

THE US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW CHAMPIONSHIPS

2010 POLICY/RULES

PART 1 -- GENERAL

RULE NYSW 6101 - DEFINITIONS

Except as otherwise provided, the following definitions apply to this policy:

- (1) **“Add”** means the addition of a player to a team’s roster who has not been previously rostered on another team.
- (2) **“Board of Directors” or “BOD”** means the Board of Directors of the New York State West Youth Soccer Association.
- (3) **“Club”** means an organization that is a member of a State Association that has an identifiable membership of youth soccer players on whose behalf the organization conducts or engages in the youth soccer activities.
- (4) **“Eligibility to play”** means registered and not under suspension.
- (5) **“Federation”** means the United States Soccer Federation, Inc.
- (6) **“Guest player”** means a registered player participating in a competition for a team to which the player is not rostered for purposes of league play.
- (7) **“Involuntary release”** means the removal of a player from a team’s roster at the request of team authorities
- (8) **“League”** means a structured group of 4 or more teams joined for the purpose of inter-team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules.
- (9) **“National Championships competitions”** means the competitions at the US Youth Soccer National Level.
- (10) **“NYSWYSA” or “NYSW”** means New York State West Youth Soccer Association.
- (11) **“ODP”** means Olympic Development Program.
- (12) **“Region 1”** means US Youth Soccer Region 1.
- (13) **“Registration”** means the signing of an intent to play the sport of soccer and paying of the fees to NYSW.
- (14) **“Rostering”** means assignment of a registered player to a team.
- (15) **“Select team”** means the official select of an all-star team of:
 - (a) USYSA
 - (b) A region
 - (c) A State Association
 - (d) A district or geographical subdivision of a State Association; or
 - (e) Any league
- (16) **“Suspension”** means the temporary withdrawal of rights and privileges, such as the right to play, coach, or otherwise administer or participate (directly or indirectly) in soccer, and the suspension is for the entire term of the suspension with all rights and privileges withdrawn unless specifically stated otherwise by the suspending authority.
- (17) **“Team”** means a group of soccer players playing on the same side in soccer games.
- (18) **“Transfer”** means the removal of a player from a team’s cup roster at the request of the player, and the contemporaneous addition of the player to the roster of another cup team. This player is referred to as ‘previously rostered.’
- (19) **“USYSA”** means the US Youth Soccer Association, Inc.
- (20) **“Voluntary release”** means the removal of a player from a team’s roster at the request of the player.
- (21) **“Youth player”** means an individual who has not reached 19 years of age prior to August 1 immediately before the start of any seasonal year. A player who reaches 19 years of age during a seasonal year is allowed to complete that seasonal year. A player who reaches 19 years of age during August of one seasonal year shall be allowed to complete all of the next seasonal year.



RULE NYSW 6102 -- ESTABLISHMENT

Section 1. NYSW shall establish and shall organize an annual US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships Competition in the Under 12, Under 13, Under 14, Under 15, Under 16, Under 17, Under 18, and Under 19 age groups.

Section 2. Both genders, boys and girls, shall have separate competitions and separate champions in each age group. This policy applies to those competitions.

Section 3. The competition at the Under 12 age groups shall be small sided games of 8 v 8.

RULE NYSW 6103 -- TITLE

Section 1. The title of this NYSW event shall be: **US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

RULE NYSW 6104 -- AWARDS TO TEAMS AND PLAYERS

Section 1. The champion (1st place) team for each boys' and girls' age group at the State Finals each year shall be presented:

- (1) 1 (one) team trophy
- (2) Individual SCORE NYSW Champion shirts - the maximum number of shirts awarded will reflect the number of players on your team roster..
- (3) 1 (one) team plaque with a team picture
- (4) Patches from US Youth Soccer

Section 2. The Championship team that advances to Regional's **MUST WEAR** the NYSW Champion Shirt at the Region 1 Parade of States.

RULE NYSW 6105 – ADMINISTRATION

Section 1.

