

**UTAH YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION**  
**STATE CUP RULES AND POLICIES**

Revised 6/30/11

***PURPOSE OF THE COMPETITION***

**The US Youth Soccer National Championship Series represents the first level in a three-stage competition held annually to establish State, Regional, and National Champions within US Youth Soccer. The Utah competition is conducted in a tournament format to establish State Champion teams in age brackets U11 and older. By winning a State Championship in their respective age bracket, a team concurrently earns the privilege and responsibility of representing UYSA at the Region IV US Youth Soccer National Championship Series. A team in the U14 through U19 age brackets that achieves a Regional Championship concurrently earns the privilege and responsibility of representing Region IV and their state association in the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series.**

*By entering the US Youth National Soccer Championship Series, each team agrees to appear for and to compete in every scheduled match for which it qualifies, including any and all Regional and National Championship matches. Each team also agrees to assume full responsibility for the financial and travel requirements associated with competition at the Regional and National levels.*

*A team removed from Cup Competition for any team fault shall be required to post a bond of no less than \$2,000.00 in certified funds with the UYSA office prior to being admitted to any future state championship competitions. The bond will only be refunded after the team has played in all Cup matches for which it qualifies.*

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**15:00 STATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

(National Championships on the State level will be referred to as State Cup)

**15:01:01** The Chairman will conduct State Cup for the selection of the state representatives to the US Youth National Championships. The format for this tournament will be decided upon by the State Cup Committee (SCC) and approved by the State Board of Directors (BOD) in the BOD meeting in the month prior to the fall State Cup coaches' meeting.

**15:01:02** The SCC shall include a representative from each Region or Sanction club (within the Region) with the chairperson being selected from this group by the State President and ratified by the State BOD. They will develop the rules which allow all teams within the association to participate in these championships. The UYSA Protest and Appeals Committee will act as the State Cup Protest and Appeals Committee under the direction of the State Cup Chairperson.

- 1.1 The **US Youth Soccer Utah Championships** (also known as State Cup) shall be governed by these rules.
- 1.2 Champions in the US Youth Soccer Utah Championships represent Utah in the US Youth Soccer Region IV Championships in boys and girls Under-12 through Under-19 age groups. Utah teams who win the US Youth Soccer Region IV Championships in boys and girls Under-14 through Under-19 age groups will represent Utah and region IV in the US Youth Soccer National Championships.
- 2.1 The Utah BOD shall establish a SCC to manage the Utah State Cup(s) and other competitions as directed. The BOD reserves the right to any final decision with regard to all games played in Utah State Tournament competitions. The State BOD will ratify state cup rules each year for the fall and spring state cups and can **ONLY** be changed between the fall and spring due to national rule changes
- 2.2 The SCC shall be under the direction of the President of UYSA. The Sub-committee chairs of the SCC shall be appointed by the Utah President and confirmed by the BOD.
- 2.3 The State Cup competition shall be under the jurisdiction, control, and management of the SCC. The SCC shall select the dates, times and sites for all games and shall have direct control of all arrangements including referees.
- 2.4 Each Region Chairperson or Sanction Club (within the Region) shall appoint a minimum of one representative to the SCC to serve for the entire State Cup year (fall through spring). There shall be a maximum of three representatives per region and each region shall have one vote and all Sub-committee Chairpersons shall have one vote.
- 2.5 The Utah SCC shall have the authority to rule on any matter pertaining to this competition. The SCC shall deal with protests, misconducts, or any other incident arising out of a State Cup game. The Committee may increase automatic minimum game suspensions. The decisions of the Committee are final.
- 2.6 The SCC is authorized to have an Executive Committee comprised of the Director, sub-committee chairpersons, and any two (2)-region representatives. Any Executive Committee member shall excuse himself or herself if they have a conflict of interest in the matters at hand. The Executive Committee shall be used for emergencies only. Its decisions shall be recorded and attached to the next regular SCC minutes.

- 2.7 The current FIFA Laws of the Game will govern all games as amended by USYSA Rules governing State Cup Competition as well as Utah Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and these competition rules
- 2.8 The primary means of communication between the SCC and the teams registered to play shall be e-mail. E-mail addresses and phone numbers shall be obtained from the Utah Online Management System. Team administrators (coaches and managers) are responsible to ensure this information is kept up to date at all times and are responsible for all information sent to them by the Committee.

### **3 TEAM ELIGIBILITY**

- 3.1 A team entering the US Youth Soccer Utah Championships shall meet the following eligibility requirements:
- 3.1.1 State Cup is open to teams currently registered for play in the UYSA State Competition Program. The team must compete in at least a four (4) team approved league during the current seasonal year. The league competition must consist of a minimum of one game against each of three (3) different teams participating in the league. If a youth team is able to qualify and is accepted by the Amateur League, that team will qualify for the 4-team league, and the team will be able to participate in the Youth State Competition. The appropriate forms must be completed with all signatures before play begins. Under 19 Boys and Girls teams registered with UYSA are exempt from the requirement to have competed in the UYSA State Competition Program.
- 3.1.2 The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered players (as defined by the rules of USYSA and UYSA). No team may register a player not residing in Utah to its roster without prior written permission from the Utah president and the home State or National Association of the player.
- 3.1.3 The team must be in good standing with UYSA, its league of registration and competition league, if applicable, and must be in compliance with, and has not violated, any of the rules of USYSA and UYSA.
- 3.1.4 The team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and State Cup competition by maintaining a minimum of nine players common to the rosters of both. Player retention shall be based on the league roster as of dates set annually by the BOD.
- 3.1.5 A team may not roster any player who was previously rostered during the seasonal year to another team, or the same team, unless a written request stating the reason for this action has been made to and approved by Utah on the approved forms (Release and Transfer). At the time a team names its State Cup roster it may not have more than five (5) previously rostered (transfer players) players in each respective age group.
- 3.1.5.1 "Rostering" means assignment of a registered player to a team. (Reference USYSA Policy on U.S. Youth Soccer National Championships: Part 1-General Rule 101. Definitions (12))
- 3.1.6 Every team participating in the National Championships, including the qualifying leagues within the State Associations, shall have a team roster and will present a game roster for every match or competition.

