

## CT CUP COMPETITIONS

### Section 5

**501-1 Cup Committee.** Each seasonal year the CJSA President shall appoint, with the approval of the CJSA Board of Directors, a Cup Committee, which along with the State Administrator, shall organize the State Cup and Connecticut Cup competitions. The Cup Committee shall include the CJSA Cup Chairman, the Girls Cup Chairman, and the Boys Cup Chairman. The Cup Committee shall oversee the competitions and shall appoint Cup Directors of each cup for each age division. The dates, times, places, and form of the competition shall be as determined by the Cup Committee and approved by the CJSA Board of Directors.

**501-2 Fall Cups.** Connecticut Cup competitions will be conducted during the fall season for both boys and girls in the U-11 (small Sided) U-12 (small and full-sided), U-13, U-14 and U-15 year old age divisions whenever 8 or more teams are entered.

**501-3 Spring Cups.** Connecticut Cup competitions will be conducted during the spring season for both boys and girls in U-11 (small Sided) U-12 (small and full-sided), U-13, U-14, U-15, U16, U17 and U-19 year old age divisions. A minimum of 8 teams are required for the U15 and younger brackets, a minimum of 6 teams are required for the U16 and older brackets.

**501-4 Eligibility.** The competitions shall be open to any team composed of properly registered and rostered youth players and registered coaches. This is provided such team is in good standing with CJSA and each player on the team:

1. is a resident of the town in which the team's home field is located; OR
2. is a resident of the district in which the team's home field is located and is a resident of a town in which NO CJSA CLASSIC competition team exists in the player's recognized age division in the current playing season; OR
3. is one of not more than 2 players, not provided for by subsections 1 or 2.

**501-5 One Cup Limit.** No team entering a State Cup competition during the spring season may also enter a Connecticut Cup competition in the same spring season.

**501-6 Premier Teams.** No team participating in the Elite League, Premier League, U13 Qualifying League or the Fall U-14&U15 Premier League may enter the Connecticut Cup for that playing season.

**501-7 Entries/Rosters/Passes** Clubs wishing to enter teams in any of the Connecticut Cup competitions must submit their team entry thru the CJSA website (cjsa.org) and pay the appropriate fee for each team:

- **Entry Fees.** The entry fee is \$75, if received prior to the early deadline date, or \$150 if received after the early deadline date and before cup deadline. Entry fee is non-refundable
- **Deadline for Entries.** Entries must be submitted into the CJSA website (cjsa.org) on or before 3:00 PM of the applicable deadline date.
- **Withdrawals.** A team may only withdraw from the competition prior to the cup draw; the team entry fee will not be refunded.

- **Forfeits:** If a team entered in the competition withdraws or forfeits after the cup draw there will be a fine of \$100.00 implemented for each CT Cup team. Extraordinary circumstances should be submitted to the Cup Committee for the final decision with regard to the fine being waived. Non-payment of the fine would result in the club being put in bad standing. When the home team in a match forfeits and the game is not played the team moving on will be charged a home game.
- **Open Draw.** The State Administrator shall submit to the Cup Committee a list of all teams whose entries and rosters were received by their respective deadlines. The committee shall oversee a draw where the teams are drawn by chance with the following exception: In the first round of the CT Cup, no 2 teams from the same club will play each other in the same age and gender cup. The Cup Director will then post the draws on [www.cjsa.org](http://www.cjsa.org).
  1. **Rosters.** Cup rosters must be submitted into the CJSA Registration System.
  2. All teams entered in the U-11 Cup must have no less than 9 rostered players whose birth dates are within the 12 month period of the cut-off dates for U-11 eligibility.
  3. U12 – U19 full sided game rosters may contain up to 25 players and a minimum of 11 players. All 25 players are eligible to play at any game. CT Cup rosters for U11 & U12 small sided games shall have a team roster with a maximum of 18 players and a minimum of 11 players. Rosters must include jersey numbers, which may be hand written on the roster at game time.
  4. No player may be rostered on more than one (1) team in Connecticut Cup competition each playing season.
- **Rosters Frozen.** A team roster must be submitted into the CJSA Registration System and designated for CT Cup by the freezing date. Only players listed on the frozen cup roster are eligible to participate with their team in each Connecticut Cup match. (Note: Only players are frozen on a roster - coaches are not frozen and may be changed at any time.) A team not complying will be considered ineligible. The CJSA Registration System will freeze and stamp all submitted rosters at 3:00 PM on the Fall and Spring deadline dates. Teams are required to submit a roster by the appropriate deadline. Teams failing to submit a roster that the club's District Registrar has reviewed and approved by the deadline will forfeit their cup entry fee and their right to participate in that cup for that season. (check [www.cjsa.org](http://www.cjsa.org) for deadline dates). Submitting a roster alone does not enter the team into the cup competition; an entry and payment are also required.
- **Late rosters** received after the deadline, but within 48 hours of the deadline date will be accepted and assessed a \$100 fine. Cup rosters received after 48 hours of the deadline will not be accepted and the team will be disqualified. Submitting a roster alone does not enter the team into the cup competition; an entry and payment are also required.
- **Passes.** Player passes, coaches passes (maximum of 4), and a copy of a stamped frozen CJSA certified roster should be available in all cup games. Coaches have the right to inspect player passes, coach's passes, and to request a copy of the certified roster prior to the start of the game. Coaches do not have to be named on the roster to be eligible for the competition however teams must have a registered adult present at all cup games. The

