

10.0 US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE CUP/PRESIDENTS CUP/GOVERNORS CUP BYLAWS

10.1 PURPOSE OF US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE CUP/PRESIDENTS CUP /GOVERNORS CUP

The US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup (hereafter referred to as State Cup) and the US Youth Soccer Ohio South Presidents Cup (hereafter referred to as Presidents Cup) and the Ohio South Governors Cup (hereafter referred to as Governors Cup) are the most important team competitions conducted by the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. (OSYSA) or by any Member within OSYSA. As such, these competitions require that each member team and league shall support the State Cup, Presidents Cup and Governors Cup as their first priority. These three OSYSA organized tournaments, (State Cup, Presidents Cup and Governors Cup) shall be known collectively as “state tournaments”.

These Bylaws are designed to supplement the US Youth Soccer National Championship rules and National Presidents Cup rules and establish the procedures followed by OSYSA.

10.2 OPERATION OF STATE TOURNAMENTS

The State Cup will offer primary competition in the following age groups for both boys and girls; under-19s, under-18s, under-17s, under-16s, under-15s, under-14s, under-13s, under-12s, and under-11s.

The Presidents Cup will offer primary competition in the following age groups for both boys and girls; under-19s, under-18s, under-17s, under-16s, under-15s, under-14s, under-13s, under-12s, and under-11s.

The Governors Cup will offer primary competition in the following age groups for both boys and girls; under-19/18s, under-17s, under-16s, under-15s, under-14s, under-13s, under-12s, and under-11s.

As determined by the OSYSA Board of Directors, the state tournaments may be run simultaneously.

Team competition in the State Cup and Presidents Cup will be one loss and out format until there are 16, 12, 8, 4, or 2 teams remaining. Then the State Cup and Presidents Cup will be round robin format until the semi finals and finals which will be one loss and out format.

All teams applying to the Ohio South Governors Cup will be accepted into the event and placed in group play. Governors Cup will be round robin format until the semi finals and finals which will be a one loss and out format.

10.2.1 Prior to September 1st of each year, the OSYSA President will appoint, subject to advice and consent of the Board of Directors, a chairperson and an assistant chairperson for each of the state tournaments. Upon 30 days notice of such action, by a 2/3's affirmative vote of the OSYSA board members who are present at a meeting of the OSYSA Board of Directors, the chairperson or assistant chairperson of any state tournament may be removed from their position with the tournament.

10.2.1.2 The OSYSA Executive Director working with the OSYSA Director of Coaching, the OSYSA SYRA, chairperson and assistant chairperson of each of the state tournaments shall recommend to the OSYSA Board of Directors for their approval the:

- a) team entry fees for the state tournaments.
- b) Play dates for the state tournaments (consistent with the State tournament Bylaws).
- c) Referee fees for the state tournaments.

The function of the State Tournament Committee(s) shall be:

- a) To seed the teams as determined by each state tournament committee.
- b) To operate the state tournaments.
- c) To submit recommendations for changes/improvements via the state tournament Chairperson(s) to the OSYSA Board of Directors and to perform other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.

The OSYSA Office staff will be responsible for establishing the schedules based on the seeding done by the state tournament committee(s) using the sites selected. The OSYSA office will post the state tournament schedules on the OSYSA website. All semi finals and finals shall be scheduled as shown in Appendix One.

10.2.2 In both the State Cup and Presidents Cup round robin format, teams will be seeded into brackets of four (4) teams each. If there are 16 teams, the teams with the best record in each bracket will advance to the semi finals. If there are 12 teams, the teams with the best record in each bracket will advance to the semi finals plus one team (wildcard) from one of the three brackets which has the best remaining record. If there are 8 teams, the team with the best record in each bracket and the team with the second best record in each bracket (as wildcards) will move to the semi finals. If there are 4 teams, the two teams with the best records will move to the finals. If there are 2 teams, they will compete in a single loss and out competition. The determination of teams with the best records or second best records is based on the procedures listed in 10.7.4 and 10.7.5.

Governors Cup may accept an odd/uneven number of teams in an age group. Those teams may also be seeded and placed into round robin play. If an odd/uneven number of teams have been accepted into a division, not all teams may play each other and/or cross over games may need to be played. The teams with the highest points total in round robin play per 10.7.4 and 10.7.5 will be advanced to the semi finals or finals depending on the number of teams entered into that particular division.

