



Kentucky Youth Soccer Association

443 South Ashland Avenue, Lexington, Kentucky 40502

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State Open Cup Policies and Rules of Competition

State Open Cup Policies

Please note the following new policies for the 2009 State Open Cup:

1. Team Bonds Removed- Increased suspensions for misconduct
2. U16-U19 Roster Size Limit of 22

GAME SCHEDULES- SEE SECTION H FOR "PLAY-IN GAME INFORMATION.

- F. Pursuant to the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championship Rules, this competition is known as the Kentucky Youth Soccer State Open Cup Championships or **State Open Cup**. Adidas America is the presenting sponsor.

TEAM ELIGIBILITY

The KYSA State Open Cup shall be open to any US Youth Soccer affiliated team provided such team is in compliance with all of the following requirements:

Team Composition and Standing

- A. The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered youth players (as defined by the rules of the KYSA and US YOUTH SOCCER) and must be registered with a KYSA member association.
- B. The team must be in good standing with its League/Club and the KYSA and must be in compliance with, and has not violated, any of the rules of the KYSA and/or US YOUTH SOCCER.
- C. The team must be entered in the competition of the State Association in which at least fifty percent (50%) of its players are registered.
- D. All teams must have participated in at least a four (4) team division during the current seasonal year in an affiliated league of the KYSA with the exception of the Under 19 age group who have no league requirement. The league competition shall consist of at least one (1) game against at least three (3) different teams participating in the league.
- E. The team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and State Open Cup competitions by maintaining a minimum of nine players common to the rosters of both competitions.
- F. The team may not be a State Olympic Development Team.

Rostering of Players

- A. The 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 why this action has been requested, has been made to and approved by the State Association on a form provided. At the time a team names its National Championship roster it may not have more than five (5) previously rostered players.
- B. A player is considered rostered to a team no later than when the player first participates for the team in any competition sanctioned by a State Association or its member leagues, clubs or teams. For purposes of this competition, teams need not consider as rostered players

ESTABLISHMENT

The Kentucky Youth Soccer Association State Open Cup Championships (**State Open Cup**) is a tournament sponsored and conducted annually by the Kentucky Youth Soccer Association (**KYSA**).

- A. There shall be individual, separately conducted State Championships competitions for boys and girls in each of the age groups from Under 13 through Under 19. It is a part of and a qualifying event for the US Youth Soccer Regional and National Championships sanctioned and conducted by United States Youth Soccer Association.
- B. The State Open Cup was initiated and organized to enhance the accomplishments competitive players achieve by participating in a state championship tournament that can lead to regional and national play. The development of all players within KYSA is advanced when the player meets personal challenges. The Cup is open to all properly registered Kentucky Youth Soccer Association teams ages Under 13 through Under 19, both boys and girls.
- C. Kentucky State Open Cup winners in all age groups advance to the US YOUTH SOCCER Midwest Region II Championships. US YOUTH SOCCER Region II winners in the Under-14 to Under-19 age groups advance to the US Youth Soccer National Championships.
- D. The KYSA State Open Cup is conducted under the direction of the KYSA State Board of Directors and State Program Manager. Operation of the State Open Cup may be delegated to a State Open Cup Tournament Committee (**State Open Cup Committee**) appointed by the State President with the approval of the State Board of Directors.
- E. The State Open Cup Committee may, from time to time, appoint Site Administrators and others to represent and assist them.



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1. players on school teams in those instances where the State Association administers school programs; or
 2. players on recreational teams as defined in US YOUTH SOCCER Part 4094.
- C. A team may not release, voluntarily or involuntarily, any player from its roster unless a written request, stating the reason why this action has been requested, has been made to and approved by the State Association on a form provided. A team may release involuntarily a player from its roster only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons:
1. The player has violated rules of the USSF or US YOUTH SOCCER or the State Association member through whom the player is registered.
 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. The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.
- D. **In the U13-U15** age groups a team must not allow more than eighteen (18) or less than seven (7) players on its "TEAM" roster during the State Open Cup or at any other given time during the seasonal year.
- E. **In the U16-U19** age groups a team may have no more than twenty-two (22) or less than seven (7) players on its "TEAM" roster during the State Open Cup or at anytime during the seasonal year.
- F. Each team in the **U16-U19** age groups must submit a "GAME" roster consisting of no more than eighteen (18) or less than seven (7) players to the State Open Cup Headquarters tent no later than sixty (60) minutes prior to each game they play in State Cup competition. Every player listed on the "GAME" roster must be listed on the "TEAM" roster to be eligible to participate with the team.
- G. Any team playing a player who is over-age, or who is not registered, or who is improperly entered on the team's roster shall forfeit the game(s) in which that player takes part. Teams may be subject to forfeit fees.
- D. No "over age" players will be permitted to participate for any reason.
- E. A player who has been suspended may play after the player's term of suspension has expired.
- F. A player may not play for a team in the State Open Cup competition unless the player was listed on the team's league roster at the time the roster was frozen for State Open Cup play.
- G. No player shall be permitted to participate in both the State Open Cup and Eurosport Cup in the same seasonal year.