adult does not have to be a part of the team or club, but they must be a registered adult with CJSA. In the event that player and/or coaches passes are not present at the match, the players and/or coaches may sign the roster or a piece of paper. If the roster is not present the players will print and sign their name and their date of birth. The referee shall submit the signed roster/paper with his/her referee report and the office will confirm the eligibility of players and coaches.

### 501-8 Game Day Information

The length of the Cup Game will be as follows:

Age	Game Length	OT Periods	Ball Size
U17-U19	Two 45 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	5
U15-U16	Two 40 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	5
U13-U14	Two 35 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	5
U11-U12 (full/small)	Two 35 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	4

In all Cup competitions if a match is tied after regulation time, 2 complete overtime periods of 10 minutes each will be played. If a game is still tied, taking kicks from the penalty mark will be used to determine the winning team.

- **CT Cup Finals:**
  - **The schedule for the Cup Finals will be posted prior to the date – game times will not be changed for team conflicts**
  - **if the match is still tied after overtime periods, Co-Champions will be declared**
  
- **Field Size:**
  1. The **minimum field size** is 100 yards long and 50 yards wide for full sided games.
  2. The **minimum field** size is 75 yards long and 50 yards wide for small sided games.
  
- The minimum goal size is 6 x 18 for small sided matches.
- **Substitutions:** Either team may substitute at any stoppage of play with the notification and approval of the referee.
- **Game times:** Weekend games must be scheduled for start between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM for the Fall Competition and 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM for the Spring Competition. If teams mutually agree games may be scheduled outside of stated hours but must be played **by date specified by cup committee. Games played on the designated day and between the stated hours DO NOT require agreement of away team.** The game must be played in its entirety to be official (full duration, two overtime periods of ten minutes, and FIFA Kicks from the mark if necessary).
- **Grace Period:** A 20 minute grace period, beyond the scheduled match time, will be allowed for the arrival of a team (a minimum of 7 players). The referee shall notify the Cup Committee of either or both team's failure to appear within the grace period(s). Whether the game will be rescheduled or declared a forfeit will be the decision of the Cup Committee. NOTE: Games may be played with 7 players.

- **Game day:** All preliminary games will be played on the assigned day unless, by mutual agreement, the game can be played before the assigned date. In special circumstances the Cup Committee will have final say as to time, day and location of the game. If the game is not played by the assigned date, without the consent of the Cup Committee, both teams will forfeit the match.
- **Rescheduling of Games:**
  - CJSA will not reschedule games because there is a conflict with another event.
  - Conflicts arising from the coaching of more than one team will not be considered a cause for rescheduling games
  - Every attempt will be made to play the game on the day scheduled, beginning with using the visitor's field. The hosting team will pay the referees. (In the event this occurs, the original home team in the bracket will still be charged with a home game for purposes of the competition.)
  - If your field becomes unplayable on the day of competition, the home team **MUST** notify the visiting team **AND** your Cup Chairperson by 10:00am or three hours prior to the scheduled game time – whichever is earlier.
  - When the visiting team has travelled to the field and a game is cancelled or abandoned because of inclement weather or the referee deems the field unplayable, the game shall be played in its entirety the following day. The visiting team will host this match. The original home team is responsible for the referee fees for the cancelled or abandoned game. The hosting team will be responsible for referee fees for the replayed match. A member of the cup committee must be notified of the change in schedule.
  - State wide weather concerns will be posted on [www.cjsa.org](http://www.cjsa.org). For isolated storm issues the teams needs to contact a member of the Cup Committee.
- **Lightning – Recognizing the threat:** Apply the 30-30 rule: When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If this time is 30 seconds or less, seek proper shelter. If you can't see the lightning, just hearing the thunder is a good back-up rule. Wait 30 minutes or more after hearing the last thunder before leaving shelter. Referees must protect the safety of all participants by stopping game activities quickly, so that participants and spectators may retire to a safer place before the lightning threat becomes significant. Remember, if you can hear the thunder, you are within reach of lightning.
- **Home Team:**
  - The home team for each game shall be the team having played the fewest number of home games in the competition. If each has played the same number of home games, then the team listed on the top of the bracket shall be the home team.
  - Byes and forfeits count as a home game.
  - In the event that the scheduled away team travels and through no fault of this team, the game is not played or needs to be replayed, then the game will now be played on the field of the team that has traveled.
- **All teams awarded a home game shall:**
  1. Contact their Club Referee Assignor upon notification that they are the home team
  2. Contact opponent within 48 hours and schedule game.