- (1) The entire administration of THE US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships is vested in the NYSW Board of Directors.
- (2) The NYSW BOD shall appoint a person to act as Chairperson for the entire competition.
- (3) The NYSW BOD shall determine the dates and fees of the competition by November 1 of each year.

Section 2. 2010 Dates

- (1) Entry Deadline – on-line application process no later than MARCH 6, 2010
- (2) Seeding Roster Deadline – March 20, 2010 See Rule 7202 for details on seeding process.
- (3) Blind Draw Date – March 27, 2010 - 2:00PM at Country Inn and Suites, Cortland, NY
- (4) Final Roster Deadline (Except U19's if 4 or less teams enter) - (Rosters frozen at this time) available to the State Registrar in RosterPro as a State Cup roster no later than April 9, 2010
- (5) Final Roster Deadline for U19's (if more than 4 teams enter) – April 23, 2010 available to the State Registrar in RosterPro as a State Cup U19 roster
- (6) Final Roster Deadline for U19's (if 4 teams or less enter) - May 14, 2010 available to the State Registrar in RosterPro as a State Cup U19 roster
- (7) Preliminary games must be played between April 26 and May 23, 2010.



1. To avoid a conflict with ODP the following dates are blacked out for play down games: No games are to be held on May 1st, 2nd, 2010.
- (8) Finals' Weekend – June 4, 5 and 6, 2010

Section 3. 2010 Fees

- (1) Entry fee is \$475.00 plus any required field rental and referee fees for preliminary playoff games.
- (2) Those teams that do not qualify for the Final Four will receive a \$200.00 reimbursement the week following their last play-down match. The result of this arrangement is that a team advancing to the Final Four weekend will pay a tournament fee of \$475.00 and a team that does not qualify for the Final Four will only pay a play-down fee of \$275.00.
- (3) One check per club.

RULE NYSW 6106 -- PRECEDENCE OF GAMES

THE US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships competitions games shall take precedence over all other youth games.

PART 2 -- ORGANIZATION OF THE COMPETIONS

RULE NYSW 7201 -- LEVELS OF COMPETITIONS

In NYSW there shall be only 1 (one) level which shall be known as the **STATE LEVEL**. The first (1st) place team will have the right to advance to the **REGIONAL LEVEL**.

RULE NYSW 7202 -- NYSW FORMAT OF COMPETITION

THE 2010 US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships competition will have cup preliminary games to determine the final four teams, followed by the final tournament. The tournament places the top four teams in each age group in competition for the State Championship.

THE 2010 US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Champion in each age group and in each gender shall represent New York State West at the Regional Competition.

Registered teams that participated in the previous year's Final Four series at State Cup will be seeded in the order they finished, provided their roster has at least 51% of the same players as the previous year. New entries will be seeded according to a random selection during the blind draw. Once the seeding and blind draw has placed the teams in the play down brackets, they will play a **single elimination format** for the playdown rounds to advance to the Final Four (or less) weekend. The Final Four weekend in all age groups will be conducted in a **round robin format** with four (4) teams maximum.

If a State Wild Card Team is a Regional or National Cup Champion, the #1 position will be given to that team and the State Cup Champion will be given the #2 position. Otherwise, the positions will be determined by the order of finish from the previous year Final Four and the blind draw, provided all roster requirements are met.

- **4 entries or less** – all teams advance straight through to the Final Four Weekend.

If there are 5, 6, 7, or 8 entries, there will be a single playdown round, with seeding and random draw as follows.

- **5 entries** – one (1) playdown game, seed or blind draw entries 1, 2, & 3 get a bye, while seed or blind draw entry 4 plays 5 to determine the final 4th position.



- **6 entries** - two (2) playdown games, seed or blind draw entries 1, & 2 get a bye, while seed or blind draw 3 plays 6 to determine the final 3rd position, and seed or blind draw 4 plays 5 to determine the final 4th position.
- **7 entries** – three (3) playdown games, seed or blind draw entry 1 gets a bye, while seed or blind draw 2 plays 7 to determine the final 2nd position, seed or blind draw 3 plays 6 to determine the final 3rd position, and seed or blind draw 4 plays 5 to determine the final 4th position.
- **8 entries** – four (4) playdown games, seed or blind draw 1 plays 8 to determine the final 1st position, seed or blind draw 2 plays 7 to determine the final 2nd position, seed or blind draw 3 plays 6 to determine the final 3rd position, and seed or blind draw 4 plays 5 to determine the final 4th position.

