



WASHINGTON YOUTH SOCCER RECREATIONAL CUP

- A) The Washington Youth Soccer Recreational Cup – hereafter referred to as Recreational Cup – will consist of one tournament with divisions as determined by the Recreational Cup Committee and Washington Youth Soccer. It will be open to all boys and girls teams Under 11 through Under 17 and Under 18/19, comprised of properly registered Washington Youth Soccer players affiliated with Member Associations, provided such teams entering, and its Association, are in good standing with Washington Youth Soccer and the team is in compliance with and has not violated the rules of Washington Youth Soccer.

I. ADMINISTRATION

Tournament Committee

- A) The Recreational Cup will have a Committee Chair(s) appointed by Washington Youth Soccer. Washington Youth Soccer will have final authority in all decisions made by the Tournament Chair(s) and Tournament Committee as well as serve on Tournament Committee.
1. Each participating Region/District shall designate a representative to form the Tournament Committee. Teams are to direct any questions or concerns to their Region/District tournament representative.

II. REGISTRATION AND TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- A) This cup will be open to recreational teams only. A “recreational” team is defined as any team where the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited. Individual Member Associations will determine whether their teams fit the “recreational” classification, subject to District/Region approval. District/Regions will apply good judgment in order for teams to be placed in the appropriate state-hosted tournament.
- B) Registration will be conducted by each District/Region. Each District/Region and Member Association will set internal schedules for team registration and payment.
1. Washington Youth Soccer will set a deadline for the District/Regions to pay the registration fee for their teams entered in the Recreational Cup.
- C) Rosters must be submitted to the Member Association Registrar by the individual District/Region deadline. Rosters, registration documents supporting roster changes, and applications submitted to the District/Region will be processed and verified by the Member Association Registrar. No transfers to the team for the sole purpose of tournament play or guest players will be allowed. No roster can be adjusted after October 31, or after the commencement of the first game of the tournament within the team’s District/Region.



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- D) There will be no refund of the entry fee unless the tournament for that age group is canceled.
- E) District/Regions may choose to fine a team for not showing at a District/Region Preliminary game.
- F) Any Member Association's team not showing or canceling for the post District/Region play will be fined \$500 for each individual match unless the Recreational Cup Committee decides that there are compelling reasons for the non-appearance.
- G) By the date determined by the Recreation Cup Committee, each District/Region will submit a list of team name, age and gender of all teams entered in the Recreational Cup to Washington Youth Soccer to support the quarterfinal draw.
- H) **IGNORANCE OF THESE RULES WILL NOT BE AN EXCUSE OR GROUNDS FOR ANY PROTEST.**

III. CREDENTIALS

- A) All players and coaching staff are required to have properly prepared US Youth Soccer membership passes issued by Washington Youth Soccer. Membership passes are printed by the Member Association Registrar and prepared by a team representative.
 - 1. These passes are to be surrendered to the referee prior to Quarterfinal, State semifinal and final matches.
 - 2. Membership passes may be required for internal District/Region Recreational Cup matches. Check with your District/Region Tournament Representative.
 - 3. In the event a player does not have a membership pass, they cannot play and they cannot be on the same touch line as the team's bench.
 - 4. In the event a team official member does not have a membership pass, they cannot be on the same touch line as the team's bench.
 - 5. The referee will return all cards to the coach after verifying all players are eligible to play. The cards will be used to copy accurate information for the referee's misconduct report.

IV. TOURNAMENT AND GAME SCHEDULES

Cup Format

- A) The District/Region or State Host Site Director is responsible for scheduling all tournament games and field and referee coordination.
- B) All tournament games must be played on the day and the time scheduled. To declare a field unplayable will be the prerogative of the Referee or the Host Site Director only.
- C) Request for rescheduling a game must be directed to the District/Region or State Host Site Director.
- D) If both teams are properly notified, games will start at scheduled time if both teams have a minimum seven (7) players. If one team fails to have seven players at scheduled game time, or any time within a fifteen (15) minute grace period, the game will be forfeited to the showing team.
- E) The Disciplinary Committee will not entertain or uphold any protest based on erroneous scheduling of whatever nature or protests following a properly decided forfeiture.
- F) District/Region Tournament Rounds

Each team playing in the District/Region rounds will have a minimum of two games. Teams cannot be eliminated in one game unless both team coaches agree to a one game elimination that has been approved by the District/Region. If approved, the winner will advance to the next round of the competition as set forth in the Recreational Cup Rules. Format will be determined by the number of teams entering in each age level. Timing and format of the preliminary rounds will be decided by the District/Region. Internal District/Region rules and policy may be different than the rules and policy of the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final Washington Youth Soccer Recreation Cup Rules.

- G) Inter-District/Region Tournament Round

Each District/Region may advance at least one team to inter-District/Region competition in each age/gender division for which it has received at least one entrant team. District/Region finalists may be identified as a wild card to support the quarterfinal matches when District/Region 5, 6, or 7 champions are identified. District/Region finalists may be identified as a wild card to support the semifinal matches when District/Region 2 or 3 champions are identified.

