



USYS United Cup Team Competition RULES

1. ALL TEAMS, PLAYERS, COACHES, FANS, REFEREES, TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATORS ARE REQUIRED TO ADHERE TO THE IOWA SOCCER COVID-19 MATCH DAY PROTOCOLS.

- COACHES/TEAM MANAGERS: Masks required at all times
- PLAYERS: Masks required to and from the field and throughout facility
- REFEREES: Masks required to and from the field, and during pregame check
- PARENTS/FANS: Masks required to and from the field, and throughout facility or when physical distancing guidelines can't be maintained. Please maintain a minimum of 6' of physical distance from other family/fan units.

2. The USYS United Cup is for Iowa Soccer member 08U through 19U recreational teams and players. Your team must consist of recreational players that are registered with Iowa Soccer for the 2020-2021 seasonal year.

3. For the USYS United Cup, age groups will be combined. Age group combinations will look slightly different than that of typical Iowa Soccer League play. Divisions will be the following:

| Age Group | Birth Year |
|-----------|------------|
| 08U/09U | 2013/2012 |
| 10U/11U | 2011/2010 |
| 12U/13U | 2009/2008 |
| 14U-16U | 2007-2005 |
| 17U-19U | 2004-2002 |

Please review roster make-up rules as they may differ from traditional league play.

4. A player can only play for one (1) team in any division at the USYS United Cup. A player cannot play for two teams within the same division. Note teams will be playing three shortened games over the course of one day. Please keep this in mind if you are multiple rostering a player on two different teams.

5. We will utilize event rosters for the USYS United Cup. Coaches do not need to bring coach pass/player passes. Please contact your club's registrar about obtaining a USYS United Cup event roster. Rosters will be submitted online prior to the USYS United Cup at a date/time set by Tournament Officials.

6. Any adult who intends to be on the team bench during the match in the role of coach, assistant coach, team manager or otherwise, must be a registered coach with Iowa Soccer and listed on the official USYS United Cup event roster.



7. Except as noted herein, all games will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.

8. Forms of the game & Game length

If the minimum number of players cannot be fielded within five (5) minutes after scheduled game time, then the team that cannot field the minimum number of players shall forfeit the match.

| Age Group | Format | Game Length | Size Ball | Max Roster Size | Max # on Field | Min # on Field |
|------------|--------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 08U/09U | 4v4 | 4 x 6 min | 3 | 8 | 4 | 3 |
| 10U/11U | 7v7 | 2 x 15 min | 4 | 16 | 7 | 5 |
| 12U/13U | 9v9 | 2 x 20 min | 4 | 16 | 9 | 7 |
| 14U-16U | 11v11 | 2 x 25 min | 5 | 22 (18 game active) | 11 | 7 |
| 17U-19U | 11v11 | 2 x 25 min | 5 | 22 (18 game active) | 11 | 7 |
| 14U-19U SS | 7v7 | 2 x 20 min | 5 | 14 | 7 | 5 |

Please note there may be some differences from standard league play.

All games will have a continuous running clock. The time will only be stopped at the referee's discretion.

Games may end in a tie. NO overtime or KFTM.

9. Substitutions for all age groups will be unlimited. Teams, with the consent of the referee, may make substitutions at any stoppage of the game.

10. Each team shall furnish a regulation game ball to the referee prior to each match. The referee's choice of the game ball is final. Please reference chart above for proper size ball. **Please note this may differ from traditional league play due to combined ages.**

11. Playing Conditions. Teams will be expected to play according to the schedule of games regardless of weather conditions. Only the Tournament Director may reschedule games or alter the competitive format because of inclement weather or other just cause. Games shall be considered complete if one half has been completed and play is stopped by the referee or tournament officials. When necessitated by playing conditions, the game format may be altered to include shortened games, kicks from the mark, or coin tosses. If a game is decided by kicks from the mark, the winning team's score for that game will be recorded as 1-0.

12. The **HOME** team (listed **FIRST** on schedule) will have the choice of kick off or which end of the field they would like to start on.

13. Each team should be prepared to provide another color uniform. It is the responsibility of the HOME team to change to a different color uniform or pinnies if necessary (the Home team is always the first team listed on the schedule). The referee is the final authority on uniform colors. It is recommended to have, at the minimum, white T-shirts available.

14. Build Out Line Applies to (10U/11U AGE GROUP ONLY)

- Goalkeeper possession (hands) and goal kicks
 - As per US Soccer: "the build-out line promotes playing the ball out of the back in a less pressured setting."
- When the goalkeeper has the ball in his or her hands during play from the opponent, the opposing team must move behind the build out line until the ball is put into play. The opposing team must also move behind the build out line during a goal kick until the ball is put into play. Once the opposing team is behind the build out line, the goalkeeper can pass, throw or roll the ball into play (punts and drop kicks are not allowed). After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes as normal. Ideally, the goalkeeper will wait to put the ball into play once all opponents are past



the build out line. However, the goalkeeper can put the ball into play sooner but he or she does so accept the positioning of the opponents and the consequences of how play resumes.

