

# 2011 US Youth Soccer Florida State Cup Rules & Regulations

The US Youth Soccer Florida State Cup (SC) rules and regulations are in compliance with the Florida Youth Soccer Association (FYSA) and the United States Youth Soccer Official Administrative Rule Books. State Cup is an open competition for any U-13 through U19 FYSA registered team meeting the requirements of eligibility for participation. State Cup will be comprised of preliminary group play with teams advancing to the Round of 16-Challenge Round.

The four teams from the 2010 State Cup Championship weekend returning at least 60% of their 2010 frozen state cup roster of players common to their roster as of Jan. 22, 2011 (1-week prior to the State Cup draw) will be seeded in the 1st group play round such that if they advance **as a group winner**, they would not meet another final 4 team from 2010 until the 2011 Championship weekend play. The remaining 2010 Remaining elite 8 teams from 2010, returning at least 60% of their 2010 frozen state cup roster will also be seeded to positions in 1<sup>st</sup> round group play such that if they advance as projected to the Challenge Round of 16, they would not be paired in the Round of 16 against the prior year's final four teams advancing as group winners. Round of 16 Challenge Round will begin single-elimination play, with winners from day one advancing to the Elite 8 for day two, and winners from the Elite 8 pairings advance to the Championship weekend

State Champions in the U-14 and above age groups will represent Florida in the Region III Southern Regional Championships leading to National Championship competition. All teams and players must abide by the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS) and Southern Regional rules in addition to FYSA's SC rules as stated below.

## FYSA CODE OF ETHICS

### Players

- I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at all times.
- I will remember that soccer is an opportunity to learn and have fun.
- I deserve to play in an environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol; and expect everyone to refrain from their use at all soccer games.
- I will do the best I can each day, remembering that all players have talents and weaknesses the same as I do.
- I will treat my coaches, other players and coaches, game officials, other administrators, and fans with respect at all times; regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities, and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- I will concentrate on playing soccer. Always giving my best effort.
- I will play by the rules at all times.
- I will at all times control my temper, resisting the temptation of retaliation.
- I will always exercise self control.
- My conduct during competition towards play of the game and all officials shall be in accordance with appropriate behavior and in accordance with FIFA's "Laws of the Game," and in adherence to FYSA rules.
- While traveling, I shall conduct myself so as to bring credit to myself and my team.
- I shall not possess, consume or distribute before, during or after any game or at any other time at the field and/or game complex alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs or unauthorized prescription drugs.

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## Coaches/Volunteers

- I will never place the value of winning before the safety and welfare of all players.
- I will always show respect for players, other coaches, and game officials.
- I will lead by example, demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship at all times.
- I will demonstrate knowledge of the rules of the game, and teach these rules to my players.
- I will never use abusive or insulting language. I will treat everyone with dignity.
- I will not tolerate inappropriate behavior, regardless of the situation.
- I will not allow the use of anabolic agents or stimulants, drugs, tobacco, or alcohol by any of my players.
- I will never knowingly jeopardize the eligibility and participation of a student-athlete.
- Youth have a greater need for example than criticism. I will be the primary soccer role model.
- I will at all times conduct myself in a positive manner.
- Coaching is motivating players to produce their best effort, inspiring players to learn, and encouraging players to be winners.
- My actions on sidelines during games shall be in the spirit of “good sportsmanship” at all times. Profanity, profane gestures, arguing, inciting disruptive behavior by spectators and/or players, or any conduct not in the spirit of good sportsmanship, shall require disciplinary action from the affiliate.
- I shall not possess, consume or distribute before, during or after any game or at any other time at the field and/or game complex alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs or unauthorized prescription drugs.
- I will refrain from any activity or conduct that may be detrimental or reflect adversely upon FYSA, its members or its programs.
- I will accurately and completely complete the coach/volunteer application form and by application attest to the accuracy of the information submitted.

## Parents/Spectators

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, game officials, and administrators at all times.
- I will place the emotional and physical well being of all players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- I will support the coaches, officials, and administrators working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will remember that the game is for the players, not for the adults.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, game officials, administrators, and fans with respect.
- I will always be positive.
- I will always allow the coach to be the only coach.
- I will not get into arguments with the opposing team’s parents, players, or coaches.
- I will not come onto the field for any reason during the game.
- I will not criticize game officials.
- I shall not possess, consume or distribute before, during or after any game or at any other time at the field and/or game complex alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs or unauthorized prescription drugs.
- I will refrain from any activity or conduct that may be detrimental or reflect adversely upon FYSA, its members or its programs.