#### **(1) Team Roster**

The State Cup Committee shall approve the team roster. U11 teams will play 8 verses 8 on a modified field and a U11 team roster shall have no more than 14 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Teams in the U12 through U15 age groups will not have more than 18 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Teams in the U16 and older age groups may have up to 22 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Every team roster shall have a minimum of 7 players on the roster at all times.

## (2) Game Roster

The game roster shall be prepared by the team and submitted to the competition authority at a time set by the SCC and shall not be later than 60 minutes prior to each scheduled game in National Championship play. The game roster shall have a maximum of 18 players and a minimum of 7 players. Every player listed on the game roster must be included on the team roster to be eligible to participate with the team. The game roster shall include the authorized team administrators and the players to include their full name, ID card number and current security code, Jersey number, and position most often played.

- 3.1.7 The team may not release, voluntarily or involuntarily, any player from its team roster unless a written request stating the reason for this action has been made to and approved by Utah on the approved release form. A team may release involuntarily a player from its roster only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons:
- 3.1.7.1 The player has violated rules of the USSF or USYSA or the affiliation through which the player is registered.
  - 3.1.7.2 The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what constitutes a reasonable travel distance is subject to definition by the State Association.
  - 3.1.7.3 The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.
- 3.1.8 The team must name its roster (roster freeze) for State Cup Competition 14 days prior to the beginning of State Cup Competition. All player transfers must occur 72 hours prior to the roster freeze or 17 days prior to the beginning of State Cup Competition. All changes to rosters must be in the UYSA office and or posted electronically by 5:00 PM on the established date. Player transfers can only come from a team that is not entered into State Cup; the transfers are for State Cup only and those transfers will be controlled through the UYSA Office with the approval of the State Registrar.
- 3.1.9 A team wanting to compete in State Cup must register with at least seven (7) players and one (1) administrator with UYSA by July 15<sup>th</sup> if wanting to compete in Fall State Cup or February 15<sup>th</sup> if wanting to compete in Spring State Cup, except U19 teams (girls or boys), who must register prior to submitting their State Cup application for Spring State Cup and follow all rules for player transfers and roster freeze dates.
- 3.1.10 Teams must enter State Cup in the age group, or an older age group, in which the team was initially registered for the current seasonal year.
- 3.1.11 Teams must enter State Cup on **UYSA approved form via the Internet and payment must accompany the application or the application will not be accepted**. All entries must be in the UYSA office and recorded by 5:00 PM on **the date set by the Utah BOD and all fees paid in full or the team will not be entered in State Cup. For the teams that fail to make the application entry dead line they will have 24 hours to apply after the dead line and pay a fine of \$500 along with their entry fee and performance bond.** Team entry fee and bond are due when application is submitted. After the registration deadline prior to play-in games and final seeding all team managers/administrators and one coach from each team will attend a mandatory State Cup administration meeting. If a team fails to attend the meeting at the assigned time and place, the SCC **or designated State Cup Representative** will order forfeiture of the teams bond. To maintain State Cup eligibility, the team must post a new bond and attend a meeting with the SCC **or designated State Cup Representative** within 24 hours of the original meeting. **Two deadlines for application fees are established as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> deadline is**

**entry fee and performance bond in the first 25 days that applications are accepted. 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline is entry fee and performance bond and a late fee of \$100 for last ten days applications are accepted.**

- 3.1.12 Teams may enter only one State Cup Tournament in the seasonal year.
- 3.1.13 Teams agree to play wherever they are assigned to play within the Utah geographical area as far as time, location and referee crew.
- 3.1.14 The signature of the team's representative on the entry form and State Cup game card acknowledges the team has complied with the above requirements. An electronic entry will be considered to have been signed, the same as a paper entry, once the electronic entry has been posted to UYSA.

#### **4 Player Eligibility**

- 4.1 Players must be properly registered to their team at the time of the team roster freeze date for that team.
- 4.2 A player may play for only one team (primary team of record) entered in a State Cup Tournament during the seasonal year.
- 4.3 A player who has been suspended may play after the player's term of suspension has expired.
- 4.4 A player is cup-tied to his/her team once the team has entered State Cup and the roster freeze date has passed.
  - 4.4.1 A cup-tied player may transfer to any other team entered but is ineligible to play in State Cup for the current seasonal year.

#### **5 Form of Competition**

- 5.1 State Cup competition shall be offered annually in the following age groups for boys and girls: Under- 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19.
- 5.2 State Cup competition shall be a modified tournament format, with a preliminary round of games from which teams will advance to a single-elimination format. Preliminary round games can end in a tie.
- 5.3 For all games beyond the preliminary round, games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will play overtime periods per rule 7.1. Rule 7.2 will govern the determination of a winner if a game goes to overtime.
- 5.4 Teams will be awarded points for games in the preliminary round:

3 points for a win

1 point for a tie

0 points for a loss

##### **5.4.1 TIE BREAKERS**

In the event where two or more teams have accumulated an equal number of points within any group and are tied on the basis of points earned at the conclusion of bracket play, the team's placement will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria. Tiebreakers will be considered in order until the tie is broken, then restarted to break the remaining tie. This tie-breaking procedure shall be used if necessary to determine 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place standings within a flight.

