



REGION I CHAMPIONSHIPS

2009 EPYSA/USYSA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES **Presented by Angelo's Soccer Corner**

June Cup Competition

U-15, 16, 17, 18, & 19 GIRLS AND U-18 & 19 BOYS

Rules and Regulations

I. Eligibility

1. This competition is governed by the United States Youth Soccer Association National Championship Rules. In the event that an issue arises that is not specifically covered by these EPYSA NCS rules then the USYSA NCS rules shall be used to resolve the issue.
2. Only US Youth Soccer/EPYSA affiliated teams will be accepted into either the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series or EPYSA Challenge Cup competition.
3. Teams may enter only one (1) cup competition. Players may play for only one (1) team and in only one (1) cup competition: either the USYS National Championship Series or the Challenge Cup.
4. Teams applying for cup competition must compete in an EPYSA approved Travel League during the current seasonal year and have played at least one (1) league game prior to the start of state cups. U19 teams are exempt from this requirement and can register directly with EPYSA.
5. All cup team rosters are restricted to the official team roster filed in the state office.
 - 5.1 The maximum number of players permitted on a roster at any one time is eighteen (18) for U-15 and below aged teams. Teams are permitted five (5) transferred players from their original league roster.
 - 5.2 The maximum number of players permitted on a roster at any one time is twenty two (22) for U, 16, U-17, U-18, and U-19 teams. Teams are permitted five (5) transferred players to their original league roster during the seasonal year.

5.3 Teams are permitted five (5) transferred players to their original league roster. No roster may be altered for spring league play by any team competing in the USYS National Championship Series until their cup competition is completed.

5.4 All roster changes must be completed by **Friday, May 29, 2009**

6. For that played in the Region 1 Director's League, their EPYSA USYS National Championship Series roster was frozen the day of their first Director's league game. Also please note that any players released from a team in the Director's League after that date are also considered 'frozen' and can not be added to another team's USYS National Championship Series Roster.
7. For any team that played in the 2009 Region 1 Colonial League, their EPYSA USYS National Championship Series roster is frozen **May 29, 2009**.
8. Cup team rosters can include only primary players. Secondary players are not permitted on cup rosters.
9. The team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and National Championship competitions by maintaining a minimum of nine (9) players common to the rosters of both competitions.

II. Competition Rules

A. Player Check-in

1. All players must be registered with a current and proper player pass. Pass numbers are not required by EPYSA.
2. Player passes should be exchanged and examined by the opposing coaches prior to the game. Proper procedure is to line up each team in a line, each player with his/her pass in hand. Opposing coach should check player against pass. Referee does not check player passes. The only exception is for the Finals where the EPYSA Cup Staff or their designee will check in the players prior to the game.
3. A line-up form must be presented to the referee prior to the game, in triplicate, properly completed listing jersey number and player name. A player whose name does not appear on the line-up form who plays is considered an ineligible player. A player whose name appears on the line-up form is considered to have played in that game. Coaches must sign the line-up form.
4. Coaches! You must have a coach's pass available and surrender the same to the referee prior to the start of the game. There will be a \$25.00 fine for any coach not having his pass. NO EXCUSES. If you don't have a coach's pass, see your league registrar. The referee will return the coaches passes at the end of the game.