10.2.3 In State Cup or Presidents Cup, if for any reason there are other than 16 teams, 12 teams, 8 teams, 4 teams or 2 teams in an age division additional pre-play games will be scheduled and played prior to the round robin weekend. There will be no round robin play if there are only 2 teams in a particular age division.

10.3 TEAM ENTRY

10.3.1 Only a registered US Youth Soccer team that is in good standing, the majority of whose players are registered within the boundaries of OSYSA and plays in an OSYSA sanctioned league in the current seasonal year may enter one of the state tournaments, but not multiple. All teams that submit an application will be accepted if they are in good standing with OSYSA.

Teams must compete in a four team OSYSA League or Association and must be scheduled for and play at least a three game league schedule against teams registered inside the OSYSA boundaries.

These games must be played by the conclusion of the league determined season. Teams that don't compete as outlined in 10.3.1 cannot enter into the State Cup or Presidents Cup.

10.3.1.1 OSYSA teams that comply with these rules and play in the US Youth Soccer National League or the Region II Midwest Regional League may enter and play in the State Cup or Presidents Cup. The State / Presidents Cup Chairperson may grant an exception to the 3 game requirement for OSYSA teams participating in the US Youth Soccer National League or the Midwest Regional League in the event of extenuating circumstances. At no time may the exception go below the US Youth Soccer National Championships requirement.

10.3.1.2 Teams must play State Cup or the Presidents Cup in their home state. This is determined by where at least 50% of their players reside and register. (Players must always first register in their home state before rostering to any another state).

10.3.2 Each team that enters the State Cup or Presidents Cup must submit a copy of their validated roster from their USYS sanctioned Member League. Teams must have at least nine (9) primary registered players on their team roster to enter the state tournaments. The team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between league competitions and state tournament competitions as well as at Regional and National Championships competitions by maintaining a minimum of 9 players common to the rosters at each level of the competitions.

10.3.3 All rosters must meet the standards as outlined in these bylaws. For example a new player cannot be added to the roster by writing the player's name on the roster but instead must make use of a Roster Change form. If the validation on the roster is revoked, the team will not be permitted to participate until a new roster with roster change form is validated by the team's league and it is submitted to the State Cup Chairperson.

10.3.4 At the time a team's National Championships competition roster for competitions at the State Association level is determined under this rule, the team may not have more than 5 rostered youth players who were previously rostered during the current seasonal year with a club other than the club of which the team is a member. Teams that are not participating in the state tournaments may have an unlimited number of previously rostered players on their team.

10.3.5 The state tournament event rosters are frozen 3 business days prior to the kick off of the team's first state tournament game. A player may only play for one team in a state tournament in any seasonal year. A youth player may be on the National Championships roster of only one team at each level of the National Championships competitions during any seasonal year. A youth player who was rostered to a team of a club at a National Championship competition level that does not advance to the next level and who has been issued a club pass of that club in accordance with this policy may be rostered to another team of that club at the next level of the National Championship competitions. Subject to the foregoing, and subject to the provisions of Rule 221, Section 1 (5), at each level of the National Championships competitions, a team may add to its National Championship roster for that level as many registered youth players holding club passes of that club of which a team is a member as the team or its club determines so long as the roster does not exceed 22 players. A team may not change the club of which it is a member at any time after the commencement of the National Championship competitions and in any event only in compliance with the Bylaws of the State Association of which the club is a member.

10.3.6 Teams must submit their entries by the deadline established by the State Cup/Presidents Cup Chairperson.

10.3.7 Teams may withdraw from the state tournaments up to 30 days prior to the start of play without penalty. If a team withdraws before the application deadline, the entry fee will be returned. If a team withdraws after the application deadline, that team's entry fee will not be returned and may be fined and / or placed in bad standing as determined by the State Tournament Conduct Committee. The State Tournament Conduct Committee may also determine that any team that withdrew is ineligible to participate in the following year's state tournaments.

10.3.8 If any team forfeits any game in state tournament play, the team or the club that sponsored the team may be fined and/or placed in bad standing and the team may be prohibited from entering the following year's state tournament as determined by the State Tournament Conduct Committee.