1. Head to head results
2. Winner of the most games
3. Cumulative goal differential between goals scored and goals allowed in all games played within the team's flight. Maximum difference allowed is four (4) goals per game. For example, if the score was 8-3, the calculation would be +4 goals for the winning team, -3 goals for the losing team. If the score was 6-4, the calculation would be +2 goals for the winning team and -2 goals for the losing team.
4. Least goals allowed in all games played within the team's flight.
5. Kicks from the penalty mark at a time determined by the SCC.

If more than two teams are tied at the end of the preliminary round, the tie-breaking criteria will be used in the order shown, beginning at #2, to either advance or eliminate one team. The remaining teams will then be compared, beginning with #2 to determine the final placement.

5.5 **Entries into State Cup will be seeded with previous year's champion #1 seed and runner up #2 seed if they enter next year's State Cup.** All other entries will be seeded and placed into brackets by the SCC based upon the most recent alignment conducted by the UYSA Competition Committee. There will be a maximum of 16 teams in each age group. If more than 16 teams register in a particular age group, the SCC will hold play-in games to narrow the age group to 16 teams.

- 5.5.1 Play-in matches will be conducted prior to final seeding. All play-in games will be considered as preliminary State Cup games. No developmental players, secondary roster players or State Cup tied players may participate in the play-in games. The SCC will attempt to notify teams of date, field location, and referee assignment 48 hours prior to the match. The Utah State Cup games will take precedence over all other UYSA sanctioned games. Teams that fail to qualify for final seeding will have their application fee and bond returned to them minus the cost of the play-in match.
- 5.5.2 In the under eleven (11) age group all teams will be aligned by the most recent alignment (under the direction of the competition director).
- 5.5.3 Sixteen (16) team bracket: Four (4) groups of four (4) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. The winner of each group and the second place team of each age group shall advance to quarterfinals. Group A will play group D and group B will play group C and cross over will occur after semi-finals when winners pass on to the finals.
- 5.5.4 Fifteen (15) team bracket: Four (4) groups. One (1) group of three (3) teams and three(3) groups of four (4) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. Advancement is the same as the sixteen team bracket.
- 5.5.5 Fourteen (14) team bracket: Four (4) groups. Two (2) groups of three (3) teams and two(2) groups of four (4) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. Advancement is the same as the sixteen team bracket.
- 5.5.6 Thirteen (13) team bracket: Four (4) groups. Three (3) groups of three (3) teams and one (1) groups of four (4) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. Advancement is the same as the sixteen team bracket.
- 5.5.7 Twelve (12) team bracket: Four (4) groups of (3) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. Advancement is the same as the sixteen team bracket.
- 5.5.8 Eleven (11) team bracket: Three (3) groups. One (1) group of three (3) teams and two (2) groups of four (4) teams. Each team in their group will play each other once and the winner of each group will advance along with the second place team. From the age bracket wildcard #1 (WC1) and wildcard #2

(WC2) will be the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> place teams to advance to quarterfinals. Group A will play the wildcards and group B will play group C. Cross over will occur after semifinals.

- 5.5.9 Ten (10) team bracket: Three (3) groups. Two (2) groups of three (3) teams and one (1) group of four teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. Advancement is the same as the eleven (11) team bracket.
  - 5.5.10 Nine (9) team bracket: Three (3) groups of three (3) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. Advancement is the same as the eleven (11) team bracket.
  - 5.5.11 Eight (8) team bracket: Two (2) groups of four (4) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. The winner of each group and the second place team of each age group shall advance to semifinals.
  - 5.5.12 Seven (7) team bracket: Two (2) groups. One (1) group of three (3) teams and one (1) group of four (4) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. Advancement is the same as eight (8) team bracket.
  - 5.5.13 Six (6) team bracket: Two (2) groups of three (3) Teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. Advancement is the same as eight (8) team bracket.
  - 5.5.14 Five (5) team bracket: One (1) group of five (5) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. The winner of the group and the second place team of the group shall advance to finals.
  - 5.5.15 Four (4) team bracket: One (1) group of four (4) teams. Each team will play the other teams in their group once. The winner of the group and the second place team of the group shall advance to finals.
  - 5.5.16 Three (3) team bracket. One (1) group of three (3) teams. Each team will play the other teams in the group once. The winner of the group and the second place team shall advance to the finals.
  - 5.5.17 Two (2) team bracket. One (1) group of two (2) teams will play the best two (2) out of three (3) series. Each match will play until there is a winner, no match will end in a tie. The team that wins two (2) matches will be the UYSA Champion.
  - 5.5.18 One (1) team bracket: This team will be the UYSA State Champion and must pay entry fee and bond to pass on to Far West Regionals.
- 5.6 If, due to the withdrawal of teams, a preliminary bracket contains three or fewer teams, the SCC may place remaining teams in different brackets. In addition, the Committee may redraw any age group if withdrawals reduce the total number of teams in that age group competition to a level, which would eliminate the need for one round of competition.
- 5.7 Teams shall be notified **electronically** of schedules a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the start day of State Cup.
- 5.7.1 After State Game schedules are posted there will be no changes, except for nationally scheduled college entrance exam testing dates, and High School Graduation Ceremonies where possible. At the discretion of the SCC, changes may be made for weather, field conditions, or referee crew assignments.
- 5.8 A team administrator or coach **must** review the online management system for any schedule changes or notices within 24 hours of each match. Schedule changes can occur to conform to State Cup rules.

