



ILLINOIS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION OPEN CUP, STATE CUP & PRESIDENTS CUP PLAYING RULES

1. The Illinois State Cup is a part of the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS) and the Illinois Presidents Cup is part of the U.S. Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup. The Team must have all of its players and coaches registered with Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA) through a currently affiliated IYSA Member League during the current soccer year, fulfill all IYSA requirements for participation as stated in IYSA Rule 023 and abide by all IYSA Policies and Procedures. The Club/Organization is responsible for the conduct, penalties and fines of its teams, players, coaches and supporters. Except as provided herein and in IYSA Rule 023 all matches played within the jurisdiction of this Illinois shall be played under FIFA Laws of the Game as modified by the IYSA.

In all matters provided or not provided in IYSA rules and regulations, the decision of the IYSA Tournament Committee shall be binding. A plea of ignorance to any of the rules and regulations governing this competition and IYSA is insufficient grounds for appeal or protest.

2. Competition Information

AGE GROUP	GAME Format	Maximum TEAM ROSTER	Maximum GAME ROSTER	GAME LENGTH	OVERTIME PLAY	BALL SIZE
11U-12U	9 v 9	18	18	2 x 30 minutes	2 x 10 minutes	4
13U – 14U	11 v 11	22	18	2 x 35 minutes	2 x 10 minutes	5
15U – 16U	11 V 11	22	18	2 x 40 minutes	2 x 15 minutes	5
17U – 19U	11 V 11	22	18	2 x 45 minutes	2 x 15 minutes	5

3. Overtime

- A. Single Elimination Open Cup Matches, Semifinals or Finals
If a game is tied at the end of regulation play and overtime periods are to be played to determine a winner, two (2) complete overtime periods as provided in section 2 of these playing rules will be played after the end of regulation play. If the game is still tied after the end of the two (2) overtime periods, FIFA “Kicks from the Penalty Mark” rules will apply in order to determine the winner.
- B. Group Play: If a group play games is tied at the end of regulation the match is complete and both teams are awarded 1 point.

4. Substitution

Substitutions will be as follows for all matches played in this competition:

- A. **OPEN CUP**
For age groups 11U and older, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed, on any stoppage of play with the approval of the referee.
- B. **STATE CUP**
 - a. For age groups 14U and younger, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed, on any stoppage of play with the approval of the referee.
 - b. For 15U and older, substitution may occur on any stoppage of play with the approval of the referee. A maximum of seven (7) substitutions for each team shall be allowed in each game during each half of play and during overtime play. The substituted player may not re-enter the game during the same half of play. After leaving the game during overtime play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game.
- C. **PRESIDENTS CUP**
 - a. For groups 11U and older, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed, on any stoppage of play with the approval of the referee.
- D. For all above, if the goalkeeper is dismissed by the referee, the referee may allow the team to replace the goalkeeper with a player from the bench. The team however must still play short with another player leaving the field of play.

- E. If a player is suspected of suffering a head injury they may be substituted for evaluation without the substitutions counting against the teams total number of allowed substitutions during each half or overtime period. If the player with the suspected head injury has received clearance from the events' Health Care Professional, the player may re-enter at any stoppage of play. The evaluated player must replace the original substitute and will not count as a substitution. The temporary substituted player may re-enter the game as a regular substitute. A team may only make a temporary substitution if they have a substitution available.

5. Uniforms

All teams must wear uniforms that conform to acceptable U.S. Youth Soccer standards. Each player on a team INCLUDING GOALKEEPER must wear shin guards, an official uniform with a six inch minimum size number on the back of the shirt.. Each number must be different. The players must wear the same color shirts, shorts and socks. Jerseys must be of an accepted soccer style jersey. The jerseys must have finished sleeve openings and enclosed sides. The jerseys must be tucked into the shorts. If in the opinion of the referee or State Cup official the uniforms are not acceptable for this competition, the team shall be given an opportunity to change uniforms. When teams' colors are similar as determined by the Referee, the Home Team must change. The top team listed is the Home Team. A player must not use equipment or wear anything which is dangerous to himself or another player including any kind of jewelry with the exception of medical alert bracelets or necklaces, hard billed hat or street glasses. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces must be taped.