If there are more than 8 entries, there will first be a knock-out round with the winners of the knock-out round advancing to a second playdown round. The positions for the first knock-out round will be determined by seeding and random draw as follows:

- **9 entries** – five (5) playdown games, seed or blind draw entry 1 gets a bye and moves to position 1 in the second play-down round, seed or blind draw 2 plays 9 with the winner moving to position 2 in the second play-down round, seed or blind draw 3 plays 8 with the winner moving to position 3 in the second play-down round, seed or blind draw 4 plays 7 with the winner moving to position 4 in the second play-down round, and blind draw 5 plays 6 with the winner moving to position 5 in the second play-down round. After this first knock-out round, the five (5) team entry format will be followed for the second playdown round, with winners of the knock-out round advancing to the playdown round with the positions determined by the knock-out round.
- **10 entries** – six (6) playdown games, seed or blind draw entry 1 plays 10 with the winner moving to position 1 in the second play-down round, seed or blind draw 2 plays 9 with the winner moving to position 2 in the second play-down round, seed or blind draw 3 plays 8 with the winner moving to position 3 in the second play-down round, seed or blind draw 4 plays 7 with the winner moving to position 4 in the second play-down round, and blind draw 5 plays 6 with the winner moving to position 5 in the second play-down round. After this first knock-out round, the five (5) team entry format will be followed for the second playdown round, with winners of the knock-out round advancing to the playdown round with the positions determined by the knock-out round.
- **11, 13 or 15 entries** – seeding and blind draw positions for the knock-out round are determined in a way similar to the 9-entry format, and the winners advance to the second play-down round using the 6-, 7-, or 8-entry formats with the positions determined by the knock-out round.
- **12, 14, or 16 entries** – seeding and blind draw positions for the knock-out round are determined in a way similar to the 10-entry format, and the winners advance to the second play-down round using the 6-, 7-, or 8-entry formats with the positions determined by the knock-out round.

In all brackets - the 1st team in each pairing shall be listed first and be designated the HOME team.

NOTE: Blind Draw Date- the blind draw will be held the Country Inn and Suites, Cortland, NY, at 2:00pm, March 27, 2010. Team Representatives are encouraged to be present.

RULE NYSW 7203 -- TEAM ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. THE US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships competition shall be open to any team whose players are registered with US Youth Soccer through NYSW if the team is in compliance with all of the following:

- (1) The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered youth players (as defined by US Youth Soccer and NYSW).
- (2) The team must be in good standing with NYSW and must be in compliance with, and has not violated, any of the bylaws and policies of US Youth Soccer and NYSW.
- (3) The team must have a majority of its rostered players residing within the boundaries of NYSW.
- (4) The team **MUST** compete in at least a 4 -team **APPROVED** US Youth Soccer league during the current seasonal year sanctioned by NYSW or, with prior approval, in another US Youth Soccer State Association or in a US Youth Soccer Regional or National League. The league



- competition must consist of a minimum of one (1) game against each of the 3 different teams participating in the league. U19 age groups are excluded from this 4 - team league rule.
- (5) The team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between their League Roster and the Cup Roster. A minimum of 9 players must be common to the League Roster and the Cup Roster. All players on the Cup Roster must carry a player pass for that team. No guest players are permitted at any game of this competition.
 - (6) In order for a team to enter the U13 age group, the team **MUST** have a majority of its player's true U13 age appropriate. U12 teams must play 8 v 8 . Majority shall be defined as 50% plus 1 player.
 - (7) The team may **NOT** be a **Select** or **ODP** team.
 - (8) All teams entering must have the league that they will play in during the 2009-2010 seasonal year verified by the NYSW Cup Chairperson. Failure to play in an approved league will result in disqualification from the current competition and subsequent year's competition.

Section 2.