## 6 Precedence of Games

6.1 Utah State Cup games shall take precedence over all other Utah sanctioned games.

**7 Playing Rules**

7.1 Duration of game:

<b>AGE GROUP</b>	<b>GAME LENGTH</b>	<b>OVERTIME (Elimination Rounds)</b>	<b>BALL</b>
Under-19	Two 45 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
Under-18	Two 45 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
Under-17	Two 45 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
Under-16	Two 40 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
Under-15	Two 40 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
Under-14	Two 35 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
Under-13	Two 35 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
Under-12	Two 30 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 4
Under-11	Two 30 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 4

7.2 Elimination round games tied after regulation will have overtime added. If no goals are scored during two equal overtime periods, the match is decided by FIFA kicks from the penalty mark, which will immediately follow the overtime. Only players on the field at the conclusion of the overtime periods shall be eligible to participate in FIFA kicks from the penalty mark.

7.3 The home team is listed first in the schedule, and shall change jerseys if the referee decides there is a color conflict, and shall supply the game balls.

7.4 Prior to each game the referees will have each team roster with pictures of the players, coaches, trainers, and team administrators on the roster to check the team in prior to the match. Player passes will not be used in State Cup. Team check-in must occur on time for the match to be played. Rule 7.6 allows for a 15 minute grace period after which a forfeiture of the match will occur. If a team forfeits one match then they forfeit all of its games per rule 12.2 However, each team must upload current photos of the players, coaches, trainers, and team administrators when their application is submitted for State Cup. New player passes will be produced by the SCC prior to the final game in State Cup. The winners and finalists will pass thru the credential station after

awards to sign their passes for Far West Regionals. No new coaches, trainers, or team administrators will be added to the roster at this time.

- 7.5 Each coach may review the line-up form and player roster of his/her opponent only at the time the game official checks credentials.
- 7.6 A fifteen (15) minute grace period is allowed for the scheduled starting time of the game. In the event both teams are more than fifteen (15) minutes late for the game, both teams will be deemed to have forfeited the game. Seven (7) players constitute a team ready to play.
- 7.7 The State Cup Tournament is responsible for the official's game fees.
- 7.8 Free substitution is allowed in all age groups. **However, teams may substitute only with the referee's permission and only at the following times, including overtimes, in accordance with UYSA State Cup rules:**
- 1. Prior to a throw-in in your favor;**
  - 2. Prior to a goal kick by either team;**
  - 3. After a goal by either team;**
  - 4. After an injury to either team, when the referee stops play;**
  - 5. During half-time; or**
  - 6. On a caution (only the cautioned player may be substituted at this time).**
- 7.8.1 Far West Regionals only
- For the age groups Under 14 and below, free substitutions shall be allowed. For all other age groups (Under 15 and above), a maximum of 7 substitutions for each team shall be allowed in each game during each half of play and during overtime play. After leaving the game during a half of play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game during that same half of play. After leaving the game during overtime play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game.**
- 7.9 UYSA Endorses FIFA Law IV and current USSF guides
- FIFA Law IV states, "A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry)." The determination of whether a player may play or not will be made by the referee in accordance with FIFA Law IV.**
- 7.10 It shall be the responsibility of each team to maintain proper spectator conduct. The coaches, manager, and the team shall be held primarily accountable for the conduct of the spectators from the respective teams. There are no pets allowed at State Cup games. There will be no noise makers (i.e. bells, drums, bang sticks, horns etc.) allowed at any State Cup games. At no time shall foul or abusive language be permitted. Violations of this rule can result in teams being assessed a fine from their team bond. Spectators will be seated across the field from their team bench as per State Cup rules.
- 7.11 Only credentialed Administrators/Coaches on USYSA roster from same league of registration, for the same team of registration, for the current seasonal year may be on the team bench. Teams without at least one (1) properly credentialed coach (during the entire game) shall forfeit the game. (2) A maximum of 4 credentialed Administrators/Coaches will be permitted on the team bench. (3) Coaching will occur only within the specified technical area. Coaches/Administrators will be seated in the technical bench area. One Coach at a time may stand

and make a positive coaching point and then that coach must sit back down. All Directors of Coaching (DOC's) will be issued one pass that is good for all their teams in State Cup. That pass must be displayed at all times. All Assistant Coaches must be licensed at the State or USSF "D" level. Trainers and Team Managers may be issued a pass for State Cup to be able to check in the team, and take care of injuries and issues on the team bench. This pass should be over stamped with a statement that shows this pass is for "State Cup Administrator use only" Those individuals with State Cup Administrator passes may not make coaching points and will deal with bench issues only. The match will not continue if there is not a properly credentialed coach present for the entire match.

- 7.12 Coaching from the sidelines is not permitted.
- 7.13 Alcohol or illegal drug use, or possession or transportation of a weapon without a valid permit, shall not be permitted at Utah State Cup events.
- 7.14 Birth Documents (USYSA Rule 204)
  - 7.14.1 State Cup players must provide a clean, legible copy of the document used to prove age as provided in UYSA policy 3:06:01. Proof of age shall consist of:
    - A. Birth Certificate
    - B. Board of Health Records
    - C. Passport
    - D. Alien Registration Card issued by the U.S. Government
    - E. Uniformed services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the United States
    - F. Birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency
    - G. Certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age or a certification of an American Citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency
    - H. Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates will not be accepted. (USSF Rule 4033.1)
    - I. Current Drivers License
  - 7.14.2 Any proof of age/birth document that is not in English must have an English translation attached to the original document. The translator must add their name, address, phone number, and qualifications to translate. No coach of a team or parent of a player may translate for that team or the parent's own child unless they are certified and/or accredited to teach the specific language, i.e. high school teacher, professor of languages at a university or college, a court translator, or anyone recognized as an official translator by a governing body.
  - 7.14.3 All administrators of a team will be held responsible for the submission of documents as required for all check-ins. (All proof of age documents will comply with State Cup Rule 7.14) The State Cup Committee will not hear any pleas from parents, guardians, or representatives of players with improper documents.
  - 7.14.4 During the course of the competition, if the State Cup Committee has questions on the eligibility of any player or team, the committee has the authority to require the team/league to furnish proof of eligibility to participate in the competition. Failure to furnish the requested proof within 48 hours may result in the disqualification of a player and/or team from the competition.