At every level of the National Championships competitions, each player, team and team official may only have on his/her/their apparel the name, logo, or other identifying mark of US Youth soccer or a member directly or indirectly of US Youth Soccer.

(1) A name, logo, or other identifying mark of any youth soccer organization other than US Youth Soccer or its member must be removed, replaced, or covered before a player, team or team official may enter or remain at a field complex where the National Championships competition is being held.

(2) After an initial warning pursuant to (1) above, the name, logo, or other identifying mark of any youth soccer organization other than US Youth Soccer or its member must be removed or replaced with the US Youth Soccer name or logo before the player, team or team official may enter or continue in the competition.

6. Passes

Each player and coach must be registered on an IYSA Member League approved team roster, have a valid IYSA/USYS Member League Soccer Pass and present the Pass to the match officials prior to each game.

7. Player Check-In & Game Card

Each team must complete and submit the Game Card to the match referee before each game. The Game Card is the official record of the players who participated in a given match and must contain player names and jersey numbers. An incomplete or improper Game Card may result in a forfeit or fine.

Players sitting on the bench or warming-up are required to wear pinnies until the check-in to the match. Players checking in should wait at the sideline on the halfway line until the player coming off reaches them. Player coming on should give the player coming off their pinnie to wear on the bench.

8. Late Player

The late player shall present a valid pass to the match referee at the time he/she first enters the game.

9. Grace Period

A fifteen (15) minute grace period will be allowed. The Referee or Tournament Official may extend the Grace Period for a reasonable amount of time, at his/her discretion, if circumstances dictate. The IYSA expects decisions in this regard to be made in the spirit of providing an opportunity for the match to be decided on the field. A team not ready to play after expiration of the allowed Grace Period will forfeit the match.

10. Forfeit Fees

A team/club withdrawing from or not completing ALL group play games:

- A. May not be considered for MRL participation
- B. Incur \$250 forfeit fine
- C. May be prohibited from competing in the competition in the subsequent soccer year in which the team/club participates.

11. Schedule

Teams that fail to schedule or play matches by the designated schedule by or play by date may be subject to fines of \$250 per game.

11. Starting the Game

A game shall not be started with fewer than seven (7) eligible and properly uniformed players on each team. If the team has fewer than seven (7) players, the match shall be forfeited to the opponent. If during the match a team is unable to field at least seven (7) players, the opponent shall be declared the winner by forfeit.

12. Field of Play

FIFA designates the preferred dimensions for the field of play and the goals. Goals must be properly anchored and have nets. The fields must be safe and properly marked with lines, corner flags or cones sufficient for the match officials to perform their essential duties. The game referee shall determine the safety and acceptability of the field. Teams found to have inadequate fields may have future home games revoked until fields improved to IYSA standards.

13. Technical Area & Technical Staff

The Technical Area shall be designated for each team and include one (1) yard on either side of the team's designated seating (bench) and up to a distance of one (1) yard from the touchline. The Technical Area is the seating area only for the team's eligible players and Technical Staff listed on the team's Game Roster and State Cup Roster. The Technical Staff is the team's head coach and two (2) assistant coaches (one coach may be replaced by a certified medical person) of the team. All persons in the Technical Area must be listed on the team's Cup Roster and IYSA Member League Roster, have a valid IYSA Member League pass and roster and be eligible to participate. Only the coaches and players listed on the team's Cup Roster are permitted on the players' side of the field. Only the team's Technical Staff listed on the Game Roster are to be in the team's Technical Area/Team Bench. Only the players listed on the team's Game Roster (maximum 18) are to be dressed in uniform. A player that is not listed on the team's Game Roster but is on the team's Cup roster may be in the team's Technical Area/Team Bench but must be dressed in street clothes that are easily distinguishable in color from the team's uniform. Red carded and/or suspended players/coaches (ineligible persons) are not allowed in the viewing area of the field. Any violation of these rules will cause the team to forfeit the State Cup game in which the violation occurred. The team's Technical Staff must remain within the confines of the Technical Area except in special circumstances as permitted by the referee such as entering the field of play to treat an injured player.