- (1) The team may not roster any player who was previously rostered during the seasonal year to another cup team, or the same cup team, unless a written request, stating the reason why this action has been requested, has been made to and approved by NYSW on a proper NYSW Player/Team Status Form. A team may not roster more than five (5) previously rostered players during the current seasonal year.
 - a. A player is considered rostered to a team not later than when the player first participates for the team in competition approved by any State Association or its member leagues, clubs and teams. NYSW is not required to consider the following as a rostered player:
 - b. A player on a school team
 - c. A player on a recreational team
- (2) A team may not release, voluntarily or involuntarily, any player from its roster unless a written request, stating the reason why the release has been requested, has been made to, and approved by NYSW on a Player Status Form.
- (3) A team may involuntarily release a player from its roster only if the player is unable to play for one (1) of the following reasons:
 - a. The player has violated bylaws, policies, or requirements of the Federation, US Youth Soccer, NYSW, another State Association, or the Club/Association that he or she is registered with.
 - b. The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what constitutes a reasonable travel distance is subject to definition by NYSW.
 - c. The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.

Section 3. Every team participating in the Championship series including the preliminary games shall have a team roster and will present a game roster for the every match or competition.

- (1) Team Roster
The team roster shall be the certified RosterPro State Cup roster. For U12 teams, the roster shall not have more than 14 players at any given time during the seasonal year. For U13 through U15, the roster shall not have more than 18 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. For U16 and older teams, the roster may have up to 22 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Every team roster shall have a minimum of 7 players on the roster at all times.
- (2) Game Roster
For U16 and older teams, the game roster shall be prepared by the team and submitted to the competition authority not later than 15 minutes prior to each scheduled game. The game roster shall have a maximum of 18 players and a minimum of 7 players. Every player listed on the game roster must be included on the team roster to be eligible to participate with the team. Players listed on the team roster but not on the game roster for a particular match must not appear in uniform at



the team bench. Players not on the game roster and on the spectator sideline must have his or her uniform covered. For preliminary play down games, the referees are the designated competition authority and the game roster will be submitted to the referee 15 minutes prior to the start of the match. Passes of players not on the game roster will be surrendered to the competition authority for the duration of the match.

Section 4. A team shall forfeit each game of the team in which:

- (1) an unregistered player was with the team at the game in a uniform or,
- (2) a player was improperly entered on the team's roster or,
- (3) the team no longer has a recognized team official as required by NYSW.

Section 5. The team's Cup Roster is frozen immediately upon the first (1st) Cup Game played by any team, in the same age group and gender, in the state, or at a date established in the rules by the Cup Chairperson. For teams using the Region 1 Premier League as their qualifying league, rosters are frozen at the beginning of the first (1st) game played in that league.

Section 6. A Multiple Rostered Player shall not be allowed to play for more than one (1) team per day on any day that their Cup Team has a game.

RULE NYSW 7204-- TEAM OBLIGATIONS

Section 1.

- (1) For all preliminary games, the Home teams are responsible for having properly marked and cut fields, secured goals, nets and corner flags. The Home team shall make every reasonable effort to acquire the use of an alternate field in the event a field is determined unplayable.
- (2) For all preliminary games, it is the Home team's responsibility to contact the visiting team to set a date and time for the game.
- (3) The Home team must furnish a game ball.

Section 2.

- (1) It shall be responsibility of each team's officials to control the actions of its players and supporters. Any team failing to control its supporters shall be asked to leave and NYSW may place additional sanctions against those officials.

RULE NYSW 7205 -- FORFEITS FOR FAILURE TO COMPETE

Section 1. Any team intending to forfeit a Cup Game shall give written notice of such intention to the NYSW Cup Chairperson, not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled date of the game. Such team will be assessed a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and will be declared ineligible to enter the Cup competition in the next seasonal year.

Section 2. Any team failing to give such notice of forfeit fourteen (14) days prior to date of game, shall be assessed a fine of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00) and will be declared ineligible to compete in the remaining Cup competition plus the next two (2) seasonal year Cup competitions.

