

2008 REGION A CUP RULES

GENERAL

For the seasonal year 2007-2008 FYSA Region A is offering competition in each of the following categories:

- Girls and Boys (mixed): Under 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 19.
- Festivals will be offered for Under 9 and Under 10 Girls and Boys (mixed).

There will be three (3) Divisions of play in Boys and Girls .

- Division I
- Division II
- Division III

Since the winner of Division I in U11 through U19 represents the Region in President's Cup, if only one team enters this competition in any of these age groups, that team will automatically advance to the President's Cup.

Division I Regional Cup Champions who do not fulfill their obligation to compete in the President's Cup event is subject to a fine of \$2,500 should the opening not be filled by another qualified team from the Region.

Champions of FYSA President's Cup in ages U13 thru U17 will advance to the Region III President's Cup Champions. Champions of the Region III President's Cup will advance to the National Director's Cup competition.

It is the responsibility of each team registered and participating in Region A Cup to verify game dates, times and locations through the utilization of the Region A Cup official web site. The Region A Cup Committee will not be responsible for notifications beyond the posting of the original schedule on the official Region A Cup web site.

Following the date the Region A Cup competition schedule has been approved and posted, there will be no schedule changes for any reason.

DATES OF COMPETITION

Region A Cup Roster Freeze Date	February 13 th , 2008
Festivals Division III (Boys & Girls U9 & U10)	February 23-24, 2008
Division III (Boys & Girls U11 & above)	Starts March 1-2, 2008
Festivals I & II (Boys & Girls U9 & U10)	February 23-24 , 2008
Division I & II (Boys & Girls U13 & below)	Starts March 1-2, 2008
Division I & II (Boys & Girls U14 & above)	Starts March 1-2, 2008
Region A Cup Finals Division I & II	March 15-16 , 2008
President's Cup	April 5-6, 2008

The Region A Cup Committee is aware that some of these dates may interfere with SAT and or ACT testing, however, the Committee may not have a choice because of field availability. In this instance we ask that players schedule tests on other dates.

DIVISION I

This Division is for A teams that are not playing in State Cup. The winners of this Division will advance to President's Cup. The Regional Cup Committee will determine additional teams to advance if necessary. Winners of President's Cup will advance to USYS Region III President Cup. Winner's of Region III President cup will advance to Nationals Directors cup. If a team is currently playing Division "1" or "A" in league play then the team must register and play in Division I. If the team was in the finals in the upper flight of Division II last year, then the team must play in Division I this year. The team may also request placement in lower Division II. This request must be faxed to the Region A Cup Vice President to expedite the review and must also accompany and be noted on the application. The communication must present evidence to support this request. Examples of what is required are results of all matches, league standings, tournaments together with names and phone numbers of all coaches that team has played against during the immediately prior seasonal year.

DIVISION II

This Division is for "B" teams that are not playing in State Cup. If a team is currently playing Division "2" or "B" in league play then the team may register and play in this Division. If the team was in the finals in the upper flight of Division II last year, then the team may not play in this Division without permission. A team may also request placement in lower Division III. This request must be faxed to the Region A Cup Vice President to expedite the review and must also accompany and be noted on the application. The communication must present evidence to support this request. Examples of what is required are results of all matches, league standings, tournaments together with names and phone numbers of all coaches that team has played against during the current seasonal year.

DIVISION III

This Division is for Recreational teams only. Information must be provided with the application that the team can be classified as a recreational team under USSF/USYS guidelines.

ROUND ROBIN PLAY FOR ALL DIVISIONS

The breakdown of all age and gender divisions will be determined by the Region A Cup Committee based on the number of team entries on the due date specified on the application form. This Round Robin competition applies only to ages U11 and above. Round Robin rules do not apply to any Festival competition which includes age divisions of U9 and U10.