10.3.9 Any team or club that does not pay the fine(s) specified by bylaw 10.3.7 and 10.3.8 may be considered in bad standing and the team may not be permitted to play in any future state tournament or games until fines are paid as determined by the State Tournament Conduct Committee.

10.3.10 Teams that have forfeited two or more games in any US Youth Soccer game since the conclusion of the previous year's Ohio South portion of the state tournaments or have forfeited a game in the previous year's state tournaments may not be eligible to enter the current year's competition.

10.3.11 Players and coaches who are under suspension following a hearing before the OSYSA Conduct Committee or the OSYSA State Tournament Conduct Committee shall not be permitted to participate in the state tournaments until such time as the suspension has been completed.

10.3.12 For teams competing in the under-14s and under-15s age groups, each player on the team must be:

- a) Of the age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year, or
- b) Of the age in either of the next 2 younger age groups of that age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year.

For the teams competing in the under-16s, under-17s, under-18s, and under-19s age groups, each player on the team must be:

- a) Of the age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year, or
- b) Of the age of any younger age group, through the under-14s age group, of that age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year

10.4 REFEREES

10.4.1 OSYSA is responsible for assignment of referees to all state tournament games.

10.4.2 OSYSA is responsible for payment of referee fees for all state tournament games beyond the preliminary level (except the first game in the round robin where each team pays half of the referee fee). Participating teams are responsible for payment of referee fees for all preliminary district games and the first round robin game.

10.5 SCHEDULING

10.5.1 It shall be the intent of the state tournament committees to create the basis for a schedule that presents the best opportunity for the best teams to advance through the tournament.

10.5.2 State tournament games take precedence over all scheduled league and association games. All games scheduled by member Leagues and Associations are required to be re-scheduled to permit all teams to compete in state tournaments play. No member League can forfeit any game of any team for the day that the team is playing in the State Cup or Presidents Cup.

10.5.3 Teams participating in one of the state tournaments shall not be scheduled to play any more than two games on any one day during the state tournaments.

10.5.4 The State Cup Committee shall determine the seeds (numbering between 2 and 16 seeds) for the State Cup with all other participating teams' opponents to be decided by a double blind draw. The Presidents Cup Committee and the Governors Cup Committee are authorized to determine the placement of teams in their respective tournaments. If seeding is utilized in either the Presidents Cup or the Governors Cup, all other participating teams' opponents shall be decided by double blind draw. When, due to the number of teams who have entered the state tournaments, it becomes necessary to have pre-play games (a.k.a play-in games), the state tournament committees shall give weight to scheduling these pre-play games as intra-district play to minimize excessive travel by the teams.

10.5.5 In State Cup, no games will be scheduled on the last day for district play in games. The last day will be used as a rain date. Any games not played as a result of weather or field conditions on the rain date will be scheduled to play the next day and will continue to be scheduled by day until completed.

10.5.6 The draw meeting will be held as scheduled by the state tournament committees. Any games that have not been played will have their position in the bracket drawn for the game winners in their age group and gender. State Cup teams that have not finished their district play in games will not be a seeded team for the competition. The State Cup Committee will determine the seeded teams from the winning teams that have completed their necessary district play in game(s).

10.5.7 All state tournament games will be scheduled or re-scheduled as needed. Protests, weather, field conditions, or any other reason that would cause a variance in the playing schedule will require that teams must play those matches prior to the next round.

10.6 US YOUTH SOCCER STATE TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

10.6.1 Any protest must be presented in writing to the State Tournament Chairperson or their representative within one (1) hour of the completion of the game in protest, except as noted in section 10.6.2. If the Chairperson or his/her representative is not available at the site of the game, protests must be submitted, via e-mail to the OSYSA office at OFFICE@OSYSA.COM within four (4) hours of the completion of the game that is being protested. All protests must be accompanied by a \$175.00 bond that will be returned only if the protest is upheld. If the protest is being submitted via e-mail to the OSYSA office, the protest must include a statement acknowledging that the required \$175.00 bond will be submitted to the Chairperson or the OSYSA office within 24 hours of the submission of the protest. Protests based upon the judgment of referees will not be entertained. Misapplication of Laws of the Games may be a valid basis for a protest.