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The above Code of Ethics while competing in this competition will bind all Participants, coaches, and spectators. The head coach or team manager will review these policies with all team members, staff and spectators prior to the first game of the competition so they are familiar with what is expected of them. Failure to comply may result in the suspension of your privilege to participate in FYSA sanctioned events, for the following periods:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense -- suspension for a minimum of thirty (30) days to a maximum of five (5) years.**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense -- suspension for a minimum of one (1) year to a maximum of ten (10) years.**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense -- suspension for a minimum of five (5) years to a maximum of fifty (50) years.**

**NOTE: Any individual charged with a violation of this Code of Ethics shall be afforded due process as defined in FYSA's Rule Section 600 before the implementation of any suspension.**

**FYSA MAY DESIGNATE REQUIREMENTS FOR MAKING HOTEL RESERVATIONS. IF SO, ALL TEAMS WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE ALL HOTEL RESERVATIONS AS DESIGNATED. SEE FYSA WEB SITE FOR DETAILS AND PHONE NUMBERS WHEN SCHEDULES ARE POSTED.**

## I. Laws of the Game

All games shall be in accordance with FIFA, US Soccer, and FYSA Constitutions, By-laws, Rules and Regulations and US Youth Soccer National Championship Rules except as noted below for US Youth Soccer Florida State Cup play:

1. Law I - The Field of Play - No Change
2. Law II – No change
3. Law III - Number of Players
4. Substitutions – May be made only upon proper notification of the referee through the assistant referee, and with the referee's permission. Substitute may not enter the field of play until the player he/she is replacing has left the field, and after being signaled onto the field by the referee. Substitutions will be allowed at any stoppage by either team, with the referee's permission.
  - A. Preliminary (group play) rounds – shall be unlimited for all ages, per the above.
  - B. Challenge & Championship Rounds – U13 and U14 shall be unlimited per above.
  - C. Challenge & Championship Rounds U15 through U19 – **LIMITED SUBSTITUTION** – Each team is allowed a maximum of seven (7) substitutions in EACH half of play AND during overtime play.
    1. After leaving the game during a half of play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game during that same half of play.
    2. After leaving the game during overtime play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game.
5. Law IV - Players' Equipment - No Change (clarification: Goal Keeper jersey MUST have numbers)
6. Law V - Referees
  - A. In the event the assigned referee fails to appear, the Site Referee Assignor will find an alternate referee.
  - B. The referee shall complete the Game Report, and any other reports as may be required, following the game and deliver it to the Site Director.
  - C. The referee must be familiar with the rules of the competition and understand how to report result and any incidents that may occur during cup play.
7. Law VI – Assistant Referee
  - A. Two (2) assistant referees will be used.

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8. Law VII - Duration of the Game for all rounds is noted below, and is subject to change for certain group play. There will be no overtime periods in preliminary round games. Challenge Round of 16 and Championship weekend games will be full length games, with 1-game per day played. In games requiring overtime, ALL OVERTIME PERIODS WILL BE PLAYED IN FULL. If teams remain tied at the conclusion of the overtime periods, teams will proceed with Penalty kicks in accordance with FIFA "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark".

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Preliminary Round Game Time (minutes)</u>	<u>Round of 16 (Challenge Round) &amp; Championships</u>	<u>Overtime (minutes)</u>
19 and Under	2 x 35 = 70	2 x 45 = 90	2 x 15 = 30
18 and Under	2 x 35 = 70	2 x 45 = 90	2 x 15 = 30
17 and Under	2 x 35 = 70	2 x 45 = 90	2 x 15 = 30
16 and Under	2 x 35 = 70	2 x 40 = 80	2 x 15 = 30
15 and Under	2 x 35 = 70	2 x 40 = 80	2 x 15 = 30
14 and Under	2 x 30 = 60	2 x 35 = 70	2 x 10 = 20
13 and Under	2 x 30 = 60	2 x 35 = 70	2 x 10 = 20

At any time in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half the goal differential reaches six (6), the match shall be declared complete at that point. No match can be concluded under this rule prior to the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half.