Players sitting on the bench or warming are required to wear pinnies until the check-in to the match. Players checking in should wait at the sideline until the player coming off reaches them. Player coming on should give the player coming off their pinnie to wear on the bench.

14. Coaching During Game

No coaching other than conveying of tactical instruction is permitted during the game. Only the designated head coach is authorized to convey tactical instructions from the Technical Area and has the responsibility of making sure that no person associated with the team violates this coaching restriction.

The designated head coach is responsible for the actions of all persons associated with the team. Violations by any person including spectators and supporters associated with the team will be deemed the actions of the designated head coach.

15. After the Game

Following the match, the Winning team's coach/team manager must collect both game cards from the referee and bring them to the onsite IYSA registration area (if applicable) or email, fax or bring to the IYSA office no later than 48-hours after the completion of the match. Failure to do so may result in a \$50 fine

After the Championship Match: The champion and finalist teams and their head coach/ assistant coach as designated on the Cup roster must attend the Awards Ceremony immediately following the championship match. Teams and coaches failing to attend the Cup Awards Ceremony will assessed a fine up to and including \$750.

16. Game Officials & Fees

Illinois Youth Soccer shall assign USSF registered referees for all Cup matches. Prior to the game each team shall pay the referee of \$80. Teams must give the fees to the game officials prior to start of match.

A team refusing to pay the referees prior to match may be assessed \$250 and prohibited from competing further in the US Youth Soccer National Championship or Presidents Cup series in the current and subsequent soccer year.

For Home Team Host Matches: The Home Team must submit a written request to Illinois Youth Soccer by the dedicated "schedule by date" prior to the scheduled match for a referee crew to be assigned. The Home Team is subject to a fine up to and including \$500 and a forfeit for failure to properly notify the Visiting Team and IYSA State Cup Referee Assignor.

In the event the IYSA assigned Center Referee fails to appear, one of the assigned linesmen shall function as Center Referee. Where no IYSA assigned match officials appear, the coaches shall agree on a Referee and play the match as scheduled. Should the Center Referee become incapacitated during the match, an IYSA assigned linesman shall assume the duties of the Center Referee. If an IYSA assigned linesman is not present, the coaches shall agree on a Center Referee for the match and the match shall be played to its conclusion.

The duties of the match officials are defined by FIFA. Referees must be able to properly apply the Laws of the Game and the State Cup rules. The match officials shall have the authority to determine the acceptability of the field of play; deal with players or coaches exhibiting violent conduct or threatening, abusive language; and stop the match due to interference from spectators. The Referee shall forward the names of offenders to the Cup Director within twenty-four (24) hours. The Referee shall remain on the field and in charge during the traditional handshake.

17. Unfinished Matches

For matches played short-time due to any cause, it shall be at the discretion of the IYSA Tournament Director as to whether the match is to be replayed, restarted where the match was stopped or a winner declared.

18. Red Card (Send-off/Ejection) Fines

Player's Red Card Fine is \$50. Coach's Red Card/Send-off Fine is \$150.

The Team's designated Head Coach is responsible for the actions of the team and its supporters.

1. Player Send-Off

A player who is sent-off from any game is prohibited from participating in the next immediately following game played by the player's team. A player may receive more than a one-game suspension.

Players ejected from a match may continue to sit in the technical/bench area unless removed by the referee for inappropriate behavior once they have been sent to the bench. Coaches are responsible for ejected players behavior on the bench, further inappropriate behavior by player may result in coach being sent-off from match.

Players serving a suspension for additional game(s) are permitted to sit on the team bench in street clothes (no uniform) and will be held responsible for their actions the same as any other participant. If an ejected player becomes disruptive from the bench, he/she may receive an additional game(s) suspension.

