

## The Nils Liedholm Cup

### Rules and regulations

**Game and contest information:** The Nils Liedholm Cup is played as applicable to this particular event according to the regulations of FIFA and the contest regulations of the Swedish Football Association.

The tournament is played in teams of 11. Each team plays a minimum of four matches. A win gives three ( 3 ) points, a draw gives one ( 1 ) point and a loss gives nil ( 0 ).

The duration of each game is 2 x 25 minutes.

The different age groups are played with 5, 6 or 8 teams. Age groups of 5 or 6 teams are played as a straight series and only the top four teams qualify for the semi - finals. The positions of the rest of the teams are conclusive.

Age groups of 8 teams are divided into two groups with four teams in each group as a straight series. The top two teams in each group qualify for an A – playoff where they compete for positions 1 to 4. The third and the fourth team in both groups play a B- playoff for positions 5 to 8.

The cup is subject to weather conditions. Hence changes may occur owing to bad weather.

When having the same number of points teams positions are settled based on the following:

1. Goal difference
2. Most goals scored
3. The actual result between the two teams
4. In group games: by the drawing of lots. In playoff: penalty kicks ( 5 penalties per team ).

**Playoff:** Is played according to cup regulations where a loss means elimination. In age groups of 5 or 6 teams the team that finishes first plays the team that finishes fourth and the team that finishes second plays the team that finishes third as semi – finals. In age groups of 8 teams the team that finishes first in group A plays the team that finishes second in group B. The second placed team in group A plays the winner in group B etc. Games that end in a draw in the playoff are settled by penalties ( 5 penalty kicks per team ).

**Number of players and substitutions during match:** A team can use a maximum of 16 players per game. Substitutions can be made without the referee's interrupting the game. The substitutions must be made within the team's technical zone, i.e. at the respective team's dugout. A player can represent more than one team from the same club in the tournament, however not in the same age group.

**List of participants / exemptions:** Players' names and dates of birth must be registered with us by 15 th June at the latest. Since 2008 no general age exemptions are allowed why only exemptions approved by respective associations are valid in order to adjust the cup to both national and regional contest regulations.

**Before match start:** Complete and final team line – up must be handed in at speaker’s box at least 20 minutes prior to kick – off. Line – up forms to be used are available at speaker’s box. All players must wear shinpads and no jewellery are allowed.

**Teams’ strips:** Colours of teams’ strips must correspond to colours stated on the entry form. If the referee considers two teams’ colours to be too similar the away team must change their strip. All players must be dressed and equipped for match at the pitch allocated at the latest 10 minutes prior to kick – off.

**Footballs:** Boys aged 14, 15 and 16 play with balls size 5. Boys aged 13 and all girl’s groups play with balls size 4.

**Board of contest:** The board of contest consists of representatives from Valdemarsvik’s IF and the organisation committee of the Nils Liedholm Cup. Protests and issues of punishment are dealt with by the board of contest. The board’s verdict cannot be appealed.

**Walkover:** A team that fails to appear for kick – off loses the game by 3 – 0. In certain circumstances a team that has failed to appear for kick – off can be expelled from the tournament if a walkover is considered to benefit the team’s future games in the cup.

**Match schedule:** Match schedules and other useful information are dispatched between 15 th May and 31 st May. Please notice that match schedules are preliminary. Make sure you keep yourselves updated on possible changes during the tournament by contacting speaker’s box.

**Accommodations:** Coaches and managers registered for the clubs on the entry form are responsible for the behaviour of their players and that order is maintained in the dormitories in the schools. Clubs may be liable for damages. Smoking and consumption of alcohol are absolutely forbidden in the schools. Silence applies between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. to show respect for teams that may play early. Before departure all teams must tidy up the dormitories. Valdemarsvik’s IF or the organisation committee of the Nils Liedholm Cup cannot be held responsible for any illnesses, damages or thefts. Participants mustn’t leave any valuables in the dormitories.

On suspicion of any violation of rules or regulations, a protest can be handed in to the board of contest not later than 45 minutes after a game is finished. The protest must be in writing and accompanied by a fee of 300 SEK. The fee is refunded if the protest is sustained. Protest that is sustained by the board of contest may lead to a loss of points for the team meeting with the protest. Protest that is sustained can also lead to a personal punishment for the individual player or coach. It is the board of contest’s duty to judge whether an occurrence or a problem is of vital importance for the outcome of a game and subsequently come to a decision on a relevant punishment. According to rule number 5 in the regulations of FIFA a referee’s decision made in a game is final and cannot be disputed. Thus protests against a referee’s decision will not be acted upon. Judgements made by the board of contest cannot be appealed.

**Punishments:** Yellow card. A player who is shown two ( 2 ) yellow cards during a game is sent off for the rest of the game and cannot take part if the game is settled by penalty kicks. The player is not suspended from the next game.

Red card. A player who is shown the red card is sent off the pitch for the rest of the game and is not allowed to take part if the game is settled by penalty kicks. The player is automatically suspended from the next game. If the offence leading to an expulsion is considered severe or violent the board of contest can exercise their authority to suspend the expelled player from more than one match or even from the remaining games, subject to change after the board's having received information from the referee and the teams involved. The player is also reported to the football association concerned. Judgements made by the board of contest cannot be appealed or altered.

The Nils Liedholm Cup Committee look forward to warmly welcoming all players, coaches and managers to next year's cup.