9. Law VIII through XVII - No Change

### II. Eligibility of Players/Coach/Team & Roster

#### 1. Players

Only players in good standing with current, valid, laminated, and verified US Youth Soccer player passes (current photo and correct signature) will be allowed to play provided they have met and completed all registration procedures per FYSA Rules and Regulations. (No "Florida" or temporary passes will be allowed in SC competition)

Players and rosters are subject to the following requirements for NCS play:

- A. Each team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and NCS competitions. All U13 through U15 divisions must maintain a minimum of 9 players common to the rosters of the league and NCS competitions, and U16 through U19 divisions must maintain a minimum of 11 players.
- B. At the time a team names (freezes) its NCS roster, it may not have more than 5 previously rostered players. A previously rostered player is a player who was primary rostered to another team at any time during this seasonal year prior to transferring their primary status to the current State cup team he/she is rostering to for this competition.
- C. Only primary rostered players can participate in State Cup. Secondary (dual) rostered players must be released no later than roster freeze. Secondary rostered players that subsequently transfer their primary roster status to this team prior to roster freeze will count as a previously rostered player.
- D. A player must register in the state in which he or she resides with his/her parent(s) or guardian(s), or in the case of a student in residence at any academically accredited boarding school or college or university, the player may register in the state in which the boarding school, college or division of the college or university is located.

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- E. No more than twenty five percent (25%) of the team's players may be non-Florida residents. Seventy-Five Percent (75%) of the players must be in compliance with the Florida residency rule. All non-Florida players must comply with all FYSA, USYSA, and USSF requirements for registration.
- F. **At the time of roster freeze and thereafter, a player may be rostered to only one team in State Cup in any seasonal year and only in one State per seasonal year.** Any other question of residency will be determined by FYSA's Competition Committee.

## 2. Coach

Only coaches in good standing with current, valid, laminated, and verified US Youth Soccer player passes (current photo and correct signature) will be allowed to coach providing they have met and completed all registration procedures per FYSA Rules and Regulations. All coaches must be named on the official FYSA roster for the team they are coaching.

## 3. Team/Application/Roster

Coaches can check their roster via the Got Soccer team account or with their club Registrar site at any time to verify roster activity. Any changes and/or corrections must be made in accordance with FYSA registration procedures **before the freeze date.** It is the team's responsibility to ensure all changes and/or corrections are complete and accurate prior to roster freeze date.

- A. US Youth Soccer Florida State Cup is limited to teams registered as U-13 or above. The State Cup application **MUST** be entered on-line in Got Soccer using the FYSA registered team account in order for a team to be accepted in the competition, and can be entered by the club Registrar or a registered team staff member rostered to that team that received access to the FYSA Got Soccer Team Account. After completing the on-line application, entrants must print the completed application, secure the required signatures, and arrange for receipt of the application with the \$1,000 entry fee to the FYSA State office no later than the noted deadlines. (FYSA State Cup, 7201 Lake Ellenor Rd, Suite 200, Orlando, FL 32809) This entry fee includes the \$250 performance bond that will be returned no later than the conclusion of State Cup Championships provided the team has fulfilled all of its obligations under the competition.

### DEADLINES FOR APPLICATION:

- **U13 – U18** divisions – no later than close of business at 5 PM (EST) of Dec. 8, 2010. Late applications will be accepted after Dec. 8, 2010 until 5 PM (EST) of Dec. 14, 2010, and require the addition of a \$500 late fee. A copy of printed application, signed by a Registered Team Staff member and Club Agent of Record or Registrar along with payment must be received in the FYSA office no later than close of business (5 PM EST) on Dec. 16, 2010.
- **U19 divisions** – no later than close of business at 5PM (EST) of Jan 11, 2011. Copy of printed application, signed by a Registered Team Staff member and Club Agent of Record or Registrar along with payment must be received in the FYSA office no later close of business (5 PM EST) on Jan. 17, 2011.
- On-line entries for which the copy of the signed application and payment are not received within the timeframes noted above will result in non-acceptance of the application.