10.6.2 A protest regarding the use of an ineligible player may be made by anyone at any time during the current year's:

- Ohio South State Tournaments
- US Youth Soccer Midwest Presidents Cup Regional or National Championship

- US Youth Soccer National Championship at either the Regional or National level

Any protest against any team that has already been eliminated from any of the current year's events as listed in the 3 bullet points shown in the preceding sentence shall not be entertained. Although a protest may not be entertained by the State Cup/Presidents Cup Chairperson due to the lateness of the filing of the protest, the Chairperson may report any misconduct by any OSYSA player, coach or team, including the use of an ineligible player, during any portion of the current year's events as listed in the 3 bullet points shown to the OSYSA Conduct Committee for their consideration.

Upon receipt of any protest, the state tournament chairpersons shall refer the matter to the State Tournament Conduct Committee for a hearing in the matter. The State Tournament Conduct Committee, after holding an open and fair hearing in which all parties to the protest shall be provided an opportunity to be heard, shall make a determination as to the validity of the protest. If the State Tournament Conduct Committee determines that an ineligible player participated in a state tournament game, the validity of any protest may be appealed to the OSYSA Appeals Committee as outlined in Section 14.0 of these bylaws.

If the determination by the State Tournament Conduct Committee requires the forfeit of the protested game, the winner as determined by their decision will advance in the state tournament. If the team that was determined to have lost the game upon which the protest was based has already participated in the next game of the competition, their opponent in the last game in the competition played by the team shall be declared the winner and shall be allowed to proceed in the competition.

10.6.3 All teams should have their Player and Coach Passes with photographs attached and duly authorized by OSYSA as provided elsewhere in these bylaws at all games of the OSYSA state tournaments. Teams without their OSYSA/US Youth Soccer player passes at an OSYSA state tournament game should be handled in the following manner:

- If the game is a self scheduled game at which no representative of the OSYSA State Tournament Committee is present, a coach from the team is authorized to take one or more photographs of the players whose passes are not at the game to verify the identity of the game's participants.
- If a representative of the OSYSA State Tournament Committee is present at the game, that representative is authorized to take one or more photographs of the players whose passes are not present at the game to verify the identity of the game's participants.

If either of the preceding scenarios occur, the team that did not have the coach or players passes at the game, shall have one business day from the scheduled start of the game where the passes were not available to produce those passes and verify the identity of the game's participants to the satisfaction of a representative of the State Tournament Conduct Committee. Teams failing to comply with the requirements of the preceding sentence shall be subject to dismissal from the current state tournament or fined as determined by the State Tournament Conduct Committee.

10.6.3.1 Any team participating in any of the OSYSA state tournaments that does not have their coach and/or player passes at a state tournament game shall be fined by OSYSA \$100.00, payable prior to the team's next game in the state tournament or within 14 days, whichever comes first.

10.6.4 Any team that has modified an official approved event roster will not be permitted to participate in the state tournament until a properly validated roster has been approved by OSYSA.

10.6.5 Any player who is red carded in his/her last league game prior to his/her next State Cup or Presidents Cup game is not required to serve his/her red card penalty in the next Cup game that his/her

team participates. However, they must sit out their next game(s) in the league in which they received the red card. The sole exception to the foregoing two sentences is if the red card that was issued during any league game or tournament game for either Violent Conduct or for Fighting. If the reason for the red card was for either Violent Conduct or for Fighting, then the player may not participate in their next two games whether it is a league game, tournament game or state tournament game. The team that the player is registered with may be required to document that the 2 game suspension was served.

10.6.6 If a player receives a red card in a US Youth Soccer National Championships game, they are required to serve the penalty in their next US Youth Soccer National Championships match. If the team is eliminated from US Youth Soccer National Championships competition the penalty must be served in his/her teams' next US Youth Soccer National Championships Competition match. Players sent off will remain on the bench unless asked to leave the area by the referee.

10.6.7 All issues or conflicts are to be referred to the State Tournament Chairpersons for review and consideration under the Bylaws of OSYSA.

10.7 US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE TOURNAMENTS PLAYING BYLAWS

10.7.1 All games will be played under FIFA laws of the game as modified US Youth Soccer and/or OSYSA.

10.7.1.1 Substitutions for the Under 14 and younger age groups in State Cup play and in all age groups in Presidents/Governors Cup play shall be unlimited.

10.7.1.2 Substitutions for under-15s and older age groups in State Cup play will be allowed a maximum of 7 substitutions for each team 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.

