



USASA Region III National Cup Tournament Rules

FIFA Laws of the Game

The FIFA Laws of the Game apply to all the competitions with the following modifications.

Uniforms

1. When the uniforms colors of the two competing teams are determined similar by the referee, the home team shall change its color.
2. A clear visible number at least 8 inches in height must be worn on the back of each player's jersey. Goalkeeper jerseys must be numbered. Each player on a team must wear a number different from the numbers of the other players on the same team.

Player Passes

Each player must present to the referee crew USASA current player pass issued from the team's respective Organization Member prior to entering a match. The pass shall include the player's name and photograph, DOB, expiration date, team name, and be tamper-proof and indicate the Organization Member that issued the pass.

Match Procedures

1. General Scheduling Matters
 - a. The Regional Competition dates for each competition will be set by the Regional Cup Committee.
 - b. Organization Members may hold their USASA National Cup Qualifying rounds in a format determined by the Organizational Member to advance two state representatives in each division of the competition. The Organization must report the advancing teams and team contact information, information of the qualifying method and teams entering in the state rounds.
 - c. Member Associations must certify all team and player's eligibility.



USASA Region III National Cup Tournament Rules

- d. Teams may pay entry fees and bonds in one of the following manners
 - I. With a Member Organization check
 - II. With certified check or Money Order

Player Clearances

Players must be eligible to play in the division they enter. It is the team's responsibility to obtain International Clearances and Amateur Status if so required. Both processes are done through US Soccer, neither USASA, nor Region III are involved in this process.

All paperwork for both Amateur Status and International Clearances must be filed prior to Regional Tournament.

- Players may participate in the Region III tournament so long as they have applied for International Clearances.
- Players must receive confirmed Amateur Status prior to participating in Region III Tournament.

2. Match Day Roster

a. Teams will be allowed to select no more than 18 players from its official Player Pool to be designated for its match day roster per match.

b. A match day roster must be submitted to the referee no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the match. The form must indicate no more than 11 players that shall start the match and include the players who may enter as substitutes. The roster form shall include the first and last name of each player and the jersey number of the player. A total of 18 players allowed on the Match Day Roster.

3. Field & Equipment Requirements

- a. FIFA Laws of the game shall apply.

4. Length of Match

a. Each match shall be comprised of two 45-minute halves with a halftime interval not to exceed 15 minutes. In matches where a winner must be determined, if tied after regulation, 30 minutes of extra time will be played in two 15-minute periods. If still tied,



USASA Region III National Cup Tournament Rules

then the winner will be determined by kicks from the penalty mark as prescribed by FIFA.

b. For competitions played in a tournament format, where unforeseen circumstances arise, the length of the match and procedure to determine a winner in cases where a match is tied and a winner needs to be determined may be modified. Such modifications shall be made by the regional cup committee at their sole discretion.

5. Substitutions

- a. A maximum of 7 substitutions shall be allowed. A player who has been replaced by a substitute may not re-enter the match.
- b. Over40 Division and Women's Division will be allowed unlimited substitutions.

6. Match Play Format for Tournament Competition

- a. The regional cup shall determine competition groupings committee based on the number of entries received, previous Cup results, the geographical distribution of teams, and the timeliness of applications received, as the priorities.
- b. Each team will play the other teams in their designated group as scheduled. The points for bracket standings are as follows: 3 points for the win, 1 point for a tie, 0 points for the loss.
- c. Tiebreakers – For all competition, the following tie breakers will be used, in this exact order; Head to Head, Goal Differential, most goals scored, PK's. Forfeits will be scored as a 1-0 match.
- d. Group Tie Breakers – 1. Head to Head, 2. Greatest Goal Differential, 3. Most Goals Scored, 4. Kicks from the Mark (or coin toss if circumstance dictates)
- e. Second Place Tie Breakers – 1. Most Points, 2. Greatest Goal Differential, 3. Most Goals Scored, 4. Kicks from the Mark (or coin toss if circumstance dictates)

In the event that there is a Three-Way Tie in the Group or for the Wildcard Position



