



**Welcome to the 2017 South Texas Directors Cup!** We are looking forward to a great event as teams compete to be crowned South Texas Directors Cup Champion! PLEASE NOTE this entry letter is for Both Districts (East and West). Directors Cup teams only!

Now that your team is registered for Directors Cup, it is time to begin preparing your team for the competition. This includes:

- Familiarize yourself with information being posted on the Directors Cup webpage of the [stxsoccer.org](http://stxsoccer.org) website. ALL pertinent information AND updates will be posted there. With rain-outs and other situations that come up, new or updated information may be posted daily (hopefully not!)
  - Go to [www.stxsoccer.org](http://www.stxsoccer.org), scroll over the “State Competitions” drop-down menu and select the “Directors Cup” option, OR
  - Go directly to [http://www.stxsoccer.org/directors\\_cup/](http://www.stxsoccer.org/directors_cup/)
- Be knowledgeable and understanding the Rules of Competition. Rules and policies specific to the South Texas Directors Cup will be posted on the above webpage.
- Finalizing any changes to your roster and communicate appropriately with your club/association registrar. This must be done BEFORE the roster freeze date/deadline your Local Association has set.
- Be aware of any deadlines that may be applicable to your team.
- Keep up-to-date on any email communication regarding the Directors Cup and ensure a prompt reply if a response is needed.
- Directors Cup has changed formats

The information above and on the following pages is meant to guide you as you prepare for the upcoming 2017 Directors Cup competition.

**THANK YOU** for your continued efforts in helping ensure a great experience for your players, parents, and coaches. We wish your team the best of luck in the 2017 South Texas Directors Cup!

**Andrew Frisque**

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## **IMPORTANT DIRECTORS CUP DATES**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE DEADLINES \*\*\*\*Make sure your Registrar is aware of these dates\*\*\*\***

**March 1** - Directors Cup Entry Deadline

**March 20** – Directors Cup Payment Deadline due

### **PLAY DATES**

**April 8-9** – Open Bracket Play-In To Presidents/State Cup: (if necessary)...*there is a separate Open Bracket GotSoccer Registration*

**April 22-23** – District Play Date

**April 29-30** – Rain Date

**May 6-7** – Directors Cup State Finals Weekend, **Western District Hosting, Location:** Mission City Soccer Complex, San Antonio, TX

## **REGISTRATION AND COST**

**Directors Cup** is a restricted entry competition that is strongly recommended for Under-11 through Under-19 boys and girls Division 2 and lower level Super 2 teams. Lower level Super 2 is defined as teams that did not qualify for Presidents Cup. **NEW THIS YEAR** for the U11 and U12 age groups ONLY, Division 1 teams not participating in State Cup, will have the option to participate in the “United Bracket” for Directors Cup.

In 2017, the registration fee is \$475 for U11-U14 teams; the registration fee is \$500 for U15-U19. All teams must register by March 1, 2017. Payment options include CHECK, CREDIT CARD, or E-CHECK. If paying by check, please note the team the payment is for. Mail the check to: South Texas Youth Soccer, Attn: Directors Cup, 15209 US Hwy 290 E, Manor, TX 78653.

## **FORMAT - CHANGE**

**Beginning 2017, the South Texas Directors Cup competition will implement a new competition format.** The competition will start later (April) and be formatted Event/Tournament style similar to the South Texas Cup. The District Round (round robin + district playoff) will be played over 1 weekend (dates above). STYSA will schedule the games. The State Finals weekend has NOT changed in format, and will continue to include 2 East teams, 2 West teams, and an El Paso team (if applicable). The State Finals will be scheduled for May 6 & 7, 2017.

In 2017 the U11 and U12 age groups will have two brackets, "United" and "Classic". Any D1 teams not participating in State Cup will be eligible for the United bracket only, along with other teams that opt to enter the United bracket. The Classic bracket is meant for all other Super II and Division II teams choosing not to participate in the United Bracket. Division III teams will typically enter South Texas Cup.

U11 and U12 teams will play 9v9.

U18 and U19/20 teams will be combined to form the “U20” age group.

