nominate. The Convenor will schedule referees and assistant referees which, if required, may include team officials.
- All teams must supply 1 competent scorer for their own game.
- Coaches or Managers are to sign the score card and hand to the Convenor at the completion of each game.
- Timekeeping will be the responsibility of the Convenor.
- The Convenor will arrange a briefing for all team officials each morning/afternoon.

### Judiciary:

All breaches of the Sport Education NT codes of conduct by student, team officials, volunteers, parents etc. shall be referred to the judiciary, which is established at the pre-event meeting.