



World Schools Football Cup

8th - 11th October 2026

EVENT HANDBOOK



#WSGFOOTBALL



1. Schedule & Welcome

Date	Time	Events	Location
Thursday 8th October	16:00	Check In Opens	Cambrils Park Resort
	17:00	Evening Meal – First Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar
	18:00	Evening Meal – Second Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar
	19:00	Team Gather for Parade	Cambrils Park Reception
	19:30	Parade Begins	Cambrils Park Reception
	20:00	Opening Ceremony	Cambrils Park Stage (Forum Bar)
	20:30	Evening meal – Third Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar
Friday 9th October	07:30	First Breakfast Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar
	10:30 – 17:30	Day 1 Opening Tournament Matches	Mediterranean Sports Village
	17:00	Evening Meal – First Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar
Saturday 10th October	07:00	Breakfast – First Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar
	9:00	Day 2 Morning Session Begins	Mediterranean Sports Village
	12:00 – 15:30	Lunch	Restaurant & Forum Bar
	14:00	Day 2 Afternoon Session Begins	Mediterranean Sports Village
	17:30	Day 2 Matches End	Mediterranean Sports Village
	17:30	Evening Meal – First Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar
	19:30	WSG Football Live Show & Quiz	Cambrils Park Convention Centre
Sunday 11th October	07:00	Breakfast – First Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar
	9:00	Day 3 Matches Start	Mediterranean Sports Village
	17:00	Day 3 Matches End	Mediterranean Sports Village
	17:30	Final Awards Presentation	Presentation Area
	18:00	Evening Meal – First Sitting	Restaurant & Forum Bar

Welcome to Mediterranean Sports Village and the World Schools Football Cup, an international schools football tournament staged at the one of the finest elite performance centres in Europe. Over the weekend, boys and girls teams from across the globe will take to the field in a bid to be crowned champions.

The following guide contains everything you need to know about the weekend's events from facilities to food – please read and share with your coaches and supporters.

The WSG Football Organising Committee and delegates wish all the competing teams the very best of luck. We must also offer a huge thank you to the coaches and parents for ensuring the players are fully prepared for an action-packed three days of football and to our terrific sponsors and partners, all of which have contributed immensely to the all-round tournament experience.

Finally, a word for the players involved this weekend: take time to appreciate the facilities, introduce yourself to fellow players, make friends and create lifelong memories at the same time.

Good luck | World School Games Event Series Organising Committee

2. Key Contact Information

Tournament Management Committee:	Scott Linton Joan Garcia Daniel Shields	
Administration:	Email:	journeys@wsgevents.com
	Telephone:	+44 131 510 1008
Emergency Number (mobile):	+44 7587 568751	
WSG Football App:	Search ' WSG Football ' on your app store.	

3. Directions, Arrival and Registration

Arrival: Airport Transfers

A World Schools Football Cup official or your bus driver will meet groups in arrivals at the airport and lead you to your team coach that will take the group to Cambrils Park Resort (via excursions if applicable).

Resort: Collection of Keys and Check-in Times

Check-in time:	16:00hrs
Check-out time:	11:00hrs

Keys will be given to the group leader or a nominated person to distribute to the club members once they have arrived. On arrival at the resort, it is important that you have your rooming list with you, so you know who is staying in each bungalow.

Getting to Mediterranean Sports Village:

Mediterranean Sports Village is a 15-minute walk from Cambrils Park Resort. Please refer to Appendix 2 for the route teams should take when walking from the resort to the venue. The full address is Mediterranean Sports Village, Vial Salou Cambrils, 43840 Salou, T, Spain.

On Arrival at the Tournament

- See site map (Appendix 1) to familiarise yourself with Mediterranean Sports Village and the tournament areas.

Team Registration

Travelling teams will register on check in on arrival at Cambrils Park Resort, whilst local teams should check in with a WSG member of staff no later than 45 minutes prior to their first fixture at Mediterranean Sports Village.

Coaches Information

A tournament representative will meet you at check-in and pass on any key information ahead of the start of the tournament. On the evening of Thursday 8th October, there will also be an Opening Ceremony & Parade at Cambrils Park Resort.

4. Format, rules and pitch set-up

Match schedules & information

The schedule and results will also be available on the tournament Official Tournament App one week prior to the event (search **WSG Football Cup** on your app store to download).