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- B. At the time of entry, all U13 – U15 teams must have a minimum of nine (9) properly registered players and a coach, and U16 – U18 must have a minimum of eleven (11) properly registered players and a coach. Any application submitted for a team with less than the required minimum players and a coach will be returned as unaccepted. U-19 teams must have their minimum of eleven players and a coach by Jan. 17, 2011 entered via electronic registration in the FYSA Got Soccer registration system by 5:00 PM close of business.
- C. All U-13 through U-18 teams are required to participate and play a minimum of 3 league games (in a US Youth Soccer-sanctioned league or a FYSA-sanctioned inter-club league) against different US Youth Soccer opponents in order to meet NCS requirements of league play. As part of the application, teams must declare the qualifying league they are participating in to meet this requirement. The FYSA Competition Committee will request verification of completion of these games from the league prior to 5:00PM on roster freeze to confirm the teams' eligibility. League competition may not be considered a tournament format.
- D. Coaches/team contact will be required to add jersey numbers to the state generated roster. Only state generated rosters will be used at all State Cup Competitions and will be provided to the site by the Competition Committee.
- E. **Roster Freeze**
- 1) The roster freeze date is the final date on which all player changes; additions or deletions to a team's roster can be made. All time references are Eastern Standard Time (EST).
  - 2) Roster transactions are to be processed electronically on-line unless otherwise noted, in accordance with FYSA registration procedures
  - 3) All Documents must be "DATE STAMPED" AS BEING RECEIVED IN THE STATE OFFICE on or before 5:00 PM on roster freeze date (electronically or as prescribed by FYSA Registration requirements).
  - 4) Transactions near roster freeze date not submitted electronically must be sent by Express Mail, Federal Express, UPS or other means where the date sent and guaranteed delivery date can be verified. Delivery service is being such that documents if properly delivered would have arrived on or prior to roster freeze date. The cost for any special handling shall be paid (in advance) by the team. (i.e. Federal Express, Express Mail, Etc). **This does not mean in the hands of any FYSA official – but physically in the State Office.** It is the team's responsibility to ensure that these documents are received in accordance with these requirements.
  - 5) **Roster Freeze & Competition Dates**
    - (a) Roster(s) for the 2010 US Youth Soccer Florida State Cup will be frozen for age groups U-**13 thru U-18** as of **5:00 PM (EST) on March 16, 2011**, 10-days prior to the first SC play date. There shall be no player roster changes permitted for any reason after this date throughout the entire National Championship competition play.
    - (b) **U19's** roster shall be frozen as of 5:00 PM (EST) 10-days prior to the first play date for the U-19 age group, If sufficient number of teams apply requiring a preliminary round to be played May 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011, roster freeze will **5:00 PM (EST) on May 11, 2011**. Should no preliminary rounds be required for the U-19s and they proceed directly to the Championship Round May 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, their roster freeze will be as of 5:00 PM (EST) on May 18, 2011.

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- (c) All age divisions may not be required to compete on each date depending upon the number of teams that enter the competition. All Challenge Round of 16 and Championship games will be held on the dates noted for such. Once the number of teams entered is known and the schedules/group play formats are set the schedules for each age group will be determined and posted on the State Cup page of FYSA's web site and on the 2011 State Cup Tournament site in Got Soccer.
- (d) Competition Dates for preliminary, Challenge Round of 16 and Championship weekend are as follows:

<u>Round of Play</u>	<u>Competition Dates</u>
Prelim Weekend #1	Mar. 26-27, 2011
Prelim Weekend #2	Apr. 9-10, 2011
Challenge Round of 16	Apr. 30-May 1, 2011
Championship U13-U18	May 21-22, 2011
U19 Prelims (if needed)	May 21-22, 2011
U19 Championships	May 28-29, 2011

The dates for the competition have been set as part of the annual FYSA calendar of all events, to avoid major College test dates and holidays to the best of our ability, in order to complete the competition and allow our Champions that move on to the Region III Championships sufficient time to prepare for that travel. Teams planning to enter the State Cup competition need to assess individual conflicts they may have prior to entering the competition, as the competition will not be able to accommodate requests to alter competition dates.

### F. Frozen Roster

Once the roster has been frozen, no activity can occur to the team's player roster. Season ending injuries cannot be replaced once the roster is frozen. Any change to the player roster will result in the team being disqualified from the competition. Coaches/Volunteers may be added after roster freeze, if there is sufficient time prior to the weekend play, by contacting the SC Compliance Administrator in the FYSA Office. **The decision of the Competition Committee concerning these additions is final, binding and not appealable.**

### G. Roster (Minimum/Maximum)

- 1) **It is the responsibility of the coach and team staff to monitor their roster. In no way will it be the responsibility of FYSA and/or any of its representatives to monitor a team's roster.**
- 2) In order to be eligible for State Cup competition all teams except for the U19's, must comply with the league play requirements as outlined in Section II.3.C above. A league shall be defined as a FYSA sanctioned inter-club league only if it is in compliance with FYSA's affiliation requirements and be in compliance with FYSA Rule 101.10. League competition may not be considered a tournament format.
- 3) All teams, (U13 through U18) must demonstrate continuity of rosters between league and State Cup competition as outlined in Section II.3.B above.