2. Coach, Manager, Team Official or Supporter Send-Off

Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained in this policy, including cautions, ejections, and standard suspension. Any other individuals who may be reasonably construed as being associated with a team, such as relatives and spectators, are also subject to the jurisdiction and authority of Illinois Youth Soccer. Any coach or team official shall be held responsible for the actions of any individual at any game that, in the opinion of the referee, is a supporter of that team.

Coaches and other team officials dismissed must leave the vicinity of the field before the game will be restarted.

A coach who is sent-off from any game is prohibited from participating in the next immediately following game played by the coach's team. A coach may receive more than a one-game suspension. Coaches serving a disciplinary suspension may attend team activities during the suspension as a spectator only. No communication with players or team management is permitted during the suspended game(s). Any violations will result in additional disciplinary action being taken by Illinois Youth Soccer.

If a team has only one coach on the sideline, and that coach is sent-off, that coach's team will forfeit the match 4-0

A Red Card fine shall be assessed against players, coaches/officials or team supporters and neither the offender nor the team shall be allowed to participate further in the National Championship or Presidents Cup series until such fine is paid to the IYSA. Cup Red Card fines are strictly enforced. The club is responsible for unpaid fines incurred by its team coaches, players, officials and supporters.

All players and coaches that receive a red card are required to sit their next Cup match. If player is not automatically crossed off game card, the players should manually be crossed off the game card prior to giving it to the referee for check-in. If a player that owes a red card suspension plays or a coach that owes a red card suspension is on the sidelines, the result of the match will be a forfeit for the offending teams.

Mutually agreed upon, non-played games WILL NOT count towards an owed Cup suspension. The red carded player or coach has to sit out the next Cup game that is played by player/coach's team.

19. Rule Violations

Any person or team that is found guilty of violating IYSA policies, procedures and Cup rules shall be prohibited from competing further in the National Championship or Presidents Cup series in the current and subsequent soccer year, and be subject to additional sanctions including but not limited to forfeiture of all Cup games, fines, and suspensions.

20. Safety & Weather Related/ Lightning Procedures

The team's coaches/officials are responsible for the safety of their players and shall ensure that all persons associated with the team abide by the safety and weather related instructions issued by the IYSA officials, tournament/site officials, and/or referees. The Thunder Storm Warning is one (1) long blast from the siren/air horn. As soon as the Thunder Storm Warning is sounded, the coaches shall remove the players from field and immediately seek shelter in an enclosed vehicle or building. The All-Clear Signal is three (3) shorts blasts from the siren/air horn. The All-Clear Signal indicates that the coaches and players may return to the field of play. A team/ coach/ player/ official and/or a person related to the team that ignores the safety instructions shall be prohibited from competing further in the National Championship or Presidents Cup series in the current and subsequent soccer year.

21. Casts

For the protection of the players on the field, no person will be allowed to play on the field with any type of a cast. This includes casts padded with any material (padded foam, bandages, etc...).

22. Concussions, Neck & Back Injuries

In compliance with the new Illinois Concussion law, any athlete who receives a concussion, neck or back injury will not be allowed to return to play or practice until he/she is evaluated and receives and submits to the player's team coach written clearance from a licensed medical doctor specializing in concussions. It is the responsibility of the team coach to submit the clearance to the IYSA prior to the injured player's next State Cup game.

23. Heading

All Players competing in the 11U and younger age division(s) shall not head the ball directly from the air in any match or competition, nor shall these players practice heading the ball in any organized team setting. If an 11U or younger players deliberately heads the ball in a match, the referee shall award an indirect free kick to the opposing team at the spot of the infraction. If the heading occurs within the penalty area, the referee shall move the ball outside the penalty area and award an indirect free kick to the opposing team.

Players 10-years-old or younger competing in age division older than 11U shall not head the ball directly from the air in any match or competition, nor shall these players practice heading the ball in any organized team setting. If an 11U or younger players deliberately heads the ball in a match, the referee shall award an indirect free kick to the opposing team at the spot of the infraction. If the heading occurs within the penalty area, the referee shall move the ball outside the penalty area and award an indirect free kick to the opposing team.