7.15 **INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCES – (USYSA Rule 207)** For a player who comes to the United States on or after the player is 14 years of age, the player must request and receive an international clearance from the Federation. However, an international clearance is not required of a player who is 14, 15, or 16 years of age if the player and the player's parents sign a statement that the player has not signed a professional contract or received money from a professional team for playing soccer.

7.16 **ADULT GAMES (USYSA Rule 208)**

7.16.1 A youth player may play an unlimited number of adult games without losing his or her youth eligibility. The youth player must notify his or her youth coach or other authorized team official of the player's intention to play adult games. The youth player shall request, in writing, (1) eligibility clearance from the Youth State Association through which the player is registered, and (2) permission from the appropriate Adult State Association. When the clearance and permission have been granted, the Adult State Association has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play adult games and will be responsible for establishing the procedures under which the youth player will be allowed to play. In the event of a conflict between an adult game and a youth game, the youth game shall take precedence. A youth player who is required to sign an adult form shall retain youth eligibility.

7.16.2 A youth team with the written permission and mutual consent of both the Youth and Adult State Associations may play in an adult-approved league and not lose its youth eligibility to compete in the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. If the youth team's players are required to sign an adult form, the team shall retain its youth eligibility.

7.16.3 The youth team will be required to play under the rules of the Youth State Association concerning registration, roster rules, transfer rules, and any additional qualifications that are required to be eligible for the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. Each Youth State Association shall determine whether participation in any adult league shall qualify a youth team for the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championships competition play.

7.17 **Medical Release.** Players under the age of 18 may not participate in any State Cup game without a copy of the registration form (medical release), signed by a parent or guardian, being presented for the player at check-in.

7.18 **Registration and Check-In**

7.18.1 **Preliminary Games Registration.** Teams will register and check-in with Utah State Cup Tournament officials prior to the beginning of preliminary games. At credential check-in the team representative shall present to the officials the following documents:

1. A completed State Cup Team Roster Form, provided by the SCC (or if registered in the UYSA approved electronic format, the SCC will accept the frozen team roster stored in the approved electronic system when determined it is correct) *and*
2. Administrator/coach USYSA roster from same league of registration, *and*
3. USYSA player roster for said team for the current seasonal year; *and*
4. A clean legible copy of the UYSA registration form (per rule 7.17).
5. A clean legible copy of birth/proof of age documents.

7.18.1.1 The date, time, and place of registration and credential check-in shall be determined and published by the State Cup Committee.

- 7.18.1.2 After registration, if a team fails to attend credential check-in at the assigned time and place, the SCC will order forfeiture of the team's bond. To maintain State Cup eligibility, the team must post a new bond and check-in with the SCC within 24 hours of the original credential deadline.
- 7.18.2 Teams will be present for check-in at their assigned fields 30 minutes prior to each match. The team shall have ready for each check-in: Player Administrator/Coach USYSA roster, current game day roster and medical release forms.
- 7.18.3 All teams shall check-in with the referee prior to every State Cup game and present the player roster. All administrators/coaches must have at each game and present to the referee prior to each game their USYSA passes from same league and team of registration. Game rosters received from 7.18.2 must also be presented to the referee prior to the game.
- 7.18.4 All teams playing in the semi-finals games shall have an administrator turn in to the SCC prior to their semi-final games clean legible copies of the birth certificates and UYSA registration form of each player on the State Cup roster tied to the team. Failure to accomplish this task will result in forfeiture of the team in the semi-finals.
- 7.18.5 **Prior to a team playing in the semi-finals, it must turn in to the SCC a copy of their Regional roster with all coaches, administrators and trainers listed. No coaches, administrators, or trainers will be added to the Regional roster after State Cup is over unless there is an emergency (must be in writing to the SCC) and the head coach for the team cannot be at Far West Regionals. Only coaches, administrators and trainers that are registered to the team can be added to the Regional roster.**

## 7.19 **Player Roster and Uniforms**

- 7.19.1 Each player (or team as a whole) must present to the referee his or her signed USYSA player roster for said team. Each administrator/coach (or team as a whole) must present his/her USYSA pass from same league of registration bearing a recent picture of the identified individual, issued by Utah for the current seasonal year, prior to competing in a match. It is the responsibility of administrators of a team to obtain USYSA passes before the first State Cup game and that the passes are correctly prepared with signature, photo, registrar's stamp, and lamination.
- 7.19.1.2 Failure to present a correct roster renders the player (s) or administrator/coaches (s) ineligible for the game.
- 7.19.2 Game Rosters. Team administrators prior to each game shall present to the referee an official State Cup game roster for the game to be played. Each game roster must be stamped / signed in the appropriate box by the SCC for the game roster to be authentic.
- 7.19.3 Uniforms. Each player, other than the goalkeeper, must have a number listed on the game roster and shall wear in the game a numbered jersey bearing such number. The number shall be affixed to the back of the jersey and shall be clearly visible. Each player must wear a differently numbered jersey. Numbered jerseys for goalkeepers are optional. Goalkeepers must wear colors distinguishing them from other players and game officials. All players on the team bench (substitutes) must wear pennies that are in a different color than their game jersey. Teams must have socks that match. All away and home jerseys must have the UYSA Logo with UTAH under the logo on either the right or left sleeve of both jerseys or on the back of the jersey. Sleeveless jerseys and tank tops may not be worn in State Cup matches. Uniform socks will be of the same color on both feet of all players on the team. **Teams must**