- H) The Recreational Cup Committee will perform a blind draw from all candidates to fill quarterfinal positions.
 - 1. A blind draw will be conducted the first week of November to identify which District/Regions will have teams hosting home games and

which District/Region they will be playing. All quarterfinal and semifinal matches will be drawn at one time.

- a. No quarterfinal match will pair two teams from the same District/Region.
 2. The quarterfinals are hosted by the District/Region home team and wild card teams will be the visiting team.
 3. Quarterfinal matches will be played no later than the first weekend of December.
 4. Quarter final matches will be played at full time for each age.
 5. Age group and genders with four (4) teams or less will advance directly to semifinals.
 6. The format for determining the final four teams for the State Tournament requires District/Regions to host a playoff match on the first weekend of December.
- I) Quarterfinal matches will be set up as listed below:
1. Seven (7) teams entered
One wild card team will be drawn from available District/Region finalist teams.
 2. Six (6) teams entered
Two wild card teams will be drawn from available District/Region finalist teams.
 3. Five (5) teams entered
Three wild card teams will be drawn from available District/Region finalist teams.
 4. Four (4) teams entered
All teams advance to semi-final matches.
 5. Three (3) teams entered
A wild card will be drawn from available District/Region finalist teams to be the fourth team at the semi-final match.
 6. Two (2) teams entered
Both teams advance to the final.
- J) State Tournament Format:
- (a) Washington Youth Soccer will host the semi-final and final matches on the second weekend of December.
 - (b) Team placement into tournament brackets shall be done using a blind draw.
 - (c) Washington Youth Soccer will determine the tournament format and timing of the matches and the tournament format shall be determined based upon the number of entries.

V. TOURNAMENT PLAYING RULES

- A) All games will be played under Washington Youth Soccer "Rules of Competition" unless stated herein.
- B) It shall be the responsibility of each team to maintain proper spectator conduct. Each coach, manager, club, Member Association, or District/Region official shall be held primarily accountable for the conduct of spectators for or from their respective teams. At no time shall foul or abusive language be permitted at any field.
- C) Ties in the game play at the Quarterfinal, Semifinal and Final will be resolved as follows:
 - 1) U-18/19, U-17, U-16, U-15 – Two (2) 15 minute overtime periods.
 - 2) U14, U-13, U-12, U-11 – Two (2) 10 minute overtime periods.
 - 3) If still tied, FIFA Kicks from the penalty mark procedure. Please refer to Appendix A for full Kicks from the Penalty Mark Procedure.
- D) Uniform Color Conflict
The designated "home team" will be responsible for changing color of the team uniforms in the event of a color conflict. The "home team" will be the team listed first on the schedule.
- E) Violations and Penalties
Playing of a player not listed on the Recreational Cup Tournament Roster held by the Site Coordinator shall result in forfeiture of any and all Recreational Cup games in which that player appeared on the roster presented to the referee. In addition, that team shall be suspended for the remainder of the Recreational Cup tournament. Should a team be suspended from Recreational Cup competition, any remaining games scheduled for that team shall be recorded as a forfeit.

Additional Tournament Rules or Changes

Any additional tournament rules, special rules, requirements, procedures, administrative and organizational information necessary for staging the Recreational Cup will be published separately.

APPENDIX A

I. Kicks from the Penalty Mark Procedure

- A.) The referee chooses the goal at which the kicks will be taken.
- B.) The referee tosses a coin and the team whose captain wins the toss decides whether to take the first or the second kick.
- C.) Subject to the conditions explained below, both teams take five kicks.
- D.) The kicks are taken alternately by the teams.
- E.) If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken.
- F.) If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks.
- G.) A goalkeeper who is injured while kicks are being taken from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as goalkeeper may be replaced by a named substitute.
- H.) With the exception of the foregoing case, only players who are on the field of play at the end of the match, which includes extra time where appropriate, are eligible to take kicks from the penalty mark.
- I.) Each kick is taken by a different player and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick.
- J.) An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.
- K.) Only the eligible players and match officials are permitted to remain on the field of play when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.
- L.) All players, except the player taking the kick and the two goalkeepers, must remain within the center circle.
- M.) The goalkeeper who is the teammate of the kicker must remain on the field of play, outside the penalty area in which the kicks are being taken, on the goal line where it meets the penalty area boundary line.



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- N.) Unless otherwise stated, the relevant Laws of the Game apply when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.
- O.) If, at the end of the match and before kicks start to be taken from the penalty mark, one team has a greater number of players than its opponents, it must reduce its number to equate with that of its opponents and the team captain must inform the referee of the name and number of each player excluded. Any player thus excluded may not participate in kicks from the penalty mark.
- P.) Before the start of kicks from the penalty mark, the referee must ensure that an equal number of players from each team remain within the center circle and they shall take the kicks.