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- 4) Any team rostering in excess of the maximum allowed number of players **at any time** during the seasonal year, becomes ineligible to compete in National Championship Series play, and will therefore be immediately disqualified from State Cup Competition.

**Roster maximums for age groups are as follows:**

- (a) U13 – U15 teams must not allow more than **eighteen (18)** players on its roster at any time during the seasonal year.
- (b) U16 through U19 teams must not allow more than **twenty-two (22)** players on its roster at any time during the seasonal year. Prior to each state cup game, the Coach/Manager must declare a game roster with the Site Director. Players not participating will be crossed out on the Official roster. Exception - any players and/or coaches that were red carded or ejected in prior State Cup games cannot be removed from the game rosters, and must remain on all subsequent game rosters until their suspension has been served.

### III. Pre-Game Procedures

1. For all rounds, a representative from each team must be at the site no less than one-hour (1) prior to the first scheduled game time, for check in with the Site Director. **Failure to be so may result in the forfeiture of bond and require replacement of the bond before participation in further games.** Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the Competition Committee Chair.
2. Additional State Cup Championship weekend requirements
  - A. All Teams advancing to the State Cup Championship Final must present all players no less than one (1) hour prior to match in order to complete Southern Regional roster requirements. Following the Championship game, the SC Champion team representative will meet with a member of the Competition Committee to review requirements for the Southern Regional Champions, must present a copy of each player’s birth certificate, and if applicable, international waiver/clearance documents as directed by the Competition Committee.

**The Competition Committee MAY schedule a MANDATORY coaches meeting on Saturday morning of Championship weekend play. Teams will be notified if there is one, and if so, all teams must be represented by a registered/rostered member of the team or will be subject to a fine of \$500.**

3. Prior to the first game at each round, the Coach/Manager will check in with the Site Director, present the passes for all players and coaches, and enter the jersey numbers and graduation date for each player on the roster that will participate in the game if not already on the roster via Got Soccer. For all PRELIMINARY rounds of group play, the Coach/Manager will pay the referee fees for the weekend of play prior to the first game check-in. (In required currency as defined below).

Referee Game Fees in Group Play – Per Age Group				
AGE GROUP	REFEREE	ASST REF	TOTAL PER TEAM	Required currency
U-13 & U-14	\$40.00	\$20.00	\$40.00	20/20
U-15, U-16, U-17, U-18, U-19	\$50.00	\$ 25.00	\$50.00	20/20/5/5

FYSA is responsible for the referee fees/costs for the Challenge and Championship rounds of play.

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4. At time of check-in, the coach must inform the site director and note on the roster any player who will not participate in the match due to absence, injury, or suspension (i.e., for a previous red card). Failure to notify the site director at this time shall be evidence that all players on the roster did in fact participate in the match.
5. The Coach/Manager for all U16 – U19 teams must check-in with the Site Director one-hour (1) prior to each match, and declare their 18-player game roster prior to the game report being sent out to the field with the referees..
6. EACH COACH SHOULD HAVE IN HIS/HER POSSESSION A MEDICAL RELEASE FORM FOR EACH PLAYER.

