



## US Youth Soccer Regional President's Cup Rules and Procedures- Region III

Approved Feb 25, 2011

### **Team Eligibility:**

The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered youth players (as defined by US Youth Soccer).

A team participating in the President's Cup must enter the competition of their State Association in their age appropriate bracket ("age appropriate" as defined by US Youth Soccer). The team must be entered in the competition of the State Association in which at least 50 percent of its players are registered.

**If a State Association allows a team to play up into an older age bracket and the team wins the competition, the team will not be eligible to advance to the Region III Presidents Cup competition.**

Teams that can have a maximum of 18 players must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and Presidents Cup competitions by maintaining a minimum of 9 players common to the roster of both competitions, and teams that can have a maximum of 22 players must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and Presidents Cup competitions by maintaining a minimum of 11 players common to the roster of both competitions

**A returning team, who in the previous seasonal year was a Presidents Cup National Finalist or National Champion, will not qualify to compete in the Regional Presidents Cup Championship. A returning team is considered any team that has twenty-five percent or more players registered on its roster that participated on a Region III President's Cup Champion team from the prior year.**

EXAMPLE: A previous year roster of 16 players can return 3 players to compete in this year's Presidents Cup, however 4 or more returning players would not be eligible to compete in this seasonal year's Presidents Cup Regional Tournament.

**Age Groups:** U13-U17 Boys and Girls

### **Player Eligibility:**

Each club will provide a President's Cup roster with no more than eighteen (18) players.

Exceptions U16 and U17 can have twenty-two (22) players. In U16 and U17, all 22 players are eligible to play in each game.

1. Rosters **MUST** be legible. Signed by each State Association
2. Players **MUST** be listed in alphabetical order. Last name first.
3. Jersey numbers **MUST** be listed on the roster.
4. No team shall be allowed more than 18/22 players on their roster.

5. Team bench personnel (maximum of four (4) people) will have identification passes  
Provided by the President's Cup Committee.
6. Guest Players are allowed but no player added to a team after the State competition shall be previously rostered to a USYSNC team. .

**Player/Coach Passes:**

Each player/coach must have an official USYSA pass (ID card). The pass shall have a **CURRENT** photograph of the player/coach permanently attached, the player's/coach's signature, and signature of the State Registrar or his/her designee. All passes must be laminated.

**NO PASS! NO PLAY!! NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

**Schedule:** Preliminary round games will be played on Friday and Saturday with Championship games to be played on Sunday.

**Semi Finals:** Winner of Group A v Wildcard  
Winner of Group B v Winner of Group C

If wildcard comes from A then it will be  
Winner Group A v Winner Group C  
Winner Group B v Wildcard

**Format of Competition:**

1. **Game Balls-** The President's Cup Committee will attempt to supply game balls. Referee will ask each team to provide a game ball.
2. **Grace Periods-** Teams not ready to play at the scheduled start time of any match shall be granted a ten (10) minute grace period. A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a team.
3. **Home Team/Visiting Team-** The team listed first in each pairing is the home team. The visiting team will have choice of jersey colors. If in the opinion of the referee there is a conflict, the home team shall change jerseys.
4. **Technical Area-** Teams and team personnel (maximum of four (4) people can represent the team personnel, i.e. coach, assistant coach, manager, trainer) will be in the technical area. Parents and spectators will be on the opposite touch line. Team personnel will have identification passes provided by the President's Cup Committee.
5. **Uniforms-** Each player must wear a uniform with a number on the back of the shirt. Duplicate numbers are **NOT** permitted. Teams **MUST** bring an alternate jersey with a number on the back. No jewelry may be worn during a match. Goalkeeper's jerseys are **NOT** required to have a number.

**6. Scoring and Tie Breakers-** The standings of teams within brackets of three or more teams in their respective age divisions are based upon the number of points earned in qualifying games. Teams earn points as follows:

- A. Three points for a win (including forfeits-considered a 4-0 victory)
- B. One point for a tie
- C. No points for a loss

**Tie Breakers:** In the event teams are tied on the basis of points earned, the team's placement will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria:'

- A. Winner head to head competition (this criteria not used if more than two teams are tied)
- B. Winner of most games
- C. Goal differential (goals scored minus goal against) with a maximum Differential of four goals per game. (example 6-2 match would be plus 4)
- D. Fewest goals allowed

In a situation where three teams remain tied, a draw between tied teams will be conducted by the PCC to determine order of contest between tied teams. The first team drawn will receive the bye; the next team drawn will be the home team against the remaining team in the first contest of penalty kicks. The winner of the first contest will then compete against the bye team in penalty kicks to determine the winner. The bye team will be the home team.

- ii) Eleven players from the roster of the final game will be selected by each coach to participate, and that roster handed to the referee assigned to break the tie on a field assigned by the Presidents Cup Committee.

- E. Kicks from the penalty mark

### **7. Length of Games- Preliminary Rounds and Semifinals:**

All U13-14 preliminary and semifinal round matches will play 30 minute halves. Preliminary games may end in a tie. If semifinal matches are tied at the end of regulation play you will go straight to PK's.

All U15-16-17 preliminary and semifinal round matches will play 35 minute halves Preliminary games many end in a tie. If semifinal matches are tied at the end of regulation play you will go straight to PK's.

### **Championship Round**

U13 & U14 – 2 X 35 minutes- OT – 2 X 10 minutes

U15, U16 & U17 - 2 X 40 minutes - OT – 2 X 10 minutes

IF THE GAME IS STILL TIED AT THE END OF THE SECOND OVERTIME PERIOD, FIFA “Kicks from the Penalty Mark” will be used to determine the winner.

