

# US Youth Soccer Tournament Risk

## A Direct Kick to Safety

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### **Mission and Challenge**

- Provide a healthy, safe and fair competition for all teams participating
- Allow everyone the opportunity to participate in the activities, view the competitions and experience the spirit of the tournament.

### **Who is responsible?**

#### *The hosting Organization*

- State Association
- Clubs and Leagues

#### *Tournament Officials*

- Tournament Director
- Tournament Committee
- Tournament Staff

### **What are the Risks?**

#### *Security (Uniform Patrol)*

- Protect all players, spectators and participants
- Control traffic flow
- Monitor parking area for pedestrian safety

#### *Grounds and Equipment*

- Soccer Goals-inspect and anchor
  1. Inspect construction/sharp corners
  2. Inspect net installation-no metal ties
  3. Goals anchored securely
  4. Secure/anchor goals not in use
- Fields
  1. Inspect for foreign objects
  2. Check for pot holes, hills/ruts
  3. Sprinkler heads seated and properly covered
  4. Restraining line 3' from touch line for spectators
- Inspect bleachers and seating
- Portable tents securely anchored
- Vendors-inspect facilities & equipment for safety precautions
- Adequate restroom facilities
- Beware of the "Attractive Nuisance"

#### *Transportation*

- Vehicle operators properly authorized and licensed
- Golf Carts-require seating for all passengers

No standing on carts while moving!

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### **Severe Weather**

- Monitor weather alert radio and lightning detector
- Provide emergency signal device to assist with evacuation of complex
- Instruct coaches on evacuation procedures

### **Medical**

Tournaments will provide paramedical facilities and qualified medical personnel shall be present at all playing sites during competition.

#### **Trainers and medical personnel shall meet the following criteria:**

- Be trained and equipped to treat trauma and perform CPR
- Provide emergency first aid
- Recognize and treat sport related injuries
- Maintain communications with tournament HQ and EMS services
- Medics identifiable (badge/clothing)
- Provide written directions to local medical facilities or hospitals
- Provide written report to tournament director for each transported patient

### **Referee**

- Certified Referee Assignor
- Recommend Referee Assessors
- Certified USSF Referees
- Referee skills= Match competition

### **Tournament Officials**

- Adequate tournament staffing
- Committee/Staff identification
- Communications for staff
- Recognizable Headquarters

### **Goal**

Most tournament risks can be avoided by developing a Tournament Risk Management Program, that will substantially reduce or eliminate the likelihood of emergencies.