**Jersey Color:** Each team should inquire as to jersey color so that any adjustments can be made prior to the match. In case of conflict, AWAY team must change.

- **Reporting Scores:** Each winning team **must** report the game score **on-line** on the CJSA website by midnight of scheduled game day. Scores via phone calls will not be accepted. All updated Cup brackets will be posted no later than Monday night.

The Cup Committee will determine home fields.

Failure to report the score by the above time will result in:

- 1) loss of the teams next home field. Team will be charged with a home game (team benefitting from forfeiture of opponents home field loss will be charged with an away game);
  - 2) host team will pay referees.
  - 3) The @ symbol within a bracket designates that team is being penalized for reporting their score late on a prior weekend.
- **Coaches, Teams and Spectators:** Both teams should, whenever possible, be on the same side of the field with all spectators on the opposite side. Coaches must remain in their technical area or ten (10) yards off the center line of the field: on his/her own half of the field and on the same side as the “bench”. A three (3) yard spectator line is recommended.
    - Coaches are responsible for their own conduct AND the conduct of their players and spectators. Abuse of referees will not be tolerated. Misconduct by coaches, players, parents and/or spectators may be referred to the CJSA’s Appeals/Discipline Committee for disciplinary action.

#### **501-9 Rules and Coaches Responsibilities regarding Referees**

- **Referees.** The Diagonal System of Control (DSC), using only US Soccer currently registered referees, shall be used for all Connecticut Cup matches.
  - In situations where 3 USSF referees are not available, club assistants should be supplied. The dual or two (2) person system is not permitted in CJSA games or competition.
  - Failure to provide the referee and two assistants, US Soccer currently registered referees, from the quarterfinals thru the semifinal matches will result in the game being rescheduled at the home field of the team which had traveled.
  - CJSA will provide referees and assistant referees for all final competitions
  - The center referee must be at least two age groups older than the level they officiate in U14 and below matches. (See Rule 4212).
  - A thirty (30) minute grace period will be granted for the arrival of the referee. If the entire referee team does not show up for the match, the home team shall notify the Cup Committee of the referee’s failure to appear within the grace period. The away team will become the host team for the rescheduled game.
- **Referee Assignments.** Referees are assigned by the District Referee Assignor (DRA) of the home team. No referees will be assigned by the home coach. *The certified club referee assignor may assist the District Assignor with cup assignments. All referees assigned by the club assignor and/or the DRA must be neutral (no club affiliation).*
- **DRA Notification.** The District Referee Assignor of the home team must be notified at least 4 days in advance of all games or changes to game schedule. Penalties for failure to adhere will be at the discretion of the cup committee.

- **Referee Confirmation.** In all rounds except the finals, the hosting coach will be responsible to confirm that a referee(s) has been assigned by the appropriate person to the match 48 hours in advance of the game.
- **Referee Payments.** In all rounds except the finals, the host team is responsible for the referee and assistant referee fees. Clubs may not pay less than the following amounts for Connecticut or State Cup Referees and Assistant Referees:
  - U11 - 14                      \$50 referees; \$30 assistant referees
  - U15 – 19                      \$60 referees; \$35 assistant referees
- **Referee Reporting.** Referee Reports, using the CJSA Forms that can be found on the CJSA site, should be completed for all CT Cup games. The completed reports must be sent/faxed/mailed to the CJSA Office within 48 hours. (Submitting the reports online through Central Assign, the state referee assigning system, is also a valid way to report.) CJSA will then distribute them accordingly.
- **Red Card - Sending Off Policy and Coach Ejection.** See Appendix H in the CJSA Guidebook; for additional sanctions related to referee assault or referee abuse, see Appendix J.

**501-10 Protest Committee.** Each seasonal year the CJSA President shall appoint, with the approval of the CJSA Board of Directors, a Cup Protest Committee composed of three (3) members of the CJSA Board of Directors. In the event that a member(s) is not available the President may appoint another member of the CJSA Board of Directors to serve. The Cup Protest Committee shall hear all protests of State Cup and Connecticut Cup games. The committee shall interpret the rules of the competitions and the decisions of the committee shall be final and binding on all parties. Protests must be in writing and be accompanied with the appropriate fee and may only be lodged by a CJSA registered Team Official or the team's Club President. Protests relating to the grounds, goal posts, field, etc. must be in writing and presented to the referee along with the appropriate fee before the start of the game. Protests based upon the judgment of referees, *including duration of games*, will not be entertained. Additional information concerning protests may be found on the CJSA website - www.CJSA.org - Protests, Section 12 in the CJSA Guidebook. Written complaints may be filed with the CJSA State Office without fee but they will not result in a change of game results.

**501-11 Cup Committee Decisions.** All decisions by the Cup Committee are final