



Welcome to the 2018 South Texas State Cup! We are looking forward to a great event as teams compete to be crowned South Texas State Cup Champion and for the 13U – 19U teams to represent South Texas at the US Youth Soccer Region III event with possible advancement to the Nationals! We wish all teams the best of luck!

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

- Familiarizing yourself with information being posted on the State Cup webpage of the stxsoccer.org website. ALL pertinent information AND updates will be posted there. With rain-outs and other situations that may come up, new or updated information may be posted daily (hopefully not!)
 - Go to www.stxsoccer.org, scroll over the “State Competitions” drop-down menu and select the “State Cup” option, OR
 - Go directly to http://www.stxsoccer.org/state_cup/
- Being knowledgeable and understanding the Rules of Competition. Rules and policies specific to the South Texas State 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 transfer/release date listed in this document.
- Being aware of any deadlines that may be applicable to your team.
- Keeping up-to-date on any email communication regarding the State Cup and ensure a prompt reply if a response is needed.
- The State Cup competition has a very condensed playing schedule. As such teams must be available for every play date, even if the date was not originally scheduled. Any rainout reschedules may use previous available play dates. We appreciate your flexibility.

The information above and on the following pages is meant to guide you as you prepare for the upcoming 2018 State 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 2018 South Texas State Cup!

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IMPORTANT PRESIDENTS CUP DATES

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

February 12, 2018 – Transfer/Release Window Deadline for 11U – 14U

March 1 - State Cup Entry Deadline

March 12 – Transfer/Release Window Deadline for 15U-19U

March 21 - State Cup Payment Deadline due

April 11 – Roster Freeze Date for 11U-19U teams – New Players

PLAY DATES

April 7/8 and 14/15 – Open Bracket Play-In (if necessary)...there is a separate Open Bracket GotSoccer Registration

April 28-29 – Group Play Begins

May 5-6 – Group Play Date

May 12-13 – District Playoff Round

May 19-20 – Rain Date

May 26-28 – State Finals. Location: Eastern District Location TBD

June 21-28 – Southern Regionals Tournament, Location: Greensboro, NC

July 23-29 – National Championships, Location: Frisco, TX

REGISTRATION AND COST

Registration is now OPEN. Please go to the South Texas State Cup webpage to register. ONLY teams listed as qualified for State Cup may register. The cost for the 2018 South Texas State Cup is \$800 per 13U-19U team and \$550 for 11U and 12U team. All teams must be registered by March 1, 2018. Payment options include CHECK, CREDIT CARD, or E-CHECK. If paying by check, note the team the payment is for and send it to: South Texas Youth Soccer, Attn: State Cup, 15209 US Hwy 290 E, Manor, TX 78653.

SCHEDULING AND FORMAT

The South Texas state office will be scheduling all matches at pre-determined soccer complexes. All Eastern District group games will be scheduled at locations in the Houston area. Western District group games will be scheduled at locations in the Austin and San Antonio areas (Five Mile Dam Park and Schertz/STAR)

The format for the 2017: 13U–19U - Each District will have 2 groups of 4 teams in each age group (8 total teams). Each group will play a round robin “group play” stage (3 games). The top two point earners from each group will advance to the District Playoff Round (A1vB2; B1vA2). The 2 teams which win the District Round games will advance to the State Finals Weekend. **Club Pass is NOT allowed during the District Rounds!**

*****The 19U age group will allow for flexibility/rescheduling in cases where players are still in College.*****

The format for the 2017: 11U–12U – The top 8 WDDOA/DDL teams (when possible) will be seeded into State Cup. However the 11U-12U age group will not limit the number of teams participating, the goal will be to keep group sizes at 4 (round robin – 3 games). It is possible there will be more than 2 groups in an age/gender, advancement to the State Finals will be based on the total number of teams and advancement scenarios will be posted on the State Cup website once determined.

El Paso will receive a BYE into the State Finals Weekend, per South Texas rules, should they choose to send a team.

OPEN BRACKET PLAY-IN

Teams that registered to try and play into the South Texas State Cup (National Cup) through the Open Bracket, will be contacted directly by the State Office regarding the Play-In match schedules. The State Cup Open Bracket Play-In round will be either on April 7/8 or April 14/15. 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.

Any registered USYS team, not seeded into State Cup, may enter the Open Bracket of State Cup. To enter the State Cup Open Bracket, teams must register for “2018 Open Bracket – State 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 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. An overview of the potential format is posted on the SCL webpage.

Any Non-STYSA/US Youth Soccer teams interested in entering State Cup must review and comply with all of the requirements listed on the “Non-STYSA/US Youth Soccer Teams Integration and Participation in Spring Cups – Requirement/Process” document which will be posted on the State Cup webpage.

FINALIZING YOUR ROSTER FOR PRESIDENTS CUP

****The TRANSFER/RELEASE DEADLINE:** This means that any transfers/moves/release **MUST** be finalized by this date. Any “new” players to STYSA may added to your roster after the transfer/release deadline, with final approval by STYSA . **NO GUEST PLAYERS OR CLUB PASS PLAYERS ARE ALLOWED.** All players listed on the roster must be “primary” players to the team**

The Roster Freeze Deadline:

April 11 – Any new players, approved to add to your roster, must be added by this date. In addition, the roster continuity throughout the State Cup competition (includes Regionals/Nationals) will be based off of this Roster Freeze date.

How to Make Changes to Your Roster:

All changes to rosters of teams entered in the State Cup competition must be processed in the GotSoccer system prior to the final roster deadline indicated above. Rosters generated from any other player registration system will not be allowed. It is the responsibility of the team to provide the required documentation for changes to the Association Registrar, allowing sufficient time for the registrar to process the change in the registration system.

IMPORTANT: All teams must retain a “Club Core” greater than 50% from their Fall 2017 League Roster and per NCS Rules/Policies must retain a Continuity of 9 from the Roster Deadline set for April 11th.

- **11U through 12U teams** – maximum roster is 16 players – greater than 50% club core must be retained
- **13U through 15U teams** – maximum roster is 18 players - greater than 50% club core must be retained
- **16U through 19U teams** – maximum roster is 22 players - greater than 50% club core must be retained

Roster Changes

- A ‘previously rostered player’ is defined as a STYSA registered 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.
- 11U and 12U teams may have no more than **3 previously rostered player** transfers on the team at the roster freeze deadline.
- **13U and older teams** may have no more than **5 previously rostered player** transfers on the team at the roster freeze deadline.
- There is no limit to the number of new players that can be added to a roster as long as the team retains the roster consistency identified above and does not go over the roster limit.
- 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 State 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 3 or 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.

Player Registration Forms may be found at: <https://usys-assets.ae-admin.com/assets/975/15/PlayerRegForm.pdf>

Any roster change made in the GotSoccer system after the stated deadlines will result in the player being ineligible to participate with the team in the Cup competition, unless otherwise approved by South Texas. Game cards used by teams in the competition will be compiled from the team’s roster as of the final roster deadline.