- **The build-out line will be the half line!**

15. Goalkeeper distribution (APPLIES TO 10U/11U AGE GROUP ONLY)

- Goalkeepers are not allowed to punt or drop-kick
- If a goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball, an indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the punt or drop-kick occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

16. Heading Restrictions and Limitations (APPLIES TO 10U/11U AGE GROUP ONLY)

- As per the Iowa Soccer Concussion Management Policy, heading is not allowed in 09U-11U games or at practices.
- Penalty for intentional heading – referees have/should be instructed to handle in the following manner
 - Outside goal area = indirect free kick, from spot of offense
 - Within goal area = indirect free kick, on goal area line parallel to the goal line at point nearest spot of offense
 - If not deliberate, play should continue
 - Two exceptions when “advantage” should be played
 - Deliberate, but errant header results in an own goal. Referee allows goal.
 - Deliberate, but errant header goes directly to attacker who “easily” shoots and scores. Referee allows goal.

17. Standings/Point System

- Win = 3 points
- Tie = 1 point
- Loss = 0 points

18. TIE BREAKERS

If any teams have the same point total, the following will be used as a tiebreaker, in order.

- Head to head competition (not used if more than 2 teams are tied).
- Goals scored minus goals allowed.
- Most shut outs.
- Fewest goals allowed.
- Kicks from the mark.

19. Due to the existing pandemic, both teams will bench themselves on the opposite side of the field, and the spectators should be on the same side of the field as their respective team. Spectators shall be on the outside area of each field. Spectators are not allowed to be located behind the goal or team bench.

20. Following each match, the score of the match will be reported to the Administration Tent. The referees' decisions are final. **There will be no protests and results/games will stand as played.**

21. Any player who receives a red card will be expelled for the rest of the game and will be suspended from playing in the next scheduled game. Any coach that receives an expulsion from a game shall be expelled for the remainder of that game and the next game. **Any spectator that is expelled from a game shall not be allowed to be on the premises of the Waverly Soccer Complex, including the parking lot, for the remainder of the tournament.**

22. There will be no formal team check-in prior to the start of the USYS United Cup. Referees will check teams in prior to kick off.



23. Any person involved in a fight will be immediately expelled from the tournament area for the remainder of the tournament. Any coach or player expelled in this manner will not be allowed to participate during the remainder of the tournament.

24. Every player and coach are participating at his or her own risk.

25. All coaches are responsible for the conduct of their fans throughout the tournament. Abusive language and actions by spectators will not be tolerated. The referee has the authority to verbally warn, caution, or send away the team coaches for the conduct of the spectators.

26. Every team is requested to help ensure that the field and the surroundings are left clean and litter-free.

27. Alcohol in any form will not be allowed on any playing field, adjacent to the playing field or parking lot areas.

28. Withdraw Policy. The tournament will refund entry fees up to the date entry closes. After this period refund will be left to the discretion of the Tournament Director. After schedules are finalized there will be no refund of the entry fee if a team withdraws.

29. Amendment to the Rules. The Tournament Director and/or Tournament Committee have the right to modify these Rules as they deem to be necessary throughout the tournament.

30. Decisions made by the Tournament Director are **final**.

31. Tournament Officials, field hosts and referees shall have the authority to remove any person from the tournament for unsporting conduct.

32. Cancellation/refund policy: The Tournament Director shall have the full and final authority concerning the cancellation, delay, change of time, or any other alteration of games that may be required due to the weather or emergencies. If the tournament is cancelled due to inclement weather, the following applies:

- No games played = 75% of entry fee.
- 1 game played = 50% of entry fee.
- 2 or more games played = no refund.

33. Weather: The Tournament Director will make the decision to clear the field with the safety of all participants-players, fans, referees, tournament officials -- as the primary concern. It is not up to referees to make this decision.

- Multiple horn blasts, followed by referees blowing their whistles to stop play, will indicate play has been suspended.
- When the Tournament Director has indicated play has been stopped via the horn blasts, participants are expected to seek shelter immediately inside their vehicles.
- Do not leave the premises unless and/or until directed to do so by the Tournament Director or tournament officials. Communication will be between the Tournament Director and the contact listed on the team's entry, who is charged with relaying the information to his/her coach and team.
- Multiple horn blasts will indicate that play will resume, and participants should return to the field they left when play was suspended.

If the delay is lengthy and significantly affects the remainder of the day's schedule, any decisions made regarding the schedule will be relayed by the Tournament Director to the contact person listed on the team's entry, who is then responsible for getting that information to his/her coach and team. Game lengths may be shortened. Tournament officials ask for and appreciate your patience and cooperation in weather situations.

34. Sportsmanship/For the Good of the Game



Iowa Soccer tournament officials reserve the right to make certain decisions regarding the competition, as he/she deems necessary, for the good of the game, in order to improve the game and/or to protect the participants. Such decisions shall include but are not limited to: postponement or cancellation of games; rescheduling of games; changing of fields; changing of sites; fair play; unsporting behavior.

In the interest of fair play and good sporting behavior, conduct by coaches, team officials and players that calls the game or competition into disrepute is prohibited. It is expected that all participants will participate in good faith and fairly. If it is determined that a particular action by a team or any of its players, coaches, team officials or spectators is deemed unacceptable for any reason, the team may be reprimanded, disqualified, sanctioned, and/or face forfeiture of one or more games. Examples of such action include, but are not limited to: knowingly violating the Guest Player Allowance, suspected forfeiture or otherwise determining the outcome of a game with the design or purpose of controlling the advancement of any team from its own group or any other group, intentionally losing a game, or unnecessarily running a score up. To be clear, this is not an all-inclusive list. Iowa Soccer tournament officials do not subscribe to the notion that that which is not expressly prohibited is, therefore, permitted.