USASA Region III National Cup Tournament Rules

- f. Three Way Tie Breakers - No Head to Head – 1. Greatest Goal Differential, 2. Most Goals Scored, 3. Kicks from the Mark. Once the 3-way tie is reduced to two teams, the tie breaker returns to the beginning of the Three-Way Tie Breaker sequence
- g. If there needs to be a Three-Way “Kicks from the Mark” – 1. All three team’s names will go into a hat, 2. First team drawn will receive the “by” and be considered the home team, 3. The next team drawn will kick in the first round of “Kicks from the Mark” and be considered the home team, 4. The remaining team will be considered the visitor and will call the coin toss, 5. Second and Third team will compete in “Kicks from the Mark”, 6. Winner competes with First Draw

6. Match Officials

The Regional Cup Committee shall be responsible to assign all match officials and determine the amount of compensation for the officials for all Regional rounds. If one or more of the teams are responsible for the compensation of the officials, such amounts including any travel and per diem shall be published by the Regional Cup Committee.

7. Match Not Completed in its Entirety

- a. A match terminated before completion of regulation shall be replayed in its entirety with the exception of the following two circumstances:
 - 1) If the match is terminated clearly as the result of misconduct of one of the teams, its management and/or its followers, then the match shall be determined a forfeit by the offending team and awarded to the opposing team. Review and disposition of such a situation shall be conducted by the Regional Cup Committee for that competition.
 - 2) If the match is terminated due to one of the teams no longer able to field the minimum required seven (7) players to continue the match, then the match shall be determined a forfeit by the team that no longer could continue with the minimum required and awarded to the opposing team.
- b. For matches played in a tournament format where the match was terminated due to weather conditions or other extenuating circumstances that no longer allowed the match to be playable, the Regional Cup Committee shall determine the outcome for that competition and any scheduling changes.



USASA Region III National Cup Tournament Rules

8. Technical Area

Teams will be permitted to have no more than four team officials (coaches, assistant coaches and trainers) along with the players listed on the Match Day Roster in the team's technical area. 18 Player Dress Squad and 4 Team Officials only allowed.

9. Spectators/Supporters

Spectators/supporters must be seated on the opposite touchline from the team benches or designated seating areas in the stands. Spectators are not permitted on the field or technical area. Teams are responsible for the conduct of their supporters. If it is determined that a match is disrupted or terminated due to the conduct of a team's supporters, sanctions may include forfeiture of match, disqualification from future cup matches and a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Player & Team Official Discipline

1. Team officials (coaches, assistant coaches, trainers and others allowed to be in the technical area) are expected to behave in a responsible manner. A team official may be expelled from the field by the referee, in which case the team official must leave the technical and playing area of the field entirely and no longer participate directly or indirectly in the match. The dismissed team official will also be suspended from participating in the next scheduled match of the official's team. The Regional Cup Committee reserves the authority to impose further sanctions necessary to uphold the integrity of the game.

2. Player Suspensions

a. A player issued a red card, including as a result of being issued two (2) yellow cards in the same match, shall be suspended at minimum for one (1) game in that competition.

b. A player issued a red card for violent conduct due to fighting or striking another player shall be suspended a minimum of two matches.

c. The Regional Cup Committee shall review the circumstances concerning all red cards issued. If the Committee determines that the actions of the player warrants greater



USASA Region III National Cup Tournament Rules

penalty than the minimum penalties imposed, then it reserves authority to impose further sanctions necessary to uphold the integrity of the game.

d. A suspension shall be served by the player at the next match of that competition. If the team has been eliminated from that competition, the player shall serve the suspension in the following season.

Withdrawal from the Competition

1. Any team withdrawing from the competition must give notice of its intention to withdraw to the Regional Cup Committee. Notice must be given 72 hours in advance of the schedule match and must state the reason for the withdrawal.
2. A team that has withdrawn from a competition is subject to losing its participation bond, removal from any other competition it has entered and participation from any competition in the following year. The Regional Cup Committee shall review the circumstances of the withdrawal and make a determination of any sanctions to be applied.

Disqualifications

A team found to be ineligible to participate in competition or is found to be using an ineligible player may be disqualified from the competition as determined by the Regional Cup Committee. Sanctions may also include loss of participation bond, removal from any other competition it has entered and participation from any competition in the following year.