Team entries in age and gender divisions of 1 to 20 teams, will be allocated into groups and competition as follows:

<u>Teams Entered</u>	<u>Type of Play</u>	<u>Promotion</u>
1	None	Advances directly to President's Cup
2	Round robin	Winner advances to President's Cup
3	Round robin	Top 2 teams to finals
4	Round robin	Top 2 teams to finals
5	Round robin	Top 2 teams to finals
6	2 groups of 3 round robin	Top 2 teams to finals
7	1 group of 4 , 1 group of 3 round robin	Top 2 teams to finals
8	2 groups of 4 round robin	Top 2 teams to finals
9	3 groups of 3 round robin	1 st in each group + 2 nd best overall to semifinals
10	1 group of 4 + 2 groups of 3 round robin	1 st in each group + 2 nd best overall to semifinals
11	2 groups of 4 + 1 group of 3 round robin	1 st in each group + 2 nd best overall to semifinals
12	3 groups of 4 round robin	1 st in each group + 2 nd best overall to semifinals
13	2 groups of 4, 1 of 5(three games only)	1 st in each group + 2 nd best overall to semifinals
14	2 groups of 4, 2 of 3(with cross over game)	Top four to semifinals
15	3 groups of 4, 1 of 3	Top four to semifinals
16	4 groups of 4	Top four to semifinals
17	3 groups of 4, 1 of 5(three games only)	Top four to semifinals
18	2 groups of 4, 2 groups of 5(three games only)	Top four to semifinals
19	1 group of 4, 3 groups of 5(three games only)	Top four to semifinals
20	4 groups of 5(three games only)	Top four to semifinals

Team entries in age and gender divisions which have 21 teams or more registered will be allocated in groups of three (3) or four (4) teams to best serve the overall competition for this first round of competition.

GAME PROCEDURE/TEAM CHECK IN

Be at your game site at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled game time in order to take care of pre-game check-in with the site director.

- First team listed is the home team.
- For Division 1, 2, & 3 a State generated roster plus player passes must be submitted to the site director 30 minutes PRIOR to game time. Please note each team must provide a copy of its roster for each game.
- NO PASS NO PLAY NO EXCEPTIONS - ALL DIVISIONS
- The referee fee shall be paid to the site director or as directed by the site director.
- The site director will transfer the game roster, player passes and the fees for the game to the referee.
- The site director will determine the location of teams and fans. (It is recommended that teams and fans be on opposite sides of the field.)
- Home Team is to change jerseys if Referee deems a conflict. All teams must play in their primary colors first unless a conflict exists. These are the colors listed on the team's application.
- Game report as completed by the referee is the official document of the game.
- Please leave area clean.
- Remember: You are the representative of your club and hopefully will play and act accordingly.
- Each team (WINNER AND LOSER) is responsible for reporting to the site director immediately after the game your score and to pick up your passes. Results will be posted as quickly as possible. You are responsible for being at the right place at the right time.
- At the end of the game the referee will turn the player passes, rosters and the game report to the site director. The coach of the team may then pick up the passes from the site director.
- It shall be the sole responsibility of the coach to verify the game results after each match and to pick up his or her team's player passes. Any discrepancy not reported to the site director by the end of the day of competition would stand as reported on the game report.
- Results of all round competition and standings will be posted on the Region A Cup official web site. Results will be available for the public immediately after they are posted.

DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

The following procedure will be used to determine team ranking at the end of the first round of play and the determinations of best seconds:

- 3 Points for Win
- 0 points for Loss
- 1 point for Tie

If rankings are tied, the following procedure will be used until the winner is determined:

- Winner of Head-to-Head Competition
- Goals for with the maximum of 3 goals per game
- Goals against with a maximum of 3 goals per game
- Adjusted Goal differential (Goals for - Goals allowed) max of 3
- Red Card points.
- Kicks from the penalty spot as defined by FIFA.

Note1: In cases where goal differential is used, maximum number of goals considered shall be three (3) goals. (i.e.; score of 2-4 differential = 2, score of 7-1 differential = 3)

Note2: In the event that 3 teams are tied for one position after the first five (5) tiebreakers have been used. The following procedure shall be used:

- There shall be a coin toss between the three teams the losers (odd man out) of the coin toss shall take kicks from the penalty spot. The winner of this round shall then take kicks from the mark with the coin toss winner. The winner of this round advances.

PLAYER/COACH'S PASSES

ALL DIVISIONS - NO PASS NO PLAY NO EXCEPTION

Division I & II teams must have verified USYS passes, no other passes will be accepted. Each pass must have a picture attached, signed by the player/coach and his/her Club Registrar. **Each player must be registered to the team code entered on the entry form and be LAMINATED. NO TEMPORARY PASSES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

Region A Cup players may only play with their primary team. (1ST team listed on their player pass).

No guest players.

Teams are limited to an 18 player roster, U-17 to U-19 could have 22 players but only 18 can dress up for a game, which shall be frozen on February 13th, 2008.

Players may only participate on 1 (one) regional cup team as per FYSA Rule 209.7

Players may not transfer from another region cup team as long as the team's roster is frozen.