Check-in Rules for the U-16, U-17, U18, and U-19 Age Groups

5. All players must be registered with a current and proper EPYSA player pass. Pass numbers are not required by EPYSA.

6. A line-up form must be presented to the referee prior to the game, in triplicate, properly completed. The guidelines for completing the form are as follows:
 - 6.1 For U-16 to U-19 Teams the coach must submit the specific U-16 to U-19 Line-up form. A copy is attached at the end of these rules.
 - 6.2 On this form the coach must list every player on their approved EPYSA Roster even if the player is not present at the game
 - 6.3 The coach must designate which players will be playing in the game up to a maximum of 18 players by marking an 'X' in the appropriate box on the line-up form.
 - 6.4 The coach must designate which players will NOT be playing in the game by marking an 'X' on the line-up form AND Initial next to the 'X' to confirm that a player is ineligible for a game.
 - 6.5 If a coach needs to change a player's status before the game the coach must inform the referee and the opposing coach, change all 3 line-up sheets in the presence of the referee and initial the changes.
 - 6.6 The coach should submit their line-up sheet with the player passes of the ineligible players to the referee before the start of the game.
 - 6.7 Once the game starts no changes may be made to the eligible player list.
 - 6.8 Players that are ineligible for the game may sit with their team but they can not wear the game jersey being used by their team for that game.
7. Coaches must sign the line-up form.

B. Referees

1. All games will be officiated under the three (3) referee system: one (1) referee and two (2) assistant referees. You must play even if less than three referees are at the game. If the full official contingent does not appear, the game will be played with the available personnel using the following system:
 - 2 Referees: 1 Center Referee, 1 referee as an AR, 1 volunteer linesperson
 - 1 Referee: 1 Center Referee, 2 Volunteers for the linesA two whistle system is not allowed in the EPYSA NCS Cup Competition.
2. **If the referees do not show you must play the game. Do not leave until you reach Dave Ash (215-932-4347). Teams leaving without talking to Dave will forfeit the game.**
3. Each team is responsible for paying one-half of the appropriate referee fees (in cash) for all games except the finals. EPYSA will pay the referee fees for all final games.

Referee Fees - Three Referee System

U-15 & U-16	\$118.00	Ref.	\$50.00	A	\$34.00	A	\$34.00
U-17, 18, & 19	\$136.00	Ref.	\$56.00	A	\$40.00	A	\$40.00

If less than 3 referees are present at the game then you pay the fee for each official present for their role in the game. If a referee not assigned to the game fills in for a missing official they are to be paid for the role that they fulfill for the game.

PLEASE NOTE: If a game is canceled by the referee at the field site prior to the start of the game, each team pays the referee one-half (1/2) the regular fee. Once the game has started and must be called due to weather or field conditions, the entire fee must be paid. If a team shows for a game and the opposing team forfeits by a no-show, the team that shows does not pay the referee any fee. The referee will receive the fee at a later date.

C. Elimination Rules

1. All U-15F to U19F and U18M & U19M USYS National Championship Series games will be single elimination. A team that loses in these age groups is finished state cup competition.

D. Scheduling

1. The home team and game schedule is determined by the Cup Committee Chairperson.
2. After the schedule is published, the policy is not to change game schedules and that includes game times. Game times are set to maximize referee and field usage so we will not accept game time change requests. However, if both teams in a game wish to play the game on a DATE BEFORE the scheduled date, they must agree on a date, time, and location and then both coaches must advise the EPYSA office in writing of the proposed change (at least 4 days in advance) for approval. Coaches may not change a game without EPYSA approval. Unauthorized game changes can result in a double forfeit of the game and the elimination of both teams from the competition. The reschedule will be contingent upon the availability of fields and referees for the proposed change. EPYSA reserves the right to decline a requested schedule change.
3. If one team wishes to play early and the other team does not, a request to change the schedule with the justification for requesting a change must be sent in writing (email is acceptable) to the Cup Committee Chairperson 7 days in advance for consideration. The decision of the Cup Committee Chairperson on any schedule changes will be final and no appeal is possible.
4. Additionally, the Cup Committee Chairperson and/or EPYSA President may exercise discretion to change a game time or date if the participating team will be missing players due to regional and/or national team commitments.