Eligibility of a School Team

- All participating teams must be made of students who are enrolled full time from the same educational establishment/school.
- Schools must be able to prove if requested a copy of the school roll as evidence of eligibility for all participating players
- For the avoidance of doubt, teams made up of students from multiple educational establishments/schools will not be permitted to take part in the event.

Age Verification

- All players must have their age verified via the [age verification form](#) in advance of the tournament.
- Spot checks may be carried out by event staff throughout the tournament. Group leaders are encouraged to have access to photo identification of all players across the duration of the tournament.

Tournament Format & Rules

- U11 Boys, U13 Boys, U13 Girls & U16 Girls categories are 7-a-side. U15 & U18 boys are 11-a-side.
- All players must be registered to **one squad only** via the Cup Manager online portal for the duration of the tournament and cannot represent multiple teams under any circumstances. If a player is found to have played for multiple teams, a 3-0 victory will be awarded to the opposition in any fixture cases where an ineligible player has been found to be used.
- Each category will be split into pools to play a round robin league followed by a knock-out/placing matches.
- In the group stages teams will be awarded 3 points for a win; 1 point for a draw; 0 points for a defeat.
- Match durations:
 - U11 Boys (7vs7): 1 period of 20 minutes
 - U13 Boys (7vs7): 1 period of 25 minutes
 - U13 Girls (7vs7): 1 period of 25 minutes
 - U15 Boys (11vs11): 1 period of 25 minutes
 - U16 Girls (7vs7): 1 period of 25 minutes
 - U18 Boys (11vs11): 1 period of 25 minutes
- For all knockout & placing matches, a penalty shout-out of five kicks per team will be used to determine a winner if the match is still drawn after normal time. In the event of a draw in after normal time in a Cup final (tier 1), 1 period of 10 minutes extra time will be played prior to a penalty shootout.
- The goalkeeper cannot be changed in the event of a penalty shoot-out unless an injury occurs.
- In the event that two or more teams are tied on points at the end of group play, head to head results will be used to determine the final placings of each team. If head to head is tied then:
 - Goal Difference
 - Goals for
 - Goals against
 - If all of these are the same, referees will be scoring each team between 1-100 for Fair Play on the pitch, and their club officials and supporters between 1-100 for behaviour on the touchline. See the following guide for how our match officials will score fair play: 100 = Impeccable, 90 = Excellent, 80 = Very Good, 70 = Good, 60 = Average, 50 = Below Average, 40 = Poor, 30 = Bad, 20 = Very Bad, 10 = Atrocious, 1 = Caused match to be abandoned. All teams are permitted to make unlimited substitutions (roll on roll off). Players must have permission from the referee to leave and join the game.
- The rules throughout the whole event will include regular throw-ins, corner kicks and goal kicks.

- All fouls outside the penalty area in the U11 & U13 competitions will result in a direct free-kick being awarded. Fouls in the U15, U16 & U18 competition will be at the discretion of the referee.
- There will be no offside rule at 7-a-side categories. The offside rule will apply at 11-a-side categories. 2 assistant referees for all 11vs11 matches will be provided by WSG in addition to the referee.
- There will not be a height restriction on passes.
- Heading is permitted across all age categories.
- The pass back rule does apply. Should the goalkeeper handle the ball from a pass from one of his own team, an indirect free kick is awarded where the ball was picked up.
- A goalkeeper's area will be marked out – any foul inside this area will result in a penalty kick.
- Dispensations (all categories): A maximum of three players up to three months older (born after 1st June) are permitted to take part in the relevant category if requested to the WSG committee in advance.
- Additional dispensations outside the cut-off may be considered if a written request is submitted at least four weeks prior to the event. The final decision rests with the WSG Organising Committee, who will review the evidence and reasoning provided.

Referees

- The referee's decision is final and abuse of match officials will not be tolerated under any circumstances.
- A referee will be allocated to each match and each team may be required to provide an assistant referee to assist from the touchline (at the referee's discretion).

Pitches

- Please ensure teams are ready for their match at the allocated pitch **ten minutes before** the scheduled kick-off time.
- Supporters & substitutes must stand behind the pitch barrier at all times.
- All matches will be played on 3G AstroTurf grass. Round moulded studs (plastic only) or AstroTurf shoes are permitted.

Equipment

- The referees will be responsible for the match ball.
- Ball size is 4 for U11 & U13. Ball Size is 5 for U16 & U18.
- There will be limited warm up equipment and additional ball provision. All teams are kindly reminded to bring their own warm up equipment where possible.
- All players must be wearing shin pads and the appropriate footwear, or they will not be permitted to play.