**have socks that match and a second set for color changes directed by game officials. Home team is required to change their game jersey and socks or both if directed by the game officials. Home teams will be in their dark colored uniforms and visitors in their light colored uniforms.**

## **8 Game Officials**

- 8.1 The appointment of game officials shall be the responsibility of the State Youth Referee Administrator, in conjunction with the authority of the SCC. Officials shall be USSF registered.
- 8.2 Complaints regarding game officials must be in writing and sent to the Referee Disciplinary Committee with copies to the SYRA, State Cup Chairperson, and UYSA President.
- 8.3 The SCC shall be responsible for the fees for all officials in the State Cup games and forfeited games.
- 8.4 The scale of charges for duly appointed referees shall be as determined by the State Cup Committee with approval by the Utah Board of Directors.
- 8.5 The referee shall have the power to decide as to the fitness of the field in all matches. In other respects, the duties of the referee and referee assistant are as defined in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 8.6 The referees appointed to officiate in any State Cup game shall be neither a past nor present member nor be related to a member (member to include players, coaches, and/or administrators) of either of the competing teams. Referees accepting games that violate this rule shall be reported to the referee disciplinary committee for possible disciplinary action.
- 8.7 In the event the referee appointed fails to appear and where assistant referees have been appointed, one of those assistant referees shall assume the responsibilities of the referee (if qualified).
- 8.8 The referee will give to the site field marshal at the conclusion of the game, all game cards from the completed games. The referees shall (a) mark the game cards appropriately, (b) complete the referee supplemental report for all red cards given, and (c) turn in the forms required by (a) and (b) to the site administrator appointed by the SCC to receive these documents.

## **9 Misconduct and Breaches of the Rules**

### **9.1 Player Send off/Coach Ejection:**

- 9.1.1 If a player or administrator is ejected from a game, the referee shall give the roster and a supplemental referee report to the appointed field site administrator or a SCC member. Coaches ejected from the game shall spend the remainder of the game off the site. The game can be suspended until the coach leaves the site.
- 9.1.2 Any player ejected from one (1) State Cup game shall be ineligible to participate in his/her team's next **played** State Cup game/games (games forfeited to that team do not count as games played).
- 9.1.3 In the case of an administrator/coach ejection, the administrator/coach will be ineligible to participate in any State Cup game for the next two (2) games for the team from which he/she was ejected. If the team from which he/she was ejected is no longer playing in State Cup the administrator/coach will sit out the next two games where he/she is listed on the State Roster as an administrator/coach of a team still competing in State Cup. If an administrator/coach is advancing to Regional Competition his/her suspension will be served at the Regional Competition.
  - 9.1.3.1 If a coach is ejected in his or her final game of State Cup and that team does not advance to Far West Regionals or received the card in a final game at Far West Regionals that coach will

serve their suspension at the next year's State Cup Competition. The suspension will be tied to previous team first, and if the coach is no longer associated with the original team they must serve their suspension with their new team they are listed as the coach in State Cup Competition. Suspension fulfillment may not be fulfilled by acting as an assistant coach.

- 9.1.4 Any player or administrator ejected from a second State Cup game shall be ineligible to participate during the balance of the current Utah State Cup competition. (Once suspension(s) have been served (minimum of the two games as described in 9.1.3), they may participate at the Regional level)
- 9.1.5 Suspension from affiliated soccer shall not be assessed without a hearing before the SCC. The SCC has the authority to assess more than a one-game suspension without said hearing.
- 9.1.6 In State Cup play, suspensions shall apply to subsequent Regional play.
- 9.1.7 An ejection is not subject to protest.
- 9.1.8 The committee may increase automatic game suspension(s).

## 9.2 **Suspension Guidelines for Players**

- 9.2.1 The SCC shall act on all disciplinary matters and shall have discretionary powers in determining disciplinary action applied to team personnel and players. Game suspensions listed below are to be regarded as minimums for the charged offenses. Depending on the findings of the SCC, penalties may be increased according to the gravity of the infringements. When sent off the field of play and shown the red card for infringement of the Laws of the Game, players and substitutes shall be disciplined by additional game suspensions as follows:

### 9.2.1.1 **Serious Foul Play**

Examples include, but are not limited to, intentionally impeding an opponent, denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity; denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by handling the ball. All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

Examples include, but are not limited to, tripping, holding, unlawfully charging or pushing an opponent denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity; intentionally tripping, holding, pushing, unlawfully charging or tackling an opponent from behind or charging in a dangerous and violent manner. All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

### 9.2.1.2 **Foul and Abusive Language**

Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to, words uttered in frustration and, in the referee's opinion, loud enough to be heard outside the field of play; words or actions directed towards any person. All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

### 9.2.1.3 **Second Cautionable Offense**

Second yellow card after a previous yellow card. All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

### 9.2.1.4 **Violent Conduct**

Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to: Spitting, or other unseemly act, on another person; kicking, striking or attempting to strike another person. All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of two (2) games.

Pushing in an act of aggression, kicking, spitting on, striking, or attempting to strike a referee, assistant referee, or fourth official. All age groups: Suspend from the balance of State Cup competition in the current year and the next year's State Cup competition with review by the Utah Protest, Appeals, and Disciplinary Committee or BOD regarding further disciplinary action.