5. To accommodate the three (3) referee system and ensure availability of officials, it may be necessary to change home field advantage to Home AREA advantage. The Cup Committee is sole authority in determining field locations.
6. There will be weeknight games in the competition. Games will be scheduled for 6 pm start times. We recognize that early start times can be a problem because of extensive travel and will use the following to manage issues:
 - If one team has extensive travel to a game we will move the start time back to 7 or 7:30 keeping the original home team if that team has access to a lighted field.
 - If the original home team can not acquire a lighted field then the visiting team will be given the home game IF they can acquire a field with lights
 - If neither team can get a lighted field EPYSA will attempt to secure a lighted field
 - If no lighted fields are available then the game will be scheduled for 6:00pm at the original home team's field.
7. The Cup Committee may also designate a common competition site for all or part of an age group in the USYS National Championship Series.
8. All games must be played by the scheduled date and time (see rule 2)
9. The Cup Committee reserves the right to revise the schedule after it is published.

E. Fields

1. Preparation of the field is the responsibility of the home team. If it is a home area game, the home team is still responsible for the field. Proper lining, goal nets, and corner flags are required for all fields. Protests made in regard to field conditions must be made prior to the start of the game.
2. Teams can have both home and away games in the Cup competition. It is the responsibility of **BOTH** teams to contact each other to ensure that both teams have the correct game time, game location, and directions.
3. Field changes will carry a fee of \$50 if changed to the opponent's field and an additional \$50 if changed to a neutral site. Fees will be waived if the field change is due to extenuating circumstances (as deemed by the Cup Committee, EPYSA Executive Director, or President).
4. If a field is closed for whatever reason before the day of the game, the location of the game may be changed to the opposing team's field, an alternate site for the original home team, or to a neutral site to ensure a timely completion of the competition.
5. If a field is closed the day of game, all best efforts should be made to secure an alternate field in close proximity to the original location. The home team **MUST** ensure that their opponent as well as the referees are notified of the change and **MUST** have someone at the original site to ensure that everyone is advised of the new location.

6. Coaches and players from both teams should be on one side of the playing field. Spectators from both teams should stay on the other side of the field.

F. Game Rules

1. Duration of the game:
 - a) All games must be played to a conclusion.

<u>Division</u>	<u>Game Duration</u>	<u>Overtime</u>
U-17, U-18 & U-19	2 - 45-minute periods	2 - 15-minute periods
U-15 & U-16	2 - 40-minute periods	2 - 15-minute periods

The overtime periods are NOT sudden death so you must play both overtime periods. If the game is still tied after the overtime periods, five (5) alternating penalty kicks will be taken. If, after the five (5) penalty kicks, the game is still tied, then single alternating kicks will be taken until the tie is broken. Each penalty kick shall be taken by a different player. No player shall repeat until all eleven (11) players of the team have taken a kick. Only those players on the field at the end of the overtime period last played are eligible to participate in the penalty kicks. If a team has less than 11 players on the field at the end of the game those players are the only ones eligible to shoot and no one shall repeat till each of those players has taken a kick.

2. Each competing team shall present a #5 game ball to the referee prior to the start of the game.
3. Substitutions are limited in the competition as follows:
 - 3.1 For U15 and above there is no reentry in a half. A half is defined as one of the following three segments: 1st half, 2nd half, Overtime period (even though the overtime is divided into two periods, it is considered as one half for substitution purposes). Examples of the rule are presented below:
 - 3.1.1 When a player is substituted in the 1st Half they may not reenter the game again during the 1st half of play. They may reenter at the start of the 2nd half or anytime after the start of the 2nd half..
 - 3.1.1.1 At halftime the referee will return the passes of all game eligible players to the coach. To enter the field at the beginning of the 2nd half the starters will surrender their pass to the referee.
 - 3.1.2 When a player is substituted in the 2nd Half they may not reenter the game again during the 2nd half of play. They only may reenter if overtime is required and at the start of overtime or anytime after the start of overtime play.
 - 3.1.2.1 If overtime is required, at the end of regulation, the referee will return the passes of all game eligible players to the coach. To enter the field at the beginning of the Overtime the starters will surrender their pass to the referee.