Kit and match preparation

- There will be limited access to changing rooms and players should arrive ready to play each day.
- Players and coaches will have access to the water fountains on site. Teams are advised to bring refillable water bottles on each day of the event.
- Teams should be ready and waiting (and warmed up) five minutes before the final whistle of the previous match on their field. If a team is late for kick off, the referee will wait for a maximum of three minutes for the starting line up to enter the field of play, after which time the opposition team will be awarded a 1-0 victory. If neither team appears the fixture will be allocated a 0-0 draw.

Codes of Conduct

By attending the WSG Football Cup, individuals agree to abide by the Codes of Conduct as outlined below. There are codes for players, spectators, parents, team members and team officials. Participating teams must ensure that all players, coaches, spectators and parents have read and acknowledged the relevant codes.

Should spectators, coaches, team members break these codes of conduct, there may be consequences, including but not limited to the individuals involved not being able to attend in future years.

General Code of Conduct

- The organisers reserve the right to ask anyone who is considered to be behaving in an inappropriate way to leave the tournament venue and/or Cambrils Park Resort.
- Unreasonable and offensive behaviour which includes fighting or acts of malicious damage by any individual or group will not be tolerated under any circumstances and may result in the entire group being asked to leave the resort or tournament venue without entitlement to a refund.
- In the event of damage to property, the resort or event management will have the right to demand appropriate compensation from the entire group.
- Each school or club has a duty of care for the children at the event and should have their own Welfare Officer who is recognised by their school or local county and will have undergone the relevant training.
- Any abusive behaviour, including but not limited to racist, sexist, ableist, homophobic and xenophobic abuse to players, officials, referees or event staff, will be treated with the utmost seriousness by tournament officials. Abusive behaviour may result in **suspension of individuals from the tournament, sporting sanctions** placed on offending schools and **expulsion from the tournament** if necessary.

Team Officials' Code of Behaviour

- Ensure that your behaviour at all times, whether at or away from the playing venue, does not bring the name of "School Sport" into disrepute.
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgment of officials and opposing coaches.
- Compliment participants on their efforts.
- Condemn unsporting behavior.
- Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sporting behavior.
- Refrain from criticism of, or reaction to, the umpire's/referee's judgments and decisions.
- Maintain a standard of dress appropriate to the presentation of the team.
- Refrain from over-zealous coaching from the side-line.
- Refrain from smoking and consuming alcohol at any time while in the supervision of students.

Players' Code of Behaviour

- Be a good sport.
- Play for enjoyment.
- Strive for personal excellence.
- Work hard for your team as well as for yourself. Treat all team-mates and opponents as you enjoy being treated yourself.
- Play by the rules.
- Cooperate with team and game officials.
- Control your behaviour on and off the field.
- Learn to value honest effort, skilled performance and improvement.
- Do not show any dissent.
- Respect the hotel and venues.
- Do not disturb others after lights out.

Parents & Spectators' Code of Behaviour

- Encourage participation of your (and all) children.
- Display good sportsmanship for your child to copy.
- Be courteous in your communication with players, team officials, game officials, sport administrators and other parents.
- Encourage honest effort, skilled performance and team loyalty.

- Make all other parents feel welcome on all occasions.
- Do not interfere with the conduct of any events.
- Respect the officials and team leaders; if they ask you to do something, please do so.
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour – remember children play for enjoyment.
- Do not let your behaviour detract from their enjoyment.
- Let game officials conduct events without interference.
- Support skilled performances and team play with generous applause. Demonstrate respect for opposing players and their supporters.
- Respect the officials and team leaders; if they ask you to do something, please do so.

Breach of the Codes

Players

A breach of this code of behaviour in the opinion of team officials – on or off the pitch – may result in the player being banned from the remainder of the tournament and may also result in the player being sent home by the first available transport. Parents will be notified, and any additional expense incurred will be the responsibility of the parents. Further disciplinary action may be considered depending on the seriousness of the breach.

Football related offence and associated suspension rules can be viewed below:

Offence	Suspension
Two yellow cards	Next match (1)
Straight red card: • Professional foul • Deliberate handball • Other football-related offences	Next match (1)
Straight red card: • Foul & abusive language	Next two matches (2)
Straight red card: • Violent conduct (incl. spitting) • Discriminatory abuse (including racial, homophobic, xenophobic, ableist abuse)	Remainder of the tournament

Parents and Spectators

A breach of this code of behaviour, in the opinion of Tournament Organising Committee, may result in the individual being banned from the remainder of the tournament and future events. Any additional expense incurred will be the responsibility of the individual concerned. Further action may be taken against the school or club depending on the nature of the breach.