10.7.1.3 Substitution(s) for either team may occur at any stoppage of play with the approval of the referee.

10.7.1.4 If a player is removed from the game and no substitute enters the game for the player (team plays short), the original player may re-enter the game. Entry shall be at a normal substitution point (with approval of the referee) or at any point during the game if the referee signals for the player's re-entry.

10.7.2 All games played as part of a round robin format may end in a tie at the end of regulation. All games played in a one loss and out format must end with a winner and if a game is tied at the end of the regulation play, overtime periods and then penalty kicks will apply as outlined in 10.7.15.

10.7.3 The standings of teams within brackets are based upon the number of points earned in qualifying games. Teams earn points as follows:

- ❖ Three (3) points for a win (including forfeits)
- ❖ One (1) point for a tie, and
- ❖ No (0) points for a loss.

10.7.4 In the Round Robin, if teams are tied on the basis of points earned, the team's placement will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria.

- a) Winner of head to head competition (this criterion is not used if more than two teams tied).
- b) Winner of most games.
- c) Goal differential (goals scored minus goals against) with a maximum of four goals per game.
- d) Fewest goals allowed.
- e) Kicks from the penalty mark.

Note: If more than two teams are tied, the sequence will be followed until a team is eliminated. The remaining teams will then restart the sequence at point "b" above until the tie is broken.

10.7.4.1 Any team that forfeits a game will not be allowed to advance out of their group to the semifinals thus forfeiting all group games. In this situation the team forfeiting will receive a “loss” for all group games and a zero to four goal differential. All other teams in the group will receive a “win” and four goals to zero goal differential against the forfeiting team including all other games that may have already been played.

10.7.5 For brackets requiring a wildcard for semi-final play, team placement will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria:

- a) Team with most points.
- b) Winner of head to head competition (this criterion is not used if more than two teams are tied).
- c) Winner of most games.
- d) Goal differential (goals scored minus goals against) with a maximum of four goals per game.
- e) Fewest goals allowed.
- f) Kicks from the penalty mark.

Note: If more than two teams are tied, the sequence will be followed until a team is eliminated. The remaining teams will then restart the sequence at point "c" above until the tie is broken.

10.7.6 If a player or coach is sent off from an Ohio South state tournament game, that player or coach will be ineligible to participate in the team’s next Ohio South state tournament game. No substitution will be permitted for a sent off player during the game that the player was sent off.

If all of the carded coaches of a team are sent off, the game will be suspended and the details reported to the state tournament chairperson. The state tournament chairperson shall record the game as a forfeit by the team whose coaches were all sent off.

10.7.7 In the event that any ejection occurs in the teams last state tournament game, the official game report for the sent off player/coach will be held and forwarded to the OSYSA office.

10.7.8 If any player or coach is penalized additional games by the Conduct Committee of his/her member Association/league, the player or coach will not be permitted to participate in the US Youth Soccer state tournament matches until the penalty has been served.

10.7.9 If in the opinion of the state tournament chairperson the reason for the send off is of such a nature that the one or two (for fighting or violent conduct) game suspension is not a sufficient penalty, the incident is to be reported to the Chairperson of the Conduct Committee for consideration of further penalties. The player or coach should be notified that the complaint was forwarded. The player or

coach's card is to be returned after the automatic penalty assigned under these bylaws is served in the state tournament games. If the Conduct Committee awards additional penalties, the player or coach's card must be surrendered at that time. The Chairperson's report to the Conduct Committee must be forwarded within two weeks of the alleged incident.

10.7.10 In state tournament competitions, unfinished games due to any cause shall be replayed if neither team is at fault and play has not reached the beginning of half time. If play is stopped during the second half and play cannot be resumed and if neither team is at fault, the state tournament chairperson may deem the game complete or that it is to be replayed in its entirety. However, if play is stopped at any time due to one of the teams being adjudged to be at fault, it shall be at the discretion of the state tournament chairperson whether the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit.

10.7.11 A minimum of seven players constitute a team. A (10) minute grace period will be extended beyond the scheduled kick off time if seven players are not available. A team with seven players must start the game as soon as seven (7) players are at the field. If at the end of the 10-minute grace period the team does not have seven (7) players, the referee will not start the game and will report the failure of the team to show to the state tournament chairpersons or their representative, in which the chairperson will declare a forfeit by the team short players. (For all under-12s and below teams, 5 players constitute a team and will follow all of the same procedures as stated above using the 5-player rule.)