TEAM ENTRY TO COMPETITION

Application to Compete

The Board of Directors of the KYSA will determine the date and sites of the State Open Cup, the dates for deadline for entry to the Cup, and the entry fee for the State Open Cup.

- A. All entries must be entered online by the date set.
- B. Kentucky Youth Soccer reserves the right to extend the application deadline if needed in any or all age groups.
- C. Each team entry must include the following:
 1. The non-refundable fee in the amount set by the Board of Directors for each competition.
 2. The State Open Cup Entry form completed online indicating the team's intention to compete.
- D. Teams and players may compete in only one (1) State Open Cup competition in a seasonal year. Upon registration, a team and its players shall be considered to have competed in the State Open Cup competition for that seasonal year, whether or not the team or players actually play in a State Open Cup game.

Performance Fines and Fees

- A. The Kentucky Youth Soccer Association reserves the right to fine any member organization or club for the misconduct of players, coaches, team administrators, or parents during state open cup competition.
- B. The State Cup Committee will determine misconduct by all teams and members associated with that team as well as the fines and fees associated with all incidents.
- C. Failure to pay any fines will result in disqualification of all teams from that member association or club from the Kentucky State Open Cup until such fines have been paid.

State Open Cup Roster

Player Eligibility

- A. A player must be properly registered and rostered in accordance with the rules of the United States Youth Soccer Association and the Kentucky Youth Soccer Association.
- B. A player may play for only one team in State Open Cup competition in any seasonal year.
- C. No "guest players" will be permitted to participate.



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- A. The deadline for transfers, releases, and adds shall be Seven (7) days prior to the originally scheduled date for the start of State Open Cup Competition in that particular age/gender group. All rosters are frozen at that time. Only those players legally rostered at such time are eligible to participate in further State, Regional, or National Competitions.
- B. If any change is made to a team's roster after the official roster is submitted, the team must submit a new Official Team Roster to the state office prior to the roster freeze date.
 1. The changed roster MUST be received by the state office at least Seven (7) days prior to the start of State Cup Competition in that particular age/gender group. Rosters submitted after the cut off date will be refused.
 2. Facsimiles of an updated roster are acceptable if legible.
 3. All updated rosters MUST meet the same requirements as for the initial roster.
- C. A team's roster as filed with the state office shall be "frozen" **Seven (7)** days before the start of State Open Cup competition in the team's age/gender group. The team's roster will be stamped by the State Office as the team's official **State Open Cup "TEAM" Roster** and shall be its roster for the State Open Cup Competition at all levels.
 1. A team may not make changes to its State Open Cup Roster once it has been frozen. Under no circumstances are added or transferred players to be added to the State Open Cup Roster once it has been frozen.
 2. Only those coaches listed on the roster will be permitted on the sidelines during a match.
- C. A copy of the proof of birth for all players. Proof of age shall consist of a United States birth certificate or birth registration issued by an appropriate U.S. Government Agency (State-County), Board of Health Record, passport, alien registration card issued by the U.S. Government, a certificate of Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age or a certification of an American citizen born abroad, issued by the appropriate government agency

A copy of the team's official State Open Cup "**TEAM**" Roster will be available for each team to review at check in.

The State Open Cup "**GAME**" Roster, the Medical Releases and the US YOUTH SOCCER player passes must be available at the game site for all team games.

A PLAYER AND/OR TEAM WILL BE INELIGIBLE OR DISQUALIFIED SHOULD THERE BE IMPROPER, INCOMPLETE OR INCORRECT CREDENTIALS.