## **ADVANCEMENT**

The qualification process within each District will identify the first and second place teams in each age group. The two teams from each District and one El Paso team (if entered in the competition) will advance to the Directors Cup State Finals. State Finals will be hosted in the Western District in 2017 at Mission City Soccer Complex (San Antonio). Advancement Scenarios will be posted to the Directors Cup website before the start of the Competition.

## **OPEN BRACKET PLAY-IN**

Teams that selected to try and play into the South Texas Presidents Cup will be contacted directly by the State Office regarding the Play-In match schedules. The State Cup and Presidents Cup Open Bracket Play-In round will be on April 8/9. The bottom 2 seeds in State Cup will be part of the Open Bracket into State Cup, should there be teams registering for the State Cup Open Bracket. The bottom 4 seeds in Presidents Cup will be part of the Open Bracket into Presidents Cup, should there be teams registering for the Presidents Cup Open Bracket.

Any registered USYS team, not seeded into State Cup, may enter the Open Bracket of State Cup. To enter the State Cup

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Open Bracket, teams must register for “2017 Open Bracket – State Cup / Presidents Cup” GotSoccer event. Should a team(s) enter the Open Bracket, the #7-#8 State Cup seeds will become part of the State Cup Open Bracket event. The format of the Open Bracket (played in one weekend, April 8/9) will be dependent on the number of teams entering the event. The top 2 teams from the State Cup Open Bracket will fill the #7 and #8 positions in State Cup.

Any registered USYS team, not seeded into Presidents Cup or State Cup, may enter the Open Bracket of Presidents Cup. To enter the Presidents Cup Open Bracket, teams must register for “2017 Open Bracket – State Cup / Presidents Cup” GotSoccer event. Should a team(s) enter the Open Bracket, the #13-#16 Presidents Cup seeds will become part of the Presidents Cup Open Bracket event. The format of the Open Bracket (played in one weekend, April 8/9) will be dependent on the number of teams entering the event. The top 4 teams from the Presidents Cup Open Bracket will fill the #13- #16 positions in Presidents Cup.

## **FINALIZING YOUR DIRECTORS CUP ROSTER**

**Directors Cup Roster** - Directors Cup Rosters will be based on the team's Official Roster. Please adhere to your Local Club/Member Association roster deadlines/freezes for transfers/adds/releases. The Directors Cup Roster will be the Official Spring Roster as created by the team's Local Member Association according to their deadlines and policies. There are no Club Passes or Guest Players allowed for Directors Cup.

### **Roster Changes**

- A ‘previously rostered player’ is defined as a player who transfers on to a team from a different club. A player who changes teams within the same club is not considered a previously rostered player and does not count towards the transfer limit of 5.
- **U11 and U12 teams** may have no more than **3 previously rostered player** transfers on the Official Directors Cup Roster.
- **U13 and older teams** may have no more than **5 previously rostered player** transfers on Official Directors Cup Roster
- Any player rostered to the team in the Fall who is **not returning** is required to submit a signed Release form prior to being removed from the team.

**Transfer** – For the purposes of Directors Cup play, any player who was rostered to another team for the fall season must complete the STYSA Transfer/Release form in order to move to a different team; however, only those players who were previously rostered to a team in a different club will be counted toward the maximum transfer limit of 5.

The Transfer form must include the following:

- ✓ Player’s name (as it appears on the roster), address, ID number, date of birth, and signature of the player/parent.
- ✓ Club Name, Team Name, and Team Number of the team the player is leaving.
- ✓ Club Name, Team Name, and Team Number of the team the player is joining.

**New Player** – A “new player” is one who has not played with any STYSA or US Youth Soccer league or association during the current seasonal year. The team manager or coach is responsible for the following:

- ✓ Registering the player with the local club or association in the GotSoccer registration program.
- ✓ Paying any required registration fees to the **local club or association**. (The association will pay fees for the player when submitting their entire Spring registration information to STYSA)

**Release** – Any player who was rostered to the team in the fall remains rostered to the team for spring. A player must request in writing (signed by the parent) a release from the team prior to being removed from the roster. Coaches or managers may not release a player involuntarily unless they meet the criteria stated in the rules. For any player to be released under the involuntary rules, documentation must be provided with the release that verifies the situation meets the requirements. **Any player for whom a form is not submitted will remain on the roster for the spring competition.** Not registering for the spring season is not a valid reason for removing a player from the roster.