Section 3. All fines are payable to NYSWYSA within thirty (30) days of the forfeit.

Section 4. Any team advancing to Regionals/Nationals will be responsible for any fines given to them for failure to compete in those competitions.



RULE NYSW 7206 -- FORFEITS GENERALLY

Any Cup team proven guilty of violating this policy or of any other requirement of US Soccer, US Youth Soccer or, NYSW, shall forfeit all games and the preceding competition or competitions may not be replayed.

RULE NYSW 7207 -- PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. General

- (1) A player must be properly registered and rostered in accordance with the rules of US Youth Soccer and NYSW.
- (2) A player may play for only one (1) team in this Cup competition in any seasonal year. If a player is on the roster of a team when the roster is frozen, the player may not be on the roster of any other team in this Cup competition.
- (3) A player who has been suspended may play after the player's term of suspension has expired.
- (4) A player may not play for a team in this Cup competition unless the player was listed on the team's Cup Roster at the time the roster was frozen.
- (5) If a player is over age, is not registered or is improperly rostered on a team's roster, that team shall forfeit all games played prior to finding such situation.

Section 2. Registration

- (1) Local Registration - A player must register in the National State Association in which he or she resides with his or her parent(s) or guardian(s). Or in the case of a student in residence at a boarding school or university, the player may register in the National State Association in which the boarding school, college/university, or a division of the college/university is located. Any other question of residency may be determined by NYSW by means of a voter registration card, a current driver's license or from an original copy of a school transcript which shows the student's home address. All documents must be originals, no photocopies will be accepted.
- (2) At the time of local registration, the player must show an acceptable proof of age.

Section 3. Rostering

- (1) In accordance with NYSW policy, a player may register and play for two teams – one primary and one secondary team. The first team for which the player signs a player pass is considered the 'primary' team.
- (2) In accordance with THE US YOUTH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP Policy, a player may participate on only one CUP team during any one 'playing year'. For example, a player who rostered with and played for a youth team in Virginia, participating in that States competition in the fall, may not participate in the US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Cup Competitions for a team in New York State West in the spring of that same playing year.
- (3) A player rostered to a US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Cup team may have previously 'primary' rostered to another Cup team during that playing year. In that case, appropriate transfer documentation must exist. The completed NYSW Team/Player Status Form must be available. That form must contain all necessary information and required signatures.
- (4) Initial rostering shall commence no later than the player's first (1st) participation in any competition sanctioned by a National State Association or it's member leagues, clubs, or teams.
- (5) A player is not bound to a team until he/she has signed their State Member Pass.
- (6) Any player rostered to a Cup team and who has a signed Member Pass is bound to that Cup team for the entire National Championship Series unless the player completes a transfer or is released.

Section 4. Member Passes

- (1) To be eligible to participate in this Cup competition, each player must have an approved State issued Member Pass.



- (2) The Member Pass must include a current photograph of the player, the player's signature, and validation by NYSW. The pass must be laminated with clear laminate, no yellow laminated passes will be accepted.
- (3) Information common to the Member Pass, Cup Roster, and Blue Roster must match exactly.

Section 5 Rosters

- (1) League Rosters - must be an official NYSWYSA RosterPro certified roster.
 - i. In RosterPro, use the roster administration function to create your initial league roster.
 - ii. To create the Cup roster, in RosterPro use the roster administration function to place an existing team into a league. Place the team's existing league roster created in step i. into the appropriate Cup League, either State Cup U12-18 Teams or State Cup U19 Teams.
- (2) Cup Rosters – must be an official NYSWYSA RosterPro certified roster. 18 player rosters must contain at least 9 players in common with the League Roster. 22 player rosters must contain at least 11 players in common with the League Roster.
- (3) All players, coaches and team officials must be listed on the Cup Roster. All required information must be included and correct.
- (4) Blue Rosters - must be the current Blue Roster Form. Form will be available on the NYSW Website. Blue Rosters are only required for teams in the Finals weekend.
- (5) All Blue Rosters must be filled out COMPLETELY. Blue rosters can be printed from RosterPro. DO NOT HAVE THE PLAYERS SIGN THE BLUE ROSTER! That step will be completed at Final 4 Registration.
- (6) All Blue Rosters must:
 - (a) Be typed and in alphabetical order using the LAST name of the player first.
 - (b) NOT be signed by the player - players will sign at the State Finals. DO NOT HAVE THE PLAYERS SIGN THE BLUE ROSTER!!
 - (c) Include jersey numbers, alternate jersey numbers.
- (7) At the State Final 4 Weekend, no player shall play a game until they sign the Blue Roster.