All coaches must be on the computer generated roster also.

No coach could be on the sidelines, **maximum of three**, unless he/she is listed on the roster.

REFEREE FEES

Referee fees will be split between the two teams and paid prior to the game to the site director in cash, and remember that the site directors **DO NOT HAVE CHANGE so you must bring the correct amount which are as follow for each team:**

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Referee Split</u>
Festival	\$20	20/10/10
U11/U12	\$24	24/12/12
U13/U14	\$30	30/15/15
U15/U16	\$40	40/20/20
U17/U19	\$50	50/25/25

EXTERNAL CONDITIONS WEATHER, ETC.

In the event unusual conditions necessitate rescheduling, curtailment, or cancellation of games, the tournament committee shall have absolute authority to make these changes to best serve the interest of the tournament, keeping in mind the need to successfully identify winners by a certain time period.

DECORUM

Coaches are responsible for the decorum of the sidelines and their players at all games. Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein, including cautions, ejections, and standard suspension. 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 tournament. 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.

EJECTIONS

If a player/coach is ejected from any game, the player/coach's pass together with the referee's report of the incident shall be turned over to the site director by the referee. The site director shall contact the Regional Cup Discipline chairperson about the incident. The minimum penalty for any ejection is the player/coach shall not be permitted to participate in the next immediate Regional Cup match of his/her team. (FYSA minimums as defined under FYSA Rules Section 500 shall apply.) The Disciplinary Committee of Region A may increase this penalty based on the severity of the incident as contained in the referee's report.

After the determination of the suspension is made, the site director will be notified informing him of the length of the suspension. The pass will be returned to the coach.

Except for referee assault or abuse.

If a coach is registered to two or more teams, the coach shall be suspended for all Cup activity until the original suspension is served with the team with which he/she received the ejection.

When a player is ejected the player shall remain on the bench under the control of the coach. The player shall remove his player's jersey so as to indicate that the player is no longer allowed to participate in the match. The coach shall be held responsible for the actions and conduct of all ejected players.

When a coach is ejected, **the coach shall immediately** leave the site. The match may not be restarted until the coach has removed himself. If this does not occur in a reasonable amount of time the Laws of the Game apply as to the termination of the game and reporting of this incident. The site director may also request the referee to

declare the match terminated and the site director will report this incident to the Regional Vice President. **The coach will not be allowed to return to the site, nor any other site, until the suspension has been served in its entirety.** In the event the team does not have another properly registered and rostered coach at the site, the site director will terminate the match and report as above to the Regional Vice President. The Regional Cup Committee shall determine the status of the game and its decision shall be binding on all parties.

RED CARD POINTS

For every player that receives an ejection the player's team will receive **ONE (1)** red card point. For every coach that receives an ejection the coach's team(s) will receive **THREE (3)** red card points. **All Red Cards for Violent Conduct and Foul/Abusive language directed, shall carry three (3) points**

If a team receives a total of **SIX (6)** red card points during cup competition, the team shall be disqualified from further regional cup competition.

DISCIPLINE

In the event that a team or teams are involved in an extracurricular activity such as bench clearing brawl, etc. both teams may be subject to disqualification from the remainder of the Regional Cup tournament. The extent of this penalty will be at the determination of the Regional Cup Committee. The decision of the cup committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

GAME BALLS

Each team shall furnish a game ball at each game.

GRACE PERIODS

Teams not ready to play at the scheduled start time of any match may be granted a fifteen (15) minute grace period. Any game will be started at the assigned time if the minimum numbers of players are present. For all divisions the minimum number of players is seven (7) for 11 a side teams, six (6) for 8 a side teams and five (5) for festival. Any team not ready to play after this grace period has expired should be reported to the site Director by the referee. The game shall be recorded as a forfeit and the score shall be recorded as 3-0.

LENGTH OF GAMES, OVERTIME PERIODS, BALL SIZES

<u>Division</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>	<u>Players</u>	<u>OT Periods</u>
U19, U17, U16, U15, U14, U13 Round Robin	2x35	5	11v11	None in round robin competition
U19, U17,	2x45	5	11v11	Semifinals and finals 2 full 10 minute , Kicks from the mark
U16, U15 U14, U13	2X40 2X35	5 5	11V11 11V11	Semifinals and finals 2 full 10 minute , Kicks from the mark
U12, U11 Round Robin	2x30	4	8v8	None in round robin competition
U12, U11	2x30	4	8v8	Semifinals and finals 2 full 10 minute Kicks from the mark
Festival U10, U9	2x25	4	6v6	None in any competition

For further explanation, in the round robin portion of the competition and all Festival games, the score at the end of regulation time will stand. In the semifinal and final competition of all age groups except Festivals, if there is a tie score at the end of regulation time, the overtime periods as above apply. If at the end of the overtime periods there is still a tie, the game results shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with FIFA.

