



## US Champions Cup National Tournament

### Information, Guidelines and Rules

#### Classification and Age Divisions:

The US Champions Cup National Championship is sponsored by 2012 Sports Events, LLC for Affiliates including United States Youth Soccer (USYSA) Affiliates and United States Club Soccer (US Club Soccer). The tournament is sanctioned by North Texas Soccer (NTSSA), USYSA, and is open to USSF Affiliate sanctioned boys and girls.

#### Team Registration:

All team applications for tournament participation must be completed accurately and payment of the entry fee received at the 2012 Sports Events, LLC office (2919 Commerce St, Dallas, TX 75226) no later than 5:00 PM, June 15, 2019, for 8U – 19U teams. **Any teams traveling must stay at an approved tournament hotel.** North Texas Soccer (NTSSA) teams must provide a NTSSA roster (with player uniform numbers) signed by the coach of record and their local association registrar. Other USSF Affiliated teams must provide an official Team Roster. Players and Coaches/Managers ID cards for non-NTSSA teams are required at registration. USYSA teams from outside NTSSA must submit an approved USYSA travel permit and a league team roster with home association signature or a state association approved travel roster. Teams or players will not be allowed to participate without approved paperwork. Coaches/Managers must upload the approved paperwork to the documents tab of the teams GotSoccer account for validation. Tournament validated rosters are required prior to participating in any match. **Medical release forms for each player are required and must be available at the fields as requested. All teams must have approved ID cards for each of the players including up to five (5) guest players and for the team coaches and managers. All team documentation must be from the same USSF Affiliate, for example USYSA or US Club Soccer. Club Pass Players are permitted in this tournament but must be part of the (5) guest player limit.**

#### Game Information:

All teams are scheduled to have three preliminary games, typically three on Friday and/or Saturday. Quarterfinals, if required, are scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Semifinals will be held Sunday morning, and Finals will be held Sunday afternoon. Teams will be seeded within each age group with brackets and playoffs structured to optimize the probability of the best two teams reaching the finals. *In the event of inclement weather during the tournament, the Tournament Director has the authority to restructure or cancel the tournament.*

For Advancement Purposes:	
Number of Teams in a Bracket	Number of Teams that will Advance
16	8
14	8
12	8
10	8
8	6
6	4



<b>Team Standing and Tie Breakers:</b>	
Team standings will be based on the following scoring system:	
<b>Win =</b>	6 points plus 1 point for each goal scored (max of 3 goals)
<b>Tie =</b>	3 points plus 1 point for each goal scored (max of 3 goals)
<b>Loss =</b>	0 points plus 1 point for each goal scored (max of 3 goals)
<b>Bonus =</b>	1 point is awarded for a shutout
<b>Forfeit =</b>	Scored as a 3-0 win and a total of 10 points will be awarded
<p>Winner, runner-up, and wild card teams will be determined in the following priority order: (1) Points Total, (2) Head to Head, (3) Cum Goal Difference (max +/- 5 goal difference [GD] per game with no limit on goals scored and allowed per game), For example, a 7-1 score yields a +5 GD for the winner and a -5 GD for the loser, (4) Cum Number Shutouts, (5) Cum Goals Scored (max 5 goals scored per game), (6) Fewest Number Cum Goals Allowed (max 5 goals allowed per game), (7) Fewest Caution Points – yellow cards 1 point, red cards 2 points, (8) Tournament Director decision. Teams and the referees will report scores. <b>The coach must verify the posted score prior to the team's next game.</b> If any discrepancy between the two teams reported scores, then the referee's score will be final. <i>If, in the Quarterfinals or Semifinals when there are no Quarterfinals, the predetermined pairings result in two opponents from the same bracket, realignment of the pairings may be made by the Tournament Director.</i></p>	

<b>Game length and Ball Size:</b>					
	<b>Ball</b>	<b>Half-Time</b>	<b>Preliminary, Quarterfinal, Semifinal Games</b>	<b>Championship Games (Final Games)</b>	<b>Quarterfinals, Semifinals, &amp; Finals (only if tied after Regulation play)</b>
<b>Division</b>	<b>Size</b>		<b>Regulation</b>	<b>Regulation</b>	<b>Overtime</b>
<b>17U-19U(11v11)</b>	5	5 min.	Two 40 minute periods	Two 45 minute periods	IFAB kicks from the mark
<b>15U-16U(11v11)</b>	5	5 min.	Two 40 minute periods	Two 45 minute periods	IFAB kicks from the mark
<b>13U-14U(11v11)</b>	5	5 min.	Two 35 minute periods	Two 40 minute periods	IFAB kicks from the mark
<b>11U-12U (9v9)</b>	4	5 min.	Two 30 minute periods	Two 35 minute periods	IFAB kicks from the mark
<b>9U-10U (9v9)</b>	4	5 min.	Two 30 minute periods	Two 35 minute periods	IFAB kicks from the mark
There is no overtime in preliminary games. Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final games that are tied at the end of regulation will be decided by IFAB kicks from the penalty mark.					



## Game Time:

Kickoff will be at the scheduled time unless games are delayed. Each team must be ready to play at the scheduled time or immediately after the conclusion of the previous game as determined by the Referee, or the team is subject to forfeiting the match.