State Open Cup Rules of Competition

GAME SCHEDULES

- A. Every attempt will be made for all games to be played at the scheduled times, unless delayed or interrupted by bad weather or other events beyond the control of the State Open Cup Committee.
- B. SUSPENDED GAMES will be played or restarted as soon as the condition for the delay is no longer a reason for further delay. All games will be restarted at the point of suspension. If the first half of the match has been completed, the game may be declared official if conditions prohibit the restart.
- C. CANCELLED GAMES will be rescheduled by the State Open Cup Committee. Every attempt will be made to reschedule games as soon as possible, on the earliest possible date, to allow the winning team(s) to progress to the next level of play.
- D. No team may be scheduled to play a game that starts less than four (4) hours after the start of the team's previous game.
- E. No team may be scheduled to play more than two (2) games on any day.
- F. In groups having more than five (5) entries, the groups will be divided into brackets for pool play with the winners of each bracket advancing to single elimination competition to determine the winner of the group.
- G. In groups having five (5) or less entries, the group will play each team in the group to determine the winner of the group.
- H. Play in Games
 1. In age groups where 11 teams have entered, the two lowest seeded teams

Check In for Credentials

Proper credentials shall be presented at a check-in at least one (1) hour prior to the team's first game of the State Open Cup. The team MUST check in with the State Open Cup Committee and provide the following for verification against the **State Open Cup Roster** described above:

- A. US Youth Soccer Member Passes for all players and coaches. All Member Passes MUST:
 1. be typewritten and filled out completely, and have the player's/coach's signature.
 2. include a current photograph of the player or coach
 3. be signed by the player or coach
 4. be stamped and signed by an authorized state official
 5. be laminated.
 6. be present at all matches.
- B. Medical Authorization/Release forms notarized by a notary.



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based on a blind draw will play a "Play-In" game to determine the final team to complete the bracket in that particular age group for State Open Cup competition. In age groups where more than 20 teams have entered play in games may be played.

2. Play-in games MUST be played no later than May 1.
3. A game site will be agreed upon by both teams involved and will be submitted to the State Office.
4. A game report will be provided to the home team and they will be responsible for submitting that form along with the referee game card to the state office within 72 hours of the completion of the game.
5. Failure to submit the game card and report may result in disqualification of the home team.
6. The team who does not advance to participate in the State Open Cup will receive a refund of their entry fee less \$100.

Seeding

- A. **The top four (4) teams from the prior year's State Open Cup or Eurosport Cup in each age group will be seeded based on the prior year's results. All other teams will be randomly assigned to a group using a blind draw.**
- B. In order to qualify for a seeded position in State Open Cup Play, a team must essentially be the same team that played in Cup Competition the previous year. The criteria for determining if a team is to be considered a "returning" team is as follows:
 - At least fifty percent (50%) of the team's players return from the previous year's Cup Team Roster.
 - The team is rostered and the players are registered with the same member association as they were the previous seasonal year.

SCORING METHOD

The standing of teams in age groups within brackets is based upon the number of points earned in qualifying games.

- A. Teams earn points as follows:
 1. Three (3) points for a win (including forfeits)
 2. One (1) point for a tie
 3. Zero (0) points for a loss
- B. If teams have played a different number of games, an adjustment will be made to correct for the number of games played. *For example,*
 1. *If one team played four games and another team played three games, all numbers for the team that played four games would be*

multiplied by 75% and then compared to the actual numbers for the team that played three games.

2. *Team with three games has 7 points; team with four games has 10 points.*
3. *Four game team's 10 points are multiplied by 75% to determine weighted points (10 x .75 = 7.5 points).*
4. *Team with four games would advance with weighted points of 7.5 being higher than unweighted points of 7 for team with three games.*

TIED GAMES

- A. In group play matches tied after regulation time shall remain tied.
- B. If a game is tied at the end of regulation play and overtime periods are to be played to determine a winner, (2) complete overtime periods will be played after the end of regulation play. If the game is still tied after the end of the 2 overtime periods, FIFA "Kicks from the Penalty Mark" rules will apply in order to determine the winner.
- C. Overtime Periods shall be as defined in the "State Open Cup Modifications to the FIFA Laws of the Game" section of these rules.

GROUP/BRACKET WINNER AND WILD CARD TIE BREAKERS

- A. The winner of group and bracket competition and the awarding of wild cards shall be determined as follows:
 1. Teams with most points.
 2. Winner of head to head competition (this criteria not used if more than two teams tied).
 3. Goal spread (goals scored minus goals against) with a maximum of four goals per game.
 4. Fewest goals allowed.
 5. Most "Shutout" victories.
 6. Winner of most "Group Games."
 7. Kicks from the penalty mark as set forth in the FIFA "Laws of the Game" under "Instructions Regarding The Taking of Kicks from the Penalty-Mark".
- B. Should more than two teams be tied at the end of the preliminary round, the above list of tiebreakers will be used in sequential order until one team is determined to be the winner. The tie-breaking procedure does not revert back to previous tie-breaking criteria after one team has been eliminated. The remaining teams will then restart the sequence at number three (3) above until the tie is broken.
- C. In groups having five or fewer teams, should two teams be tied after all criteria are applied, a championship game will determine the winner.