Any match in which the goal differential is six (6) and has completed the 1st half will be declared completed at that point. No match can be concluded under this rule prior to the ending of the 1st half. At any time in the 2nd half the goal differential reaches six (6) the match will be declared completed.

PERFORMANCE BOND/FINES

If a team/club has incurred a fine, this team/club will have 3 days to post a \$200 bond to cover this fine to continue in the competition. This bond will be posted with the Regional Vice President or designate.

A team withdrawing or not completing their cup schedule will incur the following fines:

- Team withdraws prior to the schedule being completed – loss of entry fee
- Team withdraws after the schedule has been completed and posted – loss of entry fee, plus \$300 fine
- Club/Team miss enters team in the competition, i.e. either the wrong team code/division and requires rescheduling \$500 fine
- Team is disqualified from competition due to disciplinary actions or red card points, \$500.00 fine
- Team forfeit of game - \$200 fine plus referee fees for both teams
- Team withdrawing from competition before completion of tournament schedule - \$500.00 fine

SEMIFINAL PLAY

In Divisions with 4 groups	Win Grp A v Win Grp B, Win Grp C v Win Grp D
In Divisions with 3 groups	Win Grp A v 2 nd Best (2 nd Best is not from Grp C. If it is, then A v C and B v 2 nd Best) Win Grp B v Win Grp C

RULES OF PLAY

Except as otherwise provided herein, the rules of the Florida Youth Soccer Association, the United States Youth Soccer Association and the FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall apply.

SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions shall be unlimited. Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, at the following times:

Prior to a throw-in in your favor.

Prior to a goal kick by either team.

After a goal by either team.

After an injury by either team when the referee stops play. (NOTE: **ANY PLAYER ATTENDED TO ON THE FIELD, MUST LEAVE THE FIELD OF PLAY.**)

At half time

PLAYER EQUIPMENT

The referee is the sole judge of allowed player equipment as prescribed in the Laws of the Game.

ROSTER

Rosters for Divisions I , II and III will be frozen **February 13th, 2008.**

Each team is required to have a copy of their roster at each game.

FYSA Computer Generated rosters will be used for all Division .

Team coaches and team managers must be aware that this deadline is considered at the FYSA State Office so a Permanent USYSA pass may be prepared.

ENTRY FORM RULES

All special rules outlined on the entry form apply to all competitions.

All entry forms must be received, by the deadline indicated on the form, with payment, in order to be considered for Region A Cup play.

PROTESTS

A. All questions relating to the qualifications of the competitors or interpretation of the rules, or any dispute or protest whatever, shall be referred to the Regional Vice President. The Vice President shall then refer it to the appropriate committee. The decisions of such committee shall be binding on all parties.

To be valid and eligible for consideration, each protest:

Must be verbally lodged with the referee, with the site director, the opposing coach at the game site, and must be noted on the official game report before entering or leaving the game site except as noted below.

Must be filed with the Regional Vice President and include:

A NON REFUNDABLE FEE, in the amount of \$400.

This fee may be in cash, cashiers check, club check, or money order. No personal checks shall be accepted. Cashiers check, club checks and money orders must be payable to FYSA Region A.

Seven (7) written copies of the protest, which must include full particulars of the grounds on which the protest is lodged.

Seven (7) written copies of any information to be presented by witnesses.

The Regional Vice President must receive all protest within forty-eight (48) hours of the scheduled start time of the game as published in the program.

Any protest relating to the grounds, goal post, bars or other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained.

A plea of ignorance to the rules and regulations of the competition is not sufficient grounds for appeals or protests.

Judgment decisions of the referee are not subject to appeal or protest.

The Regional Vice President shall immediately upon receipt of a protest notify the team against which such protest is made and shall send a copy via Express Mail of the protest and all particulars to that team, which will then have the right to defend its case, with or without witnesses. The hearing will be held within 5 days of receiving the protest at time and place arranged by the disciplinary committee.

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