### **NO PASS – NO PLAY – NO EXCEPTIONS**

7. The referee will check the player's identity with his pass and will check the player's equipment. Only at this time may a player be challenged. The referee will note the challenged player's name on the game report, and staff member of the team requesting the challenge must inform the Site Director of the Challenge. The player will be allowed to play. No player's eligibility can be challenged or protested after the start of each game.
8. A player who arrives at the playing field after the start of the game may enter the game after showing his/her pass to and being checked by the referee/assistant referee. (If the player's pass was not checking in with the team passes, the player must first be checked in by the site director who will have the pass sent out to the field by a field marshal)
9. No more than four (4) team staff members are allowed on the side with the team. All must have the appropriate U.S. Youth Soccer pass and be listed on the FYSA team roster
10. Control of Sidelines
  - A. Players, managers, coaches, and fans are expected to conduct themselves within the letter and spirit of The Laws of the Game. The Site Directors shall have the authority and responsibility to remove any person(s) from the tournament for abuses of good conduct; in addition to the rules of good manners, these rules will apply in this competition: The Site Director will designate one sideline for the sole use of the players and coaches. (One team occupying one side of midfield and the other the other side).
  - B. The Site Director will designate a specified team area and spectator area.
  - C. A restraining line may be drawn two (2) yards from the side touchline and all sideline viewers must remain outside of that line.
  - D. Coaches will be accountable for behavior of their fans and may be ejected for non-compliance.
  - E. All Coaches are required to remain within their technical area, and should remain seated on their respective benches (if provided), except to give tactical instructions, or to make substitutions. (No continuous talking or walking the side lines will be tolerated). The use of cell phones from the bench sidelines is prohibited.
  - F. Artificial noisemakers are NOT permitted during any rounds of State Cup.

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## IV. Post Game Procedure

1. At the completion of the match, the referee/assistant referee will return all player and coach's passes to the Competition Committee site director. The Competition Committee staff will hold all passes throughout the weekend of play, returning them at the conclusion of that weekend's play.
2. The referee will complete the Game Report, and any other reports as may be required, and give the report(s) to the Site Director.
3. At the conclusion of the match
  - A. It is required that that both teams clear the bench area and the field as soon as possible, (ten (10) minutes maximum)
  - B. It is also a required that the bench area be cleaned and that all trash be disposed of in a proper manner. (Failure to do so will result in a monetary fine against the team/club) Failure to leave the bench area, collect and dispose of all trash will result in forfeiture of the team's performance bond. See Rule XI (5) (G)
4. The coach will be responsible for the behavior of their fans at all times.
5. All Spectators shall remain on the spectator sideline during the match and until such time as the coaches have released the players after the match. Failure to remain off the field of play until such time will result in an ejection for the coach, and possible forfeit of the match.
6. Following the completion of the last scheduled games in preliminary group play, all teams will present themselves to a site identified by the Site Director where standings will be resolved. Any tie-breaks that are needed to resolve group standings and advancers will be done immediately following the conclusion of scheduled group play for that round of play. Teams are responsible to know their status, and must plan accordingly to be available to any tie-break play-offs.
7. Following the completion of Championship weekend games including semi-finals, all teams will present themselves to a site identified by the Site Director where award presentations will be conducted. Following the conclusion of Championship games, instructions and information will be provided by the Competition Committee and/or Site Director for teams advancing to Region III Southern Regionals leading to NCS play, noting deadlines and required submissions for play. Any State Cup Champion (U14 through U19) that declines advancement to USYS Southern Regionals, will forfeit their bond, be subject to a possible additional fine (not to exceed \$2,500), and MAY be denied for participation in next year's (2012) State Cup competition.
8. PLAYER PASSES

It shall be the sole responsibility of the head coach to insure that all player/coach's passes have been returned at the completion of the weekend. Failure to have the proper player/coach's passes will result in the team either forfeiting the match or the match being declared a forfeit by the cup committee. All passes must have a current picture (no more than 6 month old) and be signed by the player/coach and Club Registrar. No double lamination or picture on picture is allowed.

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## V. Determination of Standings

### 1. Group/ round-robin play in Preliminary Rounds

In any elimination game, overtime procedures will be the same as utilized in State Cup games. In group/round robin play, there will be no overtime games. Standings in a group will be determined as defined below.. **In no case, once a tie breaker has been used, will it be revisited if a team is eliminated.** Points and tie-break criteria do not carryover to subsequent group play rounds.

- A. First: game points:   3 points for a Win  
                                  1 point for a Tie  
                                  0 points for a loss

B. Second as follows:

- 1) Head-to-head competition (not used if 3 or more teams are tied on points); if no clear winner, then
- 2) Most wins; if no clear winner, then
- 3) Net Goal Differential (NGD) calculated as goals scored minus goals allowed) with a maximum NGD of +/- four (4) per game; if no clear winner, then
- 4) Least Goals against (no limit to number of goals allowed); if no clear winner, then
- 5) Most Goals scored up, maximum of four (4) goals counted per game; if no clear winner, then
- 6) Penalty kicks in accordance with FIFA "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark"