Section 6. Medical Release Form

All players MUST have a current Medical Release Form at all games. These will be checked at registration. No player will be allowed to participate without this form. It is suggested, but not mandatory that Medical Release Forms be notarized.

RULE NYSW 7208 -- LEAGUES

Section 1.

- (1) All teams must compete in at least a four team - **APPROVED** league during the current seasonal year in NYSW, or with NYSW permission, in another National State Association or Regional League. The only exception is the U19 age group. Questions about which leagues are considered Cup approved should be directed to NYSW.
- (2) The league competition must consist of a minimum of one game against each of three (3) different teams participating in the league.



- (3) The league must play on appropriate sized fields and 11 v 11 (8 v 8 for the U12 age group).
- (4) For U19, U18, and U17 age groups, participation in an adult or amateur league may qualify the team with prior approval from NYSW.

Section 2.

- (1) All leagues must have the following:
 1. Bylaws
 2. Officers/Board of Directors
 3. Rules
 4. Schedules
 5. All leagues **MUST** be a member or associate member of NYSW, another National State Association or US Youth Soccer.

Section 3.

- (1) In order for a league to be approved, it must meet the following criteria:
 1. At least twenty-five percent (25%) of the total entries must be from different clubs.
 2. An age group must have at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the entries from at least two clubs.
 3. A team can play up only one (1), two (2) year age group except for U16. Example: U14 can play U16, but not U17 or above.
 4. The games must be full-length games as per FIFA times.
 5. A forfeit **CANNOT** count as a played game.
 6. Must play at least a three-week schedule. No one (1) weekend leagues allowed.
 7. All games played must have certified USSF Referees. They **MUST** be assigned by the WNY Referee Association.
 8. A report recapping all games, standings red cards and winners must be sent to the NYSW State office at the conclusion of the league.

Section 4. Only sanctioned US Youth Soccer leagues will be considered for qualifying leagues. USSF Academy teams are not eligible for this competition. Any new league that wishes to be considered as a Cup qualifying league should submit their request to the Cup Chairman by October 15th of the current seasonal year. The NYSWYSA Cup Chairperson has the right to reject any team not playing in an approved league.

RULE NYSW 7209 -- TEAM AND PLAYER BREACHES OF RULES

Section 1. It is the responsibility of the NYSW Cup Chairperson to investigate a properly protested violation immediately following its receipt. Failure to cooperate with that investigation shall result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

Section 2. Any team found guilty of using an ineligible player is not eligible to compete further in the Cup competition in the current seasonal year. Any coach, manager or official found guilty of knowingly using an ineligible player is not eligible to compete further in the Cup competition in the current and subsequent seasonal year. A player found guilty of submitting falsified birth information is prohibited from competing further in Cup competition in the current and subsequent seasonal year.

Section 3. A player, coach or team official who is red-carded from any Cup Game is prohibited from participating in the next US YOUTH SOCCER Cup match for which they are scheduled to participate. A player, coach or team official may receive more than a one - game suspension to be determined by the Cup Committee. Red cards stay within the competition in which they are issued. This means that for red cards that are not issued during a US YOUTH SOCCER Cup match (such as cards issued during league play or tournament play), the player shall not serve the associated suspension in US YOUTH SOCCER Cup match play (either during a playdown match or a final four match)

Section 4. Players, 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 & spectators, are also subject to the



jurisdiction & authority of NYSWYSA. 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.