24. Protest Procedures

Referee decisions are final as they pertain to the FIFA Laws of the Game including but not limited to Red Cards, Yellow Cards and Coach Send Offs and may not be protested.

- A. All questions pertaining to any dispute or protest shall be referred to the State Cup Director, who in turn, shall forward the issue to the IYSA Tournament Committee for a final and binding decision. To be valid and eligible for consideration, each protest must include at least the following items at the time of its filing with the State Cup Director:
 - a. \$500 Protest Fee (\$250 of which is a non-refundable administrative fee).
 - b. Two written copies of the protest that includes the reason for the protest and the facts.
- B. Protests must be received in writing by the State Cup Director within twenty-four(24) hours after the start of the protested match. Once filed, protests may be withdrawn only with the IYSA Tournament Committee's consent.
- C. Protests relating to the field of play, ie: improper uniforms, equipment, field size, markings, dangerous field conditions, etc. shall be considered only if the objection was lodged with the game officials prior to the match.

25. Smoking & Alcohol Restriction

Smoking of any tobacco related product is not permitted at the facility. The drinking and/or dispensing of alcoholic beverages are not permitted at the facility.

26. ALL PETS must be leashed and kept off the playing fields. Pets are not allowed in the coaches and players sideline and Technical Area. Person with the pet(s) must pick-up after the pet(s).

27. Clean-Up Fee

Any team that has not cleaned up its bench, Technical Area or other area used by the team for pre or post game, must pay an up to \$500 Clean-up Fee to the IYSA.

28. Parking Fees – Team may be required to pay a parking/facility fee for fields arranged by IYSA.

29. Distribution of Flyers/Materials Strictly Prohibited - Minimum \$1000 Fine

Distribution of flyers/materials at State Cup events, facilities and parking lots is not permitted. No organization or individual on behalf of the organization is allowed to distribute or display flyers/materials including but not restricted to tryout and recruitment information, club promotions, solicitations, camps and tournaments at an Illinois Youth Soccer event without prior written consent from Illinois Youth Soccer Association. Violators will be charged at minimum \$1,000 for clean-up.

30. Scores and Standings

Scores and Standings for the will be as follows:

- A. Scoring Method: The standings of teams within brackets are based upon the number of points earned in qualifying games. Teams earn points as follows:
 - a. Three (3) points for a win (including forfeits)
 - b. One (1) point for a tie

- c. Zero (0) points for a loss.
- B. Tie Breakers: In the event teams are tied on the basis of points earned, the team's placement will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria:
 - a. Winner of head to head competition (this criteria not used if more than two teams are tied).
 - b. Winner of most games.
 - c. Goal differential (goals scored minus goals against) with a maximum of four goals per game.
 - d. Fewest goals allowed.
 - e. Kicks from the penalty mark.

31. Match Manipulation

Teams failing to compete in the spirit of the competition or are involved in the manipulation of a game result are subject to forfeiture and disqualification from all levels of the competition.

1. if failing to compete is observed and confirmed, the competition authority representative will give notice to the offending team or teams.
2. if corrective action is not taken, the team or teams will be subject to disqualification.

32. Weapon/Firearms Restrictions

Weapons/firearms are not permitted at Illinois Youth Soccer events including Open Cup, State Cup and Presidents Cup games

33. Unmanned Aircraft Systems (DRONES)

Based on US Youth Soccer's Policy on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones), the use of drones is strictly prohibited at all Cup matches. It is the responsibility of the Event/Home Site Host to ensure that this policy is strictly enforced

34. Matters Not Provided

In all matters provided or not provided in the IYSA rules and regulations, the decision of the IYSA Tournament Committee shall be final and binding. A plea of ignorance to any of the Rules and Regulations governing this competition and Illinois Youth Soccer Association is insufficient grounds for appeal or protest. The IYSA Tournament Committee shall have the power to deal with all breaches of the rules.