- 3.1.3 If a player is substituted during Overtime they may not reenter the game at any time and can not participate in penalty kicks if they are required.
- 3.1.4 Substitution is defined when a player leaves the field of play and is replaced by another player from the bench.
- 3.1.5 If a player leaves the field of play and is not replaced (their team plays down a player during this time) this player may reenter the game at the discretion of the referee.
- 3.1.6 For a player to enter the game they must report to midfield with their player pass. The referee will take the pass when the player is allowed into the game.
- 3.1.7 When a substitute reports to the midfield the substitution may be made at the following times with the consent of the referee:
 - a. Prior to a throw-in in your favor
 - b. Prior to a goal kick (either team)
 - c. After a goal (either team)
 - d. After an injury when referee stops play (either team, unlimited)

4. Forfeit Rules:

Forfeit score: 4 - 0
Forfeit fee: \$500.00 per forfeited game

- 6. Forfeit Time – teams must appear with at least seven (7) players no later than 15 minutes after the scheduled start time of the game otherwise the game will be declared a forfeit by the referee. The forfeit score of 4-0 will apply. In the event that neither team appears within 15 minutes with the required 7 players the game will be declared a double forfeit. The score will be reported as 0-0.
- 7. Abandoned Games – in the event that a Cup game is started and the game is not completed on the scheduled date of the game the following shall apply.
 - 7.1 A Cup game that is started and not completed on the scheduled due to any cause shall be replayed in its entirety if neither team is at fault and play has not begun in the second half of the game.
 - 7.2 If play is stopped during the second half of a Cup game due to any cause and play cannot be resumed and completed on the scheduled date and if neither team is at fault, the Cup Committee may deem the game complete.
 - 7.3 If a Cup game is started and not completed on the scheduled date due to one of the teams being adjudged to be at fault, it shall be at the discretion of the Cup Committee whether the game is to be replayed in its entirety or declared a forfeit.

G. Cards

1. If any cards (yellow or red) are issued in the competition, the coach of the cautioned/ejected player(s) must email Dave Edgecombe at edgerock1@comcast.net immediately after the game with the following information:
 - a. USYSA NCS
 - b. age group and division (male or female)
 - c. team name
 - d. carded player name and jersey number
 - e. type of card
 - f. date of game
 - g. name and phone number of the person sending this information
2. Reminder: Three cautions (yellow cards) given in cup play equal a red. If a player receives a direct red card or two yellow cards in a game or receives their 3rd yellow of the competition, they cannot play in at least their next scheduled game. So if you do not hear from Dave Edgecombe after you report a direct red card or a 3rd yellow card prior to your next game Do NOT play such a player in that game!
3. Also remember that any suspensions for Red cards or accumulations not served in the EPYSA National Championship Series Competition will carry over into Regional Competition or next year's state cup competition!

H. Results

1. The winning coach of a game is required to report the score of their game to the EPYSA Score link found on the EPYSA website by 7:00 p.m. the night of the game.
2. How to report the score:

Go to the EPYSA website www.epysa.org

Click on the link "Report Score for Coaches" which is
<http://www.epysa.org/cupscores/coach/index.htm>

Login with Username = cup Password = score (all lower case)

Click on "Add new" to enter new score

Follow the input screen, then hit "Save." You will get the message"<<<record was added>>>"

Then click on "Back to List." You should see your score entry in the database.

Click on "Logout."

You will be able to view all scores by clicking on the link to "EPYSA Scoreboard" also at the EPYSA Cup webpage

If no challenge is made (by the opposing team) of the reported score by the Tuesday following the game, then the reported score will be

considered accurate and valid.

There is a \$25 fine if the score is not reported by 7:00 p.m.

3. Individual and team awards will be presented to both the champion and runner-up. A presentation will be made immediately following the championship game. Your team is expected to participate.