5. Other Information

a. Alcohol Policy

- Adults should not purchase or supply alcohol to children. Any adults found to have broken this rule will be asked to leave the venue/resort and will be reported to the relevant authorities. The person(s) involved may be reported to the police.
- Any young person who attempts to purchase or consume alcohol will be asked to leave the resort or tournament venue.
- Alcohol abuse is unacceptable and will result in the removal of persons/group from the resort or venue without entitlement to a refund.
- No alcohol is to be consumed pitch side under any circumstances. Anybody caught doing so will be asked to leave the tournament venue.
- Adults consuming alcohol elsewhere on the premises are reminded to do so responsibly.

b. **Permissions to Photograph & Video**

Photographs of individuals and teams containing players aged 17 or under are only permitted with the consent of the group/organisation responsible for them.

All teams and participants in the tournament consent to being photographed and videotaped by the WSG Football Cup and their media partners unless they have sought prior dispensation. All WSG Football Cup officials and their media partners will be clearly identifiable with media staff kit.

Third party filming or photography by parents, coaches or spectators is **strongly discouraged** in line with the event's media consent position above.

c. **Ceremonies & Presentations**

Opening Ceremony:

- Players and Coaches should report to the Cambrils Park Resort Main Reception for 19:00hrs on Thursday evening (8th October).
- All participating teams will take part in a parade from the main reception to the Cambrils Park stage area.
- After the parade, teams will sit/stand in the designated seating area in their relevant age categories for a short welcome brief from the organisers and a special guest.
- Please note seating will be limited and available on a first come first served basis
- Parents and supporters are unable to attend the Opening Ceremony unless staying in the official supporter's hotel.

Awards Presentations

The Awards Presentations will take place at Mediterranean Sports Village on Sunday 11th following the conclusion of finals.

d. **Food & Drink**

- Food/drink cannot be consumed on or around a pitch (excluding player hydration).
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- Please refer to the meal grid for all breakfast, lunch & dinner sittings.
- Refreshments will also be available to purchase during the day from the café at the Mediterranean Sports Village.

e. **Venue Facilities**

- Resort swimming pool – children under 18 years of age must be supervised at all times by an adult over the age of 18. Pool opening is at the discretion of resort management.
- U16's are allowed in the gym at Cambrils Park Resort if accompanied by an adult.
- Please use litter bins at Cambrils Park Resort and Mediterranean Sports Village.
- Please bring appropriate clothing to Cambrils Park Resort and Mediterranean Sports Village for the time of year.

f. **Security**

Please do not leave personal belongings unattended as The WSG Football Cup, Mediterranean Sports Village & Cambrils Park Resort cannot accept responsibility for any lost or damaged items.

g. **Changes to the Programme or Rules**

The WSG Football Cup committee has the right to make changes to the programme, rules or any other aspect of the Tournament as it deems fit and/or necessary for clarity or safety. Any changes will be communicated to all participating teams in writing at the same time.

6. **Safety, First Aid and Player Welfare**

a. **Safety**

Safety of all participants is of paramount importance, and The WSG Football Cup organisers will do all they can to ensure participant safety at all times. Comprehensive risk assessments of hotels, transport, organised activities, as well as each facility used in the tournament have been conducted and will be available upon request.

- Please note that the safety and wellbeing of all participants ultimately lies with the accompanying coaches & parents.

b. **First Aid**

- There will be paramedics, first aiders and an ambulance onsite.
- The nearest hospital to Mediterranean Sports Village is: Cap Salou Entrada Urgencias, Carrer de l'Arquitecte Ubach, 13, 43840 Salou, Tarragona, Spain

c. **Safeguarding**

The World School Games Event Series takes its role within the community seriously and has a duty of care to actively promote the safeguarding of young people.

You can find a copy of our safeguarding policy here: <https://wsgevents.com/safeguarding/>

7. **Closing Remarks**

Next year's World Schools Football Cup will take between 7-10th October 2027.

To re-register for next year's edition, please email your team name and age category(s) to register@wsgevents.com before 15th November 2026 to guarantee your place.

Have a great weekend and good luck!

World School Games Event Series Organising Committee

Appendix 1: Mediterranean Sports Village Site Map



Appendix 2: Directions to Mediterranean Sports Village (15 minute walk)



Appendix 3: Cambrils Park Resort Site Map