## **Rules of Play:**

1. **Rules-** Except as otherwise provided herein, FIFA “Laws of the Game” shall apply as modified by US Youth Soccer.

2. **Substitution-** Unlimited substitutions shall be allowed.

3. **Discipline-** Players receiving a red card or team personnel ejected in any game shall sit out a minimum of the next game. Players and team personnel that are sent off/ejected must leave the vicinity of the field before the match is restarted. Players **MUST** be escorted from the field by one of the team’s four personnel.

4 **Tournament Management-** All questions relating to the qualifications of competitors, to interpretation of the rules, or any dispute or protest concerning the Presidents Cup competitions, shall be referred to the Presidents Cup Committee. **All decisions of the committee are final. One appeal to Region III**

5. **Inclement Weather Policy-** Region III Presidents Cup Committee decisions are final and not subject to appeal. Every attempt will be made to have all matches played. Re-scheduled games may be played under lights in the evening or may be scheduled for early morning, prior to normal starting time at the discretion of the Region III Presidents Cup Director.  
Games will continue during rainstorms.

Games will be suspended by the referee or Region III Presidents Cup Committee in the event of:

1. Lightning (as determined by the referee or Region III PC Committee). All Coaches, Players and Spectators should leave the fields immediately and seek shelter in their vehicles and wait for the committee to tell you when it’s safe to return to fields.
2. Hail Storms (as determined by the referee or Region III PC Committee).
3. Unplayable field conditions (determined by the referee or Region III PC Committee).

Rescheduling attempts will be made as quickly and fairly as possible, considering referee and field availability and the normal progress of the competition. As a final solution, it may be necessary to employ a coin toss to determine teams advancing to semi-final and/or finals matches.

The safety of players, referees and spectators is the tournaments primary concern followed by fairness to the affected teams and the orderly flow of competition to the championships

## 6. Unfinished Games-

Attempt to complete one-half of the match prior to next scheduled game.

- A. If one-half of the match is completed, the game is official and score stands.
- B. If one-half cannot be completed prior to the next scheduled game then:
  - i. The rest of the game may be rescheduled at the end of the day
  - ii. The rest of the game may be rescheduled before the start of play on Saturday or Sunday.
  - iii. Game may be canceled and FIFA Kicks will be used to determine a winner. A win will be recorded as a 4-0 win and loss as a 0-4 loss.

## 7. PROTESTS

All questions relating to the qualifications of the competitors or interpretation of the rules, or any dispute or protest shall be referred to the Region III Presidents Cup Director.

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

### A. Validity

To be valid and eligible for consideration,

- a) All protests relating to the ground, goal posts, bars or other appurtenances of the games shall be entertained only if a written objection has been lodged with the referee and the opposing coach prior to the start of the game.
- b) All protests must be filed with the Region III Presidents Cup Director or your State representative and include:
  - 1. A fee in the amount of \$300. This fee may be in cash, cashier's check or money order.
  - 2. Personal checks will not be accepted. Checks or money orders must be made payable to US Youth Soccer Region III.
  - 3. Ten written copies of the protest, which must include full particulars of the grounds on which the protest is lodged.
  - 4. Ten written copies of any information to be presented by witnesses.

### B. Timing

- a) Game Situations  
All protests must be received by the Region III Presidents Cup Director or your State representative within two hours of the completion of the game being protested.
- b) Non-game situations  
All protests must be received by the Region III Presidents Cup Director or your State representative within two hours of completion of the last game in the bracket or division in question, whichever is latest.

## C. Procedures

The Region III Presidents Cup Director should appoint a Committee who shall immediately upon the receipt of a protest notify the team against which the protest is made and shall give a copy of the protest and all particulars to that team, which will then have the right to defend its case, with or without witnesses.

A plea of ignorance to the rules and regulations of the Region III Presidents Cup is not sufficient grounds for protest. Judgment decisions of the referee are not subject to protest.

The Committee shall compile the necessary information to hear the protest, from all available sources before the protest is heard. This shall include, if possible, coaches, field marshals, referees, assessors, witnesses if necessary, etc. All materials will be treated with confidentiality.

After compiling the necessary information, the committee will meet to conduct the protest hearing. The decisions of the committee shall be binding on all parties.

The Region III **Presidents Cup** D&P committee will notify the parties of the committee's decision.

### APPEALS

The decisions of the Region III Presidents Cup Committee and the Presidents Cup Conduct and Protest Committees may be appealed to the **Region III Presidents Cup Appeals Committee**. The appellant shall bear the burden of showing that the decision being appealed is clearly erroneous. No new evidence may be presented to the Appeals Committee unless circumstances have materially changed, or new facts are discovered that were unavailable at the time of the original hearing.

- a) An appeal must be filed with the Chairman of the Appeals Committee or their representative within two hours of notification of the Conduct or Protest Committees decision and include:
  1. A fee in the amount of \$500. This fee may be in cash, cashier's check or money order.
  2. Personal checks will not be accepted. Cashier's checks and money orders must be payable to US Youth Soccer Region III.
  3. Ten written copies of the appeal.
  
- b) Ignorance
  1. A plea of ignorance to the rules of the competition is not sufficient grounds for appeals or protests.
  
- c) Judgment decisions
  1. Judgment decisions of the referees are not subject to appeal or protest.