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COACH, PLAYER AND SPECTATOR POSITIONS ON THE FIELD

- A. All coaches and assistant coaches must have an approved US YOUTH SOCCER member pass to be present on the sidelines and **MUST** be listed on the team's official State Open Cup roster. No team may have more than three (3) persons as coaches or assistant coaches on the sidelines at any time.
- B. All coaches and assistant coaches must remain within ten (10) yards of the center line of the field; on his/her own half of the field and on the same side as the "bench". Players not on the field shall remain in the same area.
- C. No persons associated with the team other than coaches, assistant coaches or players are to remain in the bench area.
- D. All other persons associated with the team and all spectators must be on the opposite side of the field as the "bench".
- E. State Open Cup Committee members and their designees including event athletic trainers may be on the "bench" side of the field to supervise the competition or to administer first aid.

SPORTSMANSHIP

- A. In the event of misconduct on the sidelines, the referee or others designated by the State Open Cup Committee has the right to require any and/or all persons to leave the area.
 1. If any offending party refuses to leave, the referee shall terminate the game.
 2. The referee shall make a report to the State Open Cup Committee who may declare a FORFEIT. A double forfeit is possible with neither team advancing.
 3. **NO PROTESTS WILL BE HEARD FOR MISCONDUCT ON THE SIDELINES.**
- B. The State Open Cup Committee and/or its designated representative at the field, and the referee shall ensure that any player, coach or assistant coach, ejected under FIFA LAW XII, KYSA Additions, not participate in the next scheduled or rescheduled game. Further non-participation in the competition may be imposed by the State Open Cup Committee or its designated representative.
- C. The referee shall report, in writing, to the State Open Cup Committee or its designated representative at the field the final score, any and all reports of verbal or physical abuse to a referee or other official by a spectator, coach or player, any disqualification, ejections, cautions, warnings of a player, coach or spectator, game suspensions, delays, terminations, cancellations, and serious injuries

FORFEITS FOR FAILURE TO COMPETE

- A. A team that has forfeited a game will not be declared a wild card, group, or age group winner.
- B. A forfeit win shall count as a game. The Score awarded to the winning team shall be 4-0. Furthermore, all other games played by the forfeiting team shall be counted as losses (regardless of the actual outcome) and the opposing team(s) shall be awarded a win with a score of 4-0.
- C. A team that has forfeited shall be subject to a fine of \$500 per game. Additional fines and/or sanctions may be imposed by the KYSA.
- D. All clubs/ affiliates are responsible for their teams and may be fined and/or sanctioned by the KYSA for problems incurred by them on and off the field.
- E. A game becomes a FORFEIT should a team or teams not field at least seven players at the SCHEDULED kick off time and during the duration of the game. Should the start of the game be delayed because of no fault of either team (such as the preceding game finishing late) ten (10) minutes will be allowed from the end of that game to the start of the game.

TEAM AND PLAYER BREACHES OF RULES/ CONDUCT

It is the responsibility of the State Open Cup Committee to investigate a properly protested violation immediately following its receipt. Failure to cooperate with such investigation shall result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

- A. Any team found guilty of knowingly using an ineligible player shall not be eligible to compete further in the State Open Cup competition or any other KYSA sponsored event in the current seasonal year.
- B. Any coach, manager or official found guilty of knowingly using an ineligible player(s) shall not be eligible to compete further in the State Open Cup competition or any other KYSA sponsored event in the current and subsequent seasonal year.
- C. A player found guilty of knowingly submitting falsified birth information shall be prohibited from competing further in State Open Cup competition or any other KYSA sponsored event in the current and subsequent seasonal year.
- D. Players who are ejected from any State Open Cup game shall not be allowed to participate in the next immediately following State Open Cup game played by the player's team. A player may receive more than a one-game suspension. Red Card Suspensions may be carried over to the following years competition.
- E. Any player(s) ejected for violent conduct or fighting shall receive a minimum two (2) game suspension.