RULE NYSW 7210 -- PROTESTS AND APPEALS

A plea of ignorance to the rules and regulations of the US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships Competitions, are not sufficient grounds for a protest or appeal. Violators may expect appropriate action by NYSW. Any Player, Coach, or Team Official, who has been suspended from the US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships Competitions due to disciplinary action by the Cup Committee, may appeal the decision to the NYSW.

Section 1 Appeals

Anyone filing an appeal must conform to the NYSW Adjudication Manual.

Section 2 Protests

All questions relating to the qualifications of the competitors or interpretation of the rules, or any dispute or protest, shall be referred to the NYSW Cup Chairperson.

For game protests, the NYSW Cup Chairperson shall compile the necessary information, to hear the protest, from all available sources before the protest is heard. This shall include, if possible, coaches, field marshals, referees, assessors, available witnesses if necessary, etc. At the Final's tournament, all coaches or their designated representatives **MUST** remain at the game site until the protest is decided.

After completion of compiling the necessary information, the NYSW Cup Chairperson will meet with the Protest Committee, of which there must be four (4) members present, to conduct the protest meeting. The four (4) members of the protest committee shall be appointed by the NYSW Cup Chairperson. No member of the protest committee shall be from the District of any of the teams involved in the protest. The NYSW Cup Chairperson will only vote in case of a tie. The decision of the Committee shall be binding. The NYSW Cup Chairperson shall notify both coaches of the Committee's decision. If the protest is upheld and the game has to be replayed, it will be up to the NYSW Cup Chairperson to schedule the game as he/she sees fit.

The following rules apply to all protests:

- (1) The protest must be verbally lodged with the referee and the opposing coach at the game site before entering the field of play or leaving the game site except as noted in #4 below.
- (2) The protest must be filed with the NYSW Cup Chairperson with the following:
 - a. Fee in the amount of \$500.00. This fee may be in cash, cashier's check or money order. All check's and money orders must be made payable to NYSW. No protest fees will be returned for any reason.
 - b. The protest must be submitted in writing with a minimum of five (5) copies and must include full particulars of the grounds on which the protest is lodged.
 - c. Any information to be presented by witnesses must be in writing.
- (3) The NYSW Cup Chairman **MUST** receive the protest within one (1) hour of the completion of the game being protested.
- (4) Any protest relating to the fields, goalposts, bars or other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained if the NYSW Cup Chairman and the Referee Administrator have approved them.
- (5) The NYSW Cup Chairperson shall immediately upon the receipt of a protest, notify the team against which the protest is made and shall give a copy of the protest and all particulars to that team, which will then have the right to defend its case, with or without witnesses.



- (6) A lawyer shall not represent a team at the hearing of any protest unless the lawyer is listed on the team's roster as a coach, assistant coach or other team official.
- (7) Judgment decisions of the Referee are not subject to protest.

RULE NYSW 7211 -- GAME PLAY

Section 1. General

- (1) At all Cup Games, players and all team officials must have a State certified Member Pass.
- (2) At all Cup Games, the team must have a Certified Roster.
- (3) Each player must have a number on the player's jersey. The number must be affixed to the back of the jersey and must be clearly visible. Each player on the team must wear a number different from the number of every other player on the team. Goalkeepers must also have a number on their jersey. Zero '0' is an acceptable jersey number. Double zero '00' is not.
- (4) Goalkeepers must wear colors that distinguish them from other players and game officials.

Section 2. Playing Rules

The playing rules of **THE US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships Competitions** shall conform to the FIFA "**Laws of the Game**" except as provided by this rule.

Except as otherwise provided for in this section, the length of games, overtime play periods, ball size, ball circumference, and ball weight for each age group shall be as follows:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Game Length</u>	<u>Overtime Play</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Circumference</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Under 19	Two 45' halves	Two 15' periods	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 18	Two 45' halves	Two 15' periods	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 17	Two 45' halves	Two 15' periods	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 16	Two 40' halves	Two 15' periods	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 15	Two 40' halves	Two 15' periods	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 14	Two 35' halves	Two 10' periods	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 13	Two 35' halves	Two 10' periods	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 12	Two 30' halves	Two 10' periods	# 4	25-26 in.	11-13 oz.