10.7.12 Each player must wear an official uniform with a number on the back of the player's jersey. The number is to be affixed to the back of the jersey and shall be clearly visible. Goalkeepers are not required to have a number on their uniform. Each number must be different. In the event of a color conflict, the home team will change to an alternate set of jerseys. All players must wear shin guards, socks covering the shin guards, appropriate footwear, shorts, and a jersey. All teams must wear uniforms that conform to acceptable standards for state tournament play. Games will be suspended by the referee, if in their judgment the uniforms worn by the team are not acceptable for competition. The state tournament chairperson will forfeit the game if they support the referee's opinion regarding the unsuitability of the offending team's uniforms.

10.7.13 At every level of the National Championships competitions, a player or team official at a game site to participate in a game of the competitions may only have on the outer wear of the player or team official a name, logo, or other identifying mark of a youth soccer organization that is US Youth Soccer, a State Association or other member of US Youth Soccer, a member of a State Association, or an organization that is a member of an organization that is a member of a State Association. A name, logo, or other identifying mark of any other youth soccer organization must be removed, replaced, or covered before the player or team official may continue to remain at the game site for the game.

10.7.14 All games played as part of a round robin format may end in a tie at the end of regulation. All games played in a one loss and out format must end with a winner and if a game is tied at the end of the regulation play, overtime periods, as shown below, will be played.

10.7.15

Age Group Size	Players on Field	Length of game	Overtime Periods	Ball
Under-11s/12	9 v 9	Two 30 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	4
Under-13s/14	11 v 11	Two 35 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	5
Under-15s/16	11 v 11	Two 40 minute halves	Two 15 minute periods	5
Under-17s-U19	11 v 11	Two 45 minute halves	Two 15 minute periods	5

10.8 US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE TOURNAMENT TROPHIES

10.8.1 The players of first and second place teams in the State Cup and President's Cup shall receive individual awards and the team coach or manager will receive a team award for first and second place.

10.9 US YOUTH SOCCER MIDWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS ROSTERS

10.9.1 All OSYSA state tournament champions and any wild card teams advancing to the Midwest Regional Championships must have their Event Roster validated by the OSYSA Executive Director and all US Youth Soccer player passes must be laminated.

10.9.2 US Youth Soccer Player Passes and Approved Event Rosters are required at all US Youth Soccer Regional Championship games.

10.9.3 The Midwest Region provides a US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships manual. All State Championship teams and other teams attending the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships are to receive a copy of this manual. All teams are to study and understand all of their requirements at the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships.

10.10 US YOUTH SOCCER MIDWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

10.10.1 OSYSA State Cup Champions (under-19s, under-18s, under-17s, under-16s, under-15s, under-14s and under-13s) will be scheduled to play in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships. These games are scheduled each year in a different member US Youth Soccer State Association belonging to the Midwest Region. This competition features the State Cup Champion from each of the 14 Midwest State Associations that make up the membership of the US Youth Soccer Midwest Region.

10.10.2 All US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup champions are required to play in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships. If a State Cup Champion (or wild card team(s)) does not participate, the team will be placed in bad standing and will be fined. Teams that refuse to participate in Regional Competition may not enter the State Cup the following year. Teams that cannot participate in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships should not enter the State Cup.

10.10.3 Each year each member State Association may be placed in a blind drawing to have the right to enter a wild card team(s) into an age group that has an odd number of entries. The second teams may be dropped from the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships if more than 60 days prior to the start of the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships any other State Association team withdraws making the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships an even number of teams (not counting the extra team entered from the State Association).

10.10.4 If OSYSA is the host State for the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships and if less than 30 days from the start of the competition a State Association withdraws a team from any Age Group making that Age Group an uneven number (counting any second team from any State Association), the OSYSA will have the right to enter a second team in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships to make the tournament even numbers.

10.11 US YOUTH SOCCER MIDWEST PRESIDENTS CUP COMPETITION

10.11.1 Presidents Cup Champions (under-19s, under-18sm under-17s, under-16s, under-15s, under-14s and under-13s) will be scheduled to play at the US Youth Soccer Midwest Presidents Cup. These games are scheduled each year in a different member US Youth Soccer State Association belonging to The Midwest Region. This competition features the Presidents Cup Champions from each of the 14 Midwest State Associations that make up the membership of the US Youth Soccer Midwest Region.