C. If three or more teams are still tied, then:

- 1) In the event three (3) teams are tied at the end of group play and are tied through all the above tie breakers, the Site Director will hold a random draw with the 1<sup>st</sup> team drawn sitting out. The other two teams will then take kicks from the mark to establish a winner. The winner of this will then play the team sitting out, (kicks from the mark) and the winner will advance. If a 2<sup>nd</sup> team advances from this group, PK's will be taken by the 2 teams that lost their kicks from the mark pairing, to determine the next team to advance.
- 2) In the event that four (4) teams tie at the end of group play, the site director will hold a random draw with the first team drawn playing the second team drawn, (kicks from the mark) The third and fourth teams will also take kicks from the mark. The two winners will then take kicks from the mark with the winning team advancing. If a 2<sup>nd</sup> team advances, the losing team in this pairing will be the next advancer.

### 2. Challenge Round of 16 and Championship Weekend Play

In Challenge Round of 16 and Championship weekend games, if the game is tied after regulation, overtime will be played. If still tied after overtime, kicks from the mark will be taken in accordance with FIFA's Laws of the Game.

## VI. Discipline

**It shall be solely the team's responsibility to determine the status of its players.** It is the responsibility of the team to notify the Site Director of any suspensions from a tournament, local league, Region cup, prior year's State Cup, etc. that is to be served, at the time of player's check in (see pre-game check-in).

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Any team playing a suspended player, or coached by a suspended coach shall be immediately disqualified from Cup Competition. All games played by this team will be considered as forfeits with a score of 4-0 in favor of the opponent.

Prior to the competition, the Competition Committee will appoint a Discipline Committee consisting of four (4) persons. The committee will review and rule on all reports of unacceptable conduct by players, coaches, managers, referees, spectators, etc. Notwithstanding rulings of this committee:

1. A player or coach ejected will have at least a one- (1) game suspension. A player/coach may receive more than a one-game suspension based on the severity of the actions. The minimum suspensions for unacceptable conduct will be in accordance with FYSA's discipline procedures.
2. Suspensions for red cards/ejections received in any level of National Championship Play, including State Cup competition, can only be served in National Championship Series games (State Cup, Southern Regionals and Nationals) in accordance with FYSA and National Championship rules. These suspensions will carry forward to future years until served in full, and **CANNOT BE SERVED IN ANY OTHER COMPETITION**. Any remaining suspensions for red cards or other ejections received in prior year's State Cup National Championship Series competitions must be served in this year's State Cup play.
3. Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein, including cautions, ejections, and standard suspensions. Any other individual, who may be reasonably construed, as being associated with a team such as relatives and spectators, shall also be subject to the jurisdiction and authority of this Association. Any coach or team official shall be held responsible for the actions of any individual(s) at any match, that in the opinion of the referee, is a supporter of that team.
  - A. A Registered member of the team's staff must escort any player red carded from the field of play. Said player must sit at the site director's tent, headquarters, or designated area until the field has been cleared following the game and the team is in process of leaving the site. Failure to timely comply with this requirement may be grounds for the match to be declared a forfeit. A Player under the age of eighteen (18) may leave the site if they are released by the Site Director into the care of a parent or guardian only. Player and parent may then leave the site.
  - B. Any coach ejected must leave the Site immediately following ejection. At the discretion of the Site Director, the coach may sit at the site director's tent, headquarters or designated area until the field has been cleared following the game and the team is in process of leaving the site.
  - C. It shall be the coach's responsibility to notify the site director prior to any match of any players serving suspensions. A suspended player may be present at subsequent matches and if so, remain on the team's bench and shall not be in game uniform. Failure to notify the site director may result in the player receiving an additional game sanction.
  - D. An ejected Coach shall not return to the site for subsequent matches until suspension has been served. Site Director has the discretion, upon consulting the Competition Committee chair, to allow the coach to serve the suspension at the site director's tent, headquarters, or designated area. Coaches who coach more than one team will be barred from all games of other teams until the suspension is served with the original team with which the coach received his ejection. Failure to comply may result in the match being declared a forfeit.

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### VII. Forfeits

A team will be allowed a fifteen (15) minute grace period from the scheduled game time before awarding the match to the opponent. Failure to meet scheduled play will automatically require payment of forfeiture fine. A match shall be started as soon as the minimum number of players or a rostered coach/manager as required under the Laws of the Game is present. A forfeited match shall be recorded as a 4-0 score in favor of the opponent. A team that forfeits a match shall be considered to have withdrawn from the competition, subject to the disciplines for withdrawing as described in Section XI.5. below.