## Playing Conditions:

The home team is listed first or on top in the schedule. Both teams will occupy the same side of the field. Only players, coaches, and managers who are on the validated tournament roster may be present on the teams' sideline. Parents and un-rostered visitors will occupy the opposing side from the teams. In case of uniform conflict, the home team is responsible for changing to an alternate color, however the visitor must arrive wearing their darkest uniform. This is to circumvent a problem where the visiting team wants to wear white to force the home team into a darker uniform. The complex director will resolve any dispute. 9U-19U games will be officiated by a Center Referee and two Assistant Referees. Each team must be prepared to present a game ball to the Center Referee prior to the start of the game for his/her selection. In case of inclement weather, the Tournament Director and/or Field Coordinator will determine if a game is to be played. Once the game has started the decision rests with the Center Referee. If any games are canceled, it is up to the coaches of the teams to check with the Tournament Director for rescheduling information. Games shall be considered complete if one half of the game has elapsed. The score at the stoppage of play will be the final score. If one half has not elapsed and the game is stopped, the game must be rescheduled if it affects the outcome of the tournament and if weather permits. Players may be substituted with the consent of the Center Referee at the following times:

1. Prior to a throw-in in your favor, if your team substitutes, the Center Referee may permit the other team to also substitute.
2. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
3. After a goal by either team.
4. When the Referee approves an injury substitution by one team, the other team may substitute an equal number of players.
5. At half time.
6. When the Referee stops to caution a player, only that player may be substituted prior to the restart of the game.
7. No player shall leave the field of play without the consent of the Referee.
8. Players shall enter and leave the field at mid-field.

## Team and Player Credential Check:

Referees will have the game report for each game. Each team must be able to present its validated tournament game roster and player, coaches/manager cards (if a non-NTSSA team) to the Tournament Official prior to the start of each match, if requested. A player may play for only one team in the tournament and must be listed on the validated tournament game roster. If a player plays in a game and is not properly registered, the team will automatically forfeit that game and may face further penalties as determined by the Tournament Director and/or Home Association.

## Team Discipline ("Cumulative Card System"):

- a. Yellow Cards: A player receiving a second yellow card in a single game is suspended for the balance of that game and the next game within that competition.
- b. Red Cards: A player receiving a red card or a coach/assistant coach who is sent off is suspended for the balance of that game and the next game within that competition. Any individual that has been ejected must leave the field area within two minutes of the ejection or the game will be forfeited. ***Also Ejection for fighting or violent conduct will automatically result in the person not being allowed to participate in the remainder of the tournament***
- c. The Sit-Out Verification Form (used for any player, coach, manager, or spectator, sitting out a game due to disciplinary action) must be signed by the referee. The Coach is responsible for the actions of verbal and physical abuse of referees by his/her spectators. Such abuse will not be tolerated.

## Team Protests and Appeals:



Protests and appeals will be allowed only if the Referee has misapplied the rules of the game or if a team uses an ineligible player. The offended team may file a protest by submitting in writing, the nature of the violation within two hours of the incident, along with \$250 in cash to the Tournament Director. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned and corrective action as determined by the Tournament Director will be taken. The Tournament Director must determine that the violation defined by the written protest materially affected the outcome of the game. The decision of the Tournament Director will be final.

### Post-Game Procedures:

Manager/coach of both teams will insure their respective sideline areas are clean and that all trash is in containers.

At the end of each game, a team representative must sign/initial the game report prior to collecting the player cards, with the exception of any players or coaches sent off, from the referee or field marshal. The ultimate responsibility of collecting the passes from the referee lies with the coach/manager of the teams participating.

A completed game report will be submitted to the tournament director complete with scores and a supplemental report for send offs, injuries or special circumstances that need explanation.

### Matters Not Provided For:

Any situation or questions on rules of competition not covered herein will be governed by NTSSA rules and USYSA policies, in that order. Any matter not provided for in Tournament rules or NTSSA rules and USYSA policies shall be determined by the Tournament Director, whose decisions shall be final. There are NO Dogs or Pets allowed at the fields. Consumption of alcoholic beverages on facilities is against the law and will not be allowed. There is NO smoking allowed at the complexes.

***ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ARE NOT PERMITTED AT GAME SITES.  
ARTIFICIAL NOISE-MAKING DEVICES ARE PROHIBITED.***

### Tournament Acceptance, Withdrawal, and Inclement Weather Refund Policy:

If your team is Not Accepted in the tournament, a FULL refund of the team entry fee will be made. If your team is Accepted into the tournament and is subsequently Withdrawn from the tournament after 5/1/2019, NO refunds of the team entry fee will be made. If your team has been accepted in the tournament (and not subsequently withdrawn) and the tournament is cancelled due to inclement weather BEFORE completion of your first tournament game, a 50% (Fifty Percent) refund of the team entry fee will be made. If there is inclement weather, every effort will be made to play all games; However, the tournament may be restructured or cancelled with NO refunds of the team entry fee issued after completion of your first tournament game.

### PLEASE REMEMBER

- AT THE END OF EACH GAME, A TEAM REPRESENTATIVE MUST SIGN/INITIAL THE GAME REPORT.
- TO GET YOUR PLAYER CARDS BACK FROM THE REFEREE AT THE END OF EACH GAME.
- RED CARDS MUST BE RETRIEVED FROM TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS.
- PLEASE ENSURE YOUR TEAM REMOVES ALL TRASH FROM THE SIDELINE AFTER EACH GAME.
- IN THE EVENT OF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY THERE ARE CERTIFIED ATHLETIC TRAINERS OR EMTS ON SITE.
- COACHES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF THEIR SPECTATORS.
- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ARE NOT PERMITTED AT GAME SITES.
- ARTIFICIAL NOISE-MAKING DEVICES ARE PROHIBITED.