10.11.2 All Presidents Cup Champions in the age groups offered by the Midwest Region are required to enter and play in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Presidents Cup. If an OSYSA Presidents Cup Champion does not participate, the team will be placed in bad standing and will be fined. Teams that refuse to participate in Regional Competition may not enter the OSYSA State Cup or Presidents Cup the following year. Teams that cannot participate in the Regional Competition should not enter the Presidents Cup competition.

10.12 FIELD STATUS

10.12.1 Determination of field status as to its playing condition first rests with the organization providing the fields. Prior to any decision to close the field, they should consult with the OSYSA representative. Their decision is final. If the host organization approves the fields for play, the field may be canceled at a later time if the host organization deems the conditions to have changed. The referee may suspend games when he/she considers the field unsafe or unplayable.

10.12.2 In the event of inclement weather, everything possible will be done to provide games to teams that travel. However, games cannot be guaranteed. Teams that travel to US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup or Presidents Cup locations do so at their own risk of games being canceled due to weather or other circumstances.

10.13 MATCH MANIPULATION

10.13.1 Teams failing to compete in the spirit of the competition or are involved in the manipulation of a game result are subject to forfeiture and disqualification from all levels of the competition including the OSYSA state tournament as well as at the Regional or National level.

(1) If failing to compete is observed and confirmed, the competition authority representative will give notice to the offending team or teams.

(2) If corrective action is not taken, the team or teams will be subject to disqualification.

10.14 STATE TOURNAMENT CONDUCT COMMITTEE

10.14.1 For the purposes of adjudicating protests, determining player eligibility, matters of misconduct and other similar matters during the operation of the OSYSA state tournament, an OSYSA State Tournament Conduct Committee shall be formed. The members of this committee shall be:

- The Chairperson of each of the state tournaments and their co-chairperson
- The OSYSA Executive Director
- The OSYSA Director of Coaching
- Up to three members of the OSYSA Board of Directors

10.14.2 If any person holding any of the above positions is unable to serve on the State Tournament Conduct Committee, then that person shall be authorized to appoint an alternate to serve in their place for the duration of their absence from the committee.

10.14.3 Any person holding any of the positions listed in bylaw 10.14.1 or any alternate as authorized by bylaw 10.14.2 shall recuses themselves from any decision that involves a team or club that they associated with, either as the protesting party or as the party that is the focus of the matter under consideration.

10.14.4 For any matter involving one of the state tournaments, the chairperson of that tournament, or their designated alternate, shall act as Chairperson of the committee and as such shall not have a vote in making any decision regarding the matter under consideration.

10.14.5 For any matter under consideration by the State Tournament Conduct Committee, at least 3 or more persons holding the positions listed in 10.14.1 or their designated alternate, not including the chairperson or his designated alternate, shall participate in the making of any decision regarding the matter under consideration.

10.14.6 In matters under consideration by the State Tournament Conduct Committee regarding player eligibility, the committee may take in to consideration whether the violation was intentional or just a minor clerical error and whether or not the violation had a material impact on a game.

APPENDIX ONE

Four Team Division

Championship

Winner of Bracket "A" versus Second Place of Bracket "A"

Eight Team Division

Semi Finals:

Winner Bracket "A" versus Runner Up Bracket "B"

Winner Bracket "B" versus Runner Up Bracket "A"

Championship

Winners of each Game above

Twelve Team Division

Semi Finals:

Winner Bracket "A" versus Wildcard Winner

Winner Bracket "B" versus Winner Bracket "C"

If wildcard comes from Group A, then

Winner Bracket "A" versus Winner Bracket "C"

Winner Bracket "B" versus Wildcard Winner

Championship

Winners of each game above

Sixteen Team Division

Semi Finals:

Winner Bracket "A" versus Winner Bracket "D"

Winner Bracket "B" versus Winner Bracket "C"

Championship

Winners of the two games above

- ❖ In the case of an odd number of teams in Governors Cup, the formulas above will not be used and instead participants will advance to the Semi-Finals and Finals per rule 10.2.2.