### VIII. Protest/Appeals

#### 1. PROTESTS

The Competition Committee will rule on all protests/appeals on. For a protest to be considered, the following procedure will be followed:

- A. No protest on referee judgment or discretion calls will be accepted.
- B. Verbal notification of intention to protest must be given to the Site Director immediately following the game.
- C. All protests must be in writing, delivered to the site director within one hour of the conclusion of match. A protest fee of \$400 must accompany the protest, delivered to the site director. This fee must be a money order, cash or club check. Personal checks will not be accepted. The site director will then forward the protest fee with the written protest to chair of the Competition Committee. The decision of the Competition Committee will be binding on all parties, allowing the state competition to proceed. The protest fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld at the state cup level.

#### 2. APPEALS

If time allows, decisions of the Competition Committee may be appealed to FYSA's Protest and Appeals Committee. The procedures and fees for filing an appeal to FYSA's Protest and Appeals Committee are delineated in FYSA rules and regulations. In no case will the competition be postponed or delayed by any appeal to FYSA's Protest and Appeals or the National Cup Committee.

Any appeal of a decision not covered above must be filed with seven (7) days of the decision. The appeal must be filed with the chair of FYSA's Protest and Appeals Committee in writing and be accompanied by a fee of \$400.00. This fee must be a money order, cash or club check. Personal checks will not be accepted. The fee will not be refunded.

### IX. Unfinished Games

Unfinished games due to any cause shall be replayed providing neither team is at fault and play has not begun the second half. If play is stopped during the second half and play cannot be resumed and provided neither team is at fault, the FYSA Competition Committee may deem the game complete. Should play be stopped at any time in the second half due to one of the teams being adjudged at fault, it shall be at the discretion of the Committee as to whether the game is to be replayed, complete with the score at the time

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of stoppage, or declared a forfeit in favor of the team not adjudged at fault. Decisions of the Competition Committee are final.

### **X. External Conditions, Weather, Etc.**

In the event unusual conditions necessitate rescheduling, curtailment, or cancellation of games, the FYSA Competition Committee shall have absolute authority to make changes to best serve the interest of the tournament.

### **XI. General**

1. The FYSA Competition Committee and/or FYSA will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team due to the cancellation in part or in whole of this tournament or for any travel incidental to the competition.
2. The Competition Committee's interpretation of the foregoing rules and regulations will be final, subject to National Championship Rules and the rules of US Youth Soccer.
3. The Competition Committee reserves the right to decide on all State Cup matters.
4. The format for the competitions at the Championship Round to determine teams representing the State Association at Regionals, shall be single elimination, established by the Competition Committee.
5. Affiliates may be fined for teams withdrawing from the State Cup competition, failing to show for a scheduled match, player, coach or team misconduct, etc. All withdrawals or disqualifications after the entry deadline will result in automatic forfeiture of entry fee and bond. The Competition Committee may impose the following additional fines. The minimum fines for the following offenses shall be as follows:
  - A. Failing to show for a scheduled match with no or less than a one week's notification: \$2,500 plus \$500 paid to each team they were scheduled to play.
  - B. Withdrawing from the competition with more than 1 week's notification after completing a prior round of competition: \$2,000.
  - C. Withdrawing from the competition after the draw, with more than 1 week's notification before the initiation of play: \$1,000.
  - D. Withdrawing from the competition within 2 weeks before the draw, will result in forfeiture of entry fee and bond, and a \$500 fine.
  - E. Withdrawing from the competition prior to 2 weeks before the draw but after entry deadline, will result in forfeiture of entry fee and any/all bonds submitted.
  - F. Disqualification of the team by any means after initial eligibility verification, shall result in forfeiture of entry fee and bond, and possible additional fine not to exceed 500.00.
  - G. Failure to leave the bench area and police all trash will result in forfeiture of the team's performance bond. The team must post an additional bond with the Competition Committee prior to the team's next match. Failure to post the bond will result in a forfeiture of the match and possible additional fines to the affiliate.

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H. Conduct reflecting adversely upon the Competition or FYSA, actions requiring law enforcement being called, or conduct deemed unsatisfactory by the Competition Committee shall result in forfeiture of posted performance bond, and may incur additional fines to the affiliate not to exceed \$1,500.00.

I have read the above rules and by application agree to abide by and be bound by all of the above rules.