9.2.1.5 Any player, substitute, or team official who refuses the referee's request for his/her name or gives a false name while the referee is gathering data to report on an infringement of the Laws of the Game involving him/her, shall have one game added to the suspension that would normally be levied by the SCC.

9.3 **Ejected Coaches:** During the game suspension(s), there can be **NO** contact of any kind or by any means between the team and the coach from 30 minutes before the game until the conclusion of the game. Additionally, the coach must not be involved in unacceptable conduct (defined to include coaching his/her players or harassment of opponents/players). The SCC has the authority to ban an ejected coach from more than one State Cup game.

9.4 Any team found guilty of rostering an ineligible player shall not be eligible to compete further in State Cup competition in the current seasonal year. All games will be forfeits and the performance bond kept.

9.4.1 Any coach, manager, or official found guilty of using an ineligible player(s) shall not be eligible to compete further in any State Cup competition in the current and subsequent seasonal year.

9.4.2A player found guilty of submitting falsified birth information shall be prohibited from competing further in any State Cup competition in the current and subsequent seasonal year.

9.5 Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein, including cautions, ejections, and standard suspensions.

9.5.1 Other individuals, 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 UYSA .

9.5.2 The 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.

9.6 Administrators and players who are ejected in their last Utah State Cup game and do not sit out their automatic suspension(s) in one seasonal year, shall have the suspension(s) carried forward to State Cup in the next seasonal year.

9.6.1 However, State Cup Champion and "wild card" players and administrators moving on to the US Youth Soccer Region IV Championships shall have the suspension(s) carried forward to that competition rather than the next seasonal year State Cup.

## 10 Protests

10.1 The SCC shall have the authority to rule on any matter pertaining to this competition.

10.1.1 The SCC shall deal with protests, misconduct, or any other incident arising from a State Cup game.

10.1.2 The SCC has the authority to assess suspensions for more than one game.

10.2 The decisions of the SCC are final.

10.3 Filing a protest shall not stay the State Cup competition.

- 10.4 Protests based on violations of the rules and regulations are eligible to be considered by the SCC. Protests based on referee judgment calls as defined by the FIFA Laws of the Game are not eligible for protest. Videotaping of the match will not be used in a protest nor will it be viewed by the SCC.
- 10.4.1 A plea of ignorance to the rules and regulations of the National Championship Series Policy and the UYSA Championship Policy is not sufficient grounds for a protest.
- 10.5 Filing a protest:
- 10.5.1 A written intent of protest, citing the rule that has been violated, must be delivered to a SCC member no later than two (2) hours following the conclusion of the game in which the violation occurred.
- A written copy of the protest must be delivered to a SCC member no later than 11:00am the following day along with the fee required by Rule 10.5.2 and follow the format listed in Rule 10.5.3.
- 10.5.2 The written protest must be accompanied by a five hundred dollar (\$500) fee in the form of cash, money order, or cashier's check.
- 10.5.3 Protest based on violations of the rules and regulations are eligible to be considered by the State Cup Committee. Submission of protests must follow UYSA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Policies and must have the following Contents of Notice in accordance with UYSA By-Law 8:03:01.

## **11 Forfeits for Failure to Compete**

- 11.1 Any team withdrawing from State Cup prior to the start of competition must do so in writing to the SCC Chairman and UYSA.
- 11.1.1 Teams withdrawing from State Cup competition after the alignment for that age group shall forfeit their bond and entry fee and be subject to a \$500.00 fine.
- 11.1.2 Teams failing to appear for a scheduled game without notifying the SCC at least 24 hours prior to team game day check-in shall forfeit their bond and entry fee and be subject to a \$500.00 fine.

## **12 Forfeits generally**

- 12.1 Any team found guilty of violating any of the rules of this competition or of UYSA shall be subject to disciplinary action, which may include disqualification from the tournament.
- 12.2 Teams forfeiting any game in the preliminary round shall be eliminated from this seasonal year's competition. All scores for that team in the preliminary round shall then revert to a 1-0 win for the opponent. (Forfeit one, forfeit all in preliminary rounds.)
- 12.3 Any coach of a team that intentionally forfeits or intentionally abandons a State Cup game may be suspended from UYSA for up to one calendar year.

## **13 Suspension of game**

- 13.1 If the game is suspended prior to the commencement of the second half, the game shall be replayed in its entirety.
- 13.2 If the game is suspended during the second half, the game shall be considered a full game, unless there was a purposeful misconduct or misuse of this regulation.

- 13.3 If overtime periods are required and the game is suspended prior to or during an overtime period, both overtime periods shall be played on a suitable date.
- 13.4 If the suspended game is a preliminary round match, the decision to replay the match shall be at the discretion of the SCC if the match has no effect on the outcome of either team advancing to the next round.
- 13.5 If a game is stopped or suspended due to misconduct, the SCC shall decide whether or not the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit, after making a determination as to which team or if both teams are adjudged at fault. Notification will occur within 24 hours of the stoppage or suspension.

#### **14 Suspension of Game due to weather or unforeseen events**

- 14.1 In the event of inclement weather or unforeseen events as determined by the SCC, the teams shall assume that the game will be played unless official notification is given.
- 14.2 The SCC, in an effort to provide one preliminary game per day, may arrange for an alternate field site on the day of play. In the case of bad weather, teams shall be notified at the earliest opportunity, which may be the morning of play. Providing the authority that has control of the field in question has not refused permission to use the field, the referee shall have the sole authority to decide whether a game shall be played or suspended due to inclement weather.