I. Protests

1. Coaches must have a copy of the rules and regulations with them at the game. In the event that there is a disagreement on any of the rules they are to be resolved with the referee and the opposing coach using these rules as the governing policies of the cup competition. In the event that an issue can not be resolved the coaches should contact Dave Ash to reach a resolution before the game is played or completed.
2. There are no protests on referee decisions. The only protests allowed are regarding player eligibility.
3. In the event that a team wishes to file a protest they must submit the protest within 48 hours of the game. In the event that the next game is scheduled in less than 48 hours after the game being protested, the protesting team must notify the Cup Chairperson ASAP and no later than 2 hours before the next scheduled game. Protests received that do not comply with these rules will not be evaluated and will be considered void.
4. Protests must be presented in writing to the Cup Chairperson. Email submission is considered acceptable as long as the Cup Chairperson is notified by phone of the pending protest.
5. The protest must be accompanied by a protest fee of \$200 which will be refunded if the protest is upheld.
6. In the event that a game was played and a protest is filed against the winner of the game by either the losing team of the game or another Cup participant and the game winner is disqualified from the competition, the cup record will show the winner of the game as Vacant. The losing team on the field will NOT advance. No one from that game will advance to the next round. The opponent in the next round will be awarded a forfeit win.
7. In the event that the winner of the NCS State Championship game is disqualified after the game is played the Runner-up will be declared the State Champion. If this disqualification occurs before the start of the Region 1 competition, the Runner-up (now called the State Champion) will represent EPYSA in the Region 1 Competition. If the Region 1 competition has begun the Region 1 committee will determine who if any team shall fill that slot in the competition.
8. The EPYSA Cup Committee will evaluate properly submitted protests and render a timely decision.

9. If the team wishes to appeal the decision of the EPYSA Cup Committee they may do so by submitting an appeal to the EPYSA Arbitration Board following the submission guidelines of that Board.

10. Decisions of the Arbitration Board are final and no further appeal is possible as described by the USYS NCS Rules.

J. Semi-Finals and Finals

1. Semi-finals - June 13th
2. Finals - June 14th

K. Regional Competition

Dates: Thursday, July 2 through Tuesday, July 7, 2009
Location: Barboursville, West Virginia

2009

USYS National Championship Series

Dave Ash, Cup Committee Chairperson
42 Sharon Drive
Richboro, PA 18954
215-364-5320 (home)
215-932-4347 (cell)
215-364-2012 (fax)
epysacupchair@aol.com

Discipline Commissioner (Yellow/Red Cards/Suspensions)
Dave Edgecombe edgerock1@comcast.net or fax to: 215-657-7740

2009 EPYSA/USYS National Championship Series Coaches Check List

Before Competition Begins

- Did you send your league approved roster and any PS-1's to EPYSA?
- Did you review your schedule and did you check it to make sure that it is correct. Report any issues to the State Office.

The Week of the Game

- Did you call opposing coach early in week to go over game details, directions, uniform colors, etc? The home team coach should take the initiative and call but **BOTH** coaches share equal responsibility to call their opponent. Please don't wait until the last minute.
- If you are playing at a common site, do you know how to get there?
- If you are the Home team did you make sure that the field is properly prepared (lines, nets, corner flags)?

Pre-game Preparation

- Bring your player passes & coaches pass
- Bring your coaches pass
- Bring Referee fee in cash
- Bring line-up sheet (in triplicate) to present to the referee before the game
- Bring a copy of the Rules and Regulations
- Bring Soccer Balls

After the Game

- Were you or any of your team members issued any cards? If so did you email edgerock1@comcast.net or fax to 215-657-7740
- Are you responsible for reporting the score? If so did you do it?

To report the score you can find a link at the EYSA website www.epysa.org

Finals

- If you advance to the Cup finals, you must present a copy of your roster with copies of the Player Status forms when you sign in at the finals. Bring the originals in case the copies are hard to read.
- You must present a typed blue USYS roster at the finals for player sign-in

EPYSA National Championship Series

U-16- U-19 Game Line-up Card

Line-up of: _____

Date: _____

Home Team: _____

Age Group: U- _____

Visiting Team: _____

Referee: _____

Last Name	First Name	Jersey #	Playing	Not Playing	Coach Initial
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Coach Signature: _____