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- F. Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein, including cautions, ejections and standard suspension. Any ejected coach who coaches more than 1 team in state open cup competition, must serve the suspension with the team in which the ejection occurred.
- G. Any other Supporter(s) and/or individual(s), 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 the Kentucky Youth Soccer Association and the State Open Cup Committee.
- H. 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.
- I. Teams that participate in the final match for their age group and fail to show up for the Awards Ceremony following the conclusion of the event will forfeit their team performance bond.

PROTESTS

- A. The referee shall be the sole judge on the field of play, and the referee's decision shall be final.
 - 1. No protest based on the referee's judgment will be allowed.
 - 2. Any complaint about any referee shall be directed, in writing, to the State Referee Administrator or his/her designee.
- B. The State Open Cup Committee or it's designated representative at the field, **MUST BE NOTIFIED, IN WRITING, OF THE INTENT TO PROTEST WITHIN ONE HOUR (60 minutes) OF THE END OF THE GAME IN QUESTION.** All written intentions to protest **MUST** be accompanied by the required **\$500** cash fee, to be deposited with the State Open Cup Committee.
 - 1. Protests concerning Rules or Eligibility must be filed and received in writing, within four (4) hours of the end of the game in question, with the State Open Cup Committee.
 - 2. **NO VERBAL PROTESTS WILL BE HEARD.**
 - 3. If a protest is upheld all money shall be returned.
- C. All decisions of the State Open Cup Committee regarding State Open Cup competition shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- D. All decisions of the State Open Cup Committee regarding discipline and suspension that extend beyond the State Open Cup competition shall be subject to appeal as provided in the Policies of the Kentucky Youth Soccer Association.

STATE FINALIST & STATE CHAMPIONS

- A. All teams advancing to a State Open Cup Championship match must provide an original copy of the "State Open US Youth Soccer National Championship Blue Roster" to the State Open Cup Committee prior to the Championship Match. The Blue Roster must be:
 - 1. Completely typed
 - 2. Signed by each player listed on the Blue Roster
 - 3. Signed by the coach or manager of the team
 - 4. Approved by an appropriate state official
- B. All State Champion Teams qualify and are expected to participate in the Midwest Region Championships. Teams are subject to fines as outlined in the Midwest Region Championship Policies for failure to participate.
- C. The KYSA Executive Director, the KYSA State President or his/her official designee must certify the eligibility of competing teams to advance to the Midwest Regional Championship and to provide such teams with a copy of the rules of the competition.
- D. A teams roster for Midwest Regional Competition and National Championship competition shall be frozen at the same moment that the roster is frozen for this competition.

STATE OPEN CUP MODIFICATION TO FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME

Except as otherwise provided herein, the FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME shall apply

FIFA LAW IV - NUMBER OF PLAYERS

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

- A. Prior to a throw-in in your favor.
- B. Prior to a throw-in in the opponent's favor provided they are substituting.
- C. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
- D. After a goal by either team.
- E. After an injury by either team, when play has been stopped.
- F. At half time.
- G. After a caution or ejection, by either team.

FIFA LAW V - REFEREE

USSF three (3) man systems will be used during all State Open Cup games. In the event that three neutral referees are not available, a single referee and a single linesman and a club linesman or a single referee and two club linesmen shall be used.



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FIFA LAW VII - DURATION OF GAME

- H. Games may be suspended and restarted at the point of suspension.
- I. Game lengths and over time periods are as follows.
 - 1. Game lengths in group play may be shortened by the State Open Cup Committee to insure the completion of the competition when there has been significant delay in games due to bad weather or other events beyond the control of the committee.
 - 2. If a game is tied at the end of regulation play and overtime periods are to be played to determine a winner, (2) complete overtime periods will be played after the end of regulation play. If the game is still tied after the end of the 2 overtime periods, FIFA "Kicks from the Penalty Mark" rules will apply in order to determine the winner.

AGE	GAME LENGTH	HALF TIME	REST BEFORE OT	OT PERIODS	OT HALF TIME
U-19	Two 45 minute halves	10 mins	10 mins	Two 15 min. halves	5 minutes
U-18	Two 45 minute halves	10 mins	10 mins	Two 15 min. halves	5 minutes
U-17	Two 45 minute halves	10 mins	10 mins	Two 15 min. halves	5 minutes
U-16	Two 40 minute halves	10 mins	10 mins	Two 15 min. halves	5 minutes
U-15	Two 40 minute halves	10 mins	10 mins	Two 15 min. halves	5 minutes
U-14	Two 35 minute halves	10 mins	10 mins	Two 10 min. halves	5 minutes
U-13	Two 35 minute halves	10 mins	10 mins	Two 10 min. halves	5 minutes