#### **15 Game Termination due to misconduct**

- 15.1 Should a game be terminated, it shall be the SCC's responsibility to review the referee report on the termination and determine if the game is to be recorded a forfeit, if the game is to be replayed, or if one or both teams are to be disqualified from the competition.

#### **16 Appeals**

- 16.1 The decisions of the SCC may be appealed to the Utah Protest, Appeals, and Disciplinary Committee. Contact your District Chairperson or the Utah office for the proper procedures. All decisions of the Utah Protest, Appeals, and Disciplinary Committee are final and as such no further appeals will be heard.
- 16.2 Filing a protest or an appeal shall not stay the State Cup competition.

#### **17 Champions and Wild Card Winners**

- 17.1 After medal ceremonies all coaches/administrators and players must pass through the **registration station**. There are no exceptions to this rule. **Online registration with USYSA must be completed in the fall within 10 workings days after finals or the team will not advance to Far West Regionals. Fall wild card teams that are picked at the National Work Shops in February or March will have 10 working days to complete the online registration after they have been notified in writing or they will not advance to Far West Regionals. Spring State Cup winners and wild cards will have 96 hours to complete the online registration or they will not advance to Far West Regionals.**
- 17.2 When Spring State Cup is finished UYSA will not accept wild cards from Region IV for either boys or girls teams. Draw for team brackets and wild cards for Region IV FWR (Far West Regionals) are drawn at the Adidas National Coaches workshops in either February or March of the current playing year. UYSA will continue to accept or deny wild cards until Spring State Cup is finished. Once the yearly State Cup is finished in the Spring, the SCC has to submit required paper work to Region IV FWR by 1 June current year. All teams that win State

Cup or accept the wild card will advance to FWR. Any team or teams that pull out of FWR will forfeit their bond and reimburse UYSA for all costs occurred by failing to fulfill their commitment.

### **17.3 US Youth Soccer Region IV Championships Wild Cards**

In each age group, two Wild Card slots to the US Youth Soccer Region IV Championships may be awarded to FWRL Premier Division teams. In order to be eligible for a Wild Card slot, the following conditions must be met:

- (a) The team must participate in their State Association State Cup competition for the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series during the current seasonal year
- (b) The team must meet all current eligibility requirements for the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series.
- (c) A team's roster is frozen for FWRL play when it is frozen for purposes of state cup participation under the team's State Association rules.
- (d) The team may not have forfeited a game in the FWRL or in their State competition.

### **17.4 Selection of Wild Cards for US Youth Soccer Region IV Championships**

The following system of Wild Card qualifiers for the US Youth Soccer Region IV Championships is adopted.

- (a.) All Age Groups: Two (2) teams from each Premier Division Age Group (1 Fall and 1 Spring) will earn the right to represent the FWRL as wild card teams in the National Championship Series at the Far West Regionals. In situations where there is a single Premier Division in an Age Group, the top teams in that Age Group (Fall and Spring) will be awarded the NCS Wild Card slots, providing all eligibility requirements are met by each individual team, and each team is not a State Cup Champion. In situations where the Premier Division in an Age Group has subdivisions, the FWRL Committee shall determine the playoff format to determine the Wild Card slot.

The Process for determining the Wild Card representatives is as follows:

1. Determine final standings for each division/subdivision based on 4.08 through 4.12.
2. After all applicable State Championships have been determined; eliminate those teams that will represent their State Association as either the State Champion or as a State Wild card team.

- 17.5 By entering the US Youth National Soccer Championship Series, each team agrees to appear for and to compete in every scheduled match for whom it qualifies, including any and all Regional and National Championship matches. Each team also agrees to assume full responsibility for the financial and travel requirements associated with competition at the Regional and National levels. Teams that win State Cup or receive the Wild Card for that age will advance to Regional and or Nationals or face being placed in "Member in Bad Standing " until a fine of \$1500.00 and forfeiture of the bond is paid to UYSA. The fine and "Member in Bad Standing" will be placed first against the team, then the coach and finally the club.

### **18 Appendix: Definitions**

Except as otherwise provided, the following definitions apply to this policy:

**add** - the addition of a player to a team's roster.

**Board of Directors** - the Board of Directors of UYSA .

**UTAH** - Utah Youth Soccer Association

**UYSA** - Utah Youth Soccer Association

**eligibility to play** - registered and not Under-suspension.

**Federation** – the United States Soccer Federation, Inc.

**involuntary release** - the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of team authorities.

**National Championships competitions** - the competitions provided for under this policy for the Under-14, Under-15, Under-16, Under-17, Under-18, and Under-19 age groups.

**Referee Committee** - the Utah Referee Committee.

**registration** - the signing of an intent to play the sport of soccer and the paying of fees to become a member of USYSA.

**rostering** - assignment of a registered player to a team.

**Team roster** - means a list of registered players eligible to play for a team.

**Game Roster** – means the list of players who will participate in a particular competition.

**1<sup>st</sup> Copy of Document** – A copy made directly from the original document – not a copy of a copy.

**suspension** –the temporary withdrawal of rights and privilege, such as the right to play, coach, or otherwise administer or participate (directly or indirectly) in soccer, and the suspension is for the entire term of the suspension with all rights and privileges withdrawn unless specifically stated otherwise by the suspending authority.

**team** - a group of soccer players playing on the same side in soccer games.

**USYSA** - the United States Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

**voluntary release** - the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player.

**youth player** - an individual who has not reached 19 years of age prior to August 1 immediately before the start of any seasonal year. A player who reaches 19 years of age during a seasonal year is allowed to complete that seasonal year. A player who reaches 19 years of age during August of one seasonal year shall be allowed to complete all of the next seasonal year.