OVERTIME PLAY

- For all games EXCEPT Final 4 tournament games:

All matches that are tied at the end of regulation play will be decided by playing two overtime periods as called out in the table above. If a game has overtime play and is still tied after the end of overtime play, FIFA "**Kicks from the Penalty Mark**" rules will apply in order to determine the winner.

- For all "round robin format" games:

Games tied at the end of regulation time, will remain a tie and be scored as such.

SUBSTITUTIONS

For the National Championships competitions at all levels—

- (1) for the Under 12, 13, and 14 age groups, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed; and
- (2) for all other age groups, a maximum of 7 substitutions for each team shall be allowed in each game during each half of play and during overtime play. After leaving the game during a half of play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game during that same half of play. After leaving the game during overtime play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game.



GRACE PERIOD

A fifteen (15) minute grace period shall be allowed at the start of the game. For all preliminary/playoff round match games, any team not ready to play after the grace period must be reported by the referee to the NYSW Cup Chairperson within 24 hours for appropriate action.

UNFINISHED GAMES

Unfinished games due to any cause shall be replayed providing neither team is at fault and play has not begun in the second half of regulation time. If play is stopped during the second half of regulation time and cannot be resumed, and neither team is at fault, the game will be declared finished and complete. If a playdown match is stopped during the second half of regulation time and cannot be resumed, and the match is tied when it is stopped, the entire match will be replayed on a different day. Should play be stopped at any time due to one (1) of the teams being adjudged at fault, whether the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit shall be at the discretion of the NYSW Cup Chairperson and 2 other members of the NYSW Board of Directors.

SCORING SYSTEM

WIN	Three (3) Points
TIE	One (1) Point
LOSS	Zero (0) Points

TIE BREAKERS

- (1) Head to Head
- (2) Most Wins
- (3) Goal Difference (maximum goal difference will be four (4) per game)
- (4) Least Goals Allowed
- (5) FIFA Penalty Kicks (immediately following the round robin games at a time and place determined by the State Cup Committee. A coin flip will be used to determine the home team.)

Three way ties within an age group:

A three way tie will be decided using the same tie breakers as 2, 3, 4, and 5 above. If FIFA penalty kicks have to be taken, there will be a draw by the State Cup Committee. The first team drawn will receive the bye, the next team drawn will be the home team against the remaining team in the first contest of penalty kicks. The winner of the first contest will then compete against the bye team in penalty kicks to determine the winner of the age group. The bye team will be the home team.

Selection of wildcard teams will follow the same criteria as called out in the scoring system and the tie breakers.

FORFEITS

If a team participating in the competition during the Final 4 Weekend forfeits a game, the scoring will be as follows:

- (1) For each forfeited game, the **NON-forfeiting team** shall be awarded
 - a. Three (3) points for a win
 - b. Goal differential shall be equal to the average goals for game(s) in the same age group allowed by the team that forfeits.
 - c. Zero goals allowed.
- (2) For each forfeited game, the **forfeiting team** shall be awarded
 - a. Zero points for the loss.
 - b. Zero goals for.
 - c. Four (4) goals allowed.

RULE NYSW 7212 -- GAME OFFICIALS



Section 1. For any and all US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championship Cup Games, the game officials must be registered and assigned by the Western NY Referees Group.

Section 2. The fees for game officials shall be consistent with the current contract between NYSW and the Western NY Referees Group.

Section 3. For all games played by teams to qualify for the Final 4 Weekend, game fees shall be paid to the referee's on the fields by the teams playing the game.

Section 4. All games played at the Final 4 Weekend, game fees shall be paid to the referee's by NYSW, not the teams.

Section 5. The referee shall have the power to decide the fitness of the field in all games. In other respects, the duties of the referee and assistant referee are as defined in the "FIFA Laws of the Game."

Section 6. In the event the assigned referee fails to appear and when assistant referees have been appointed, one of the assistant referees shall take charge. When assistant referees have not been appointed and the referee fails to put in an appearance, the coaches or managers of the opposing teams must agree in writing on a referee for the game.

Section 7. The referee has the power during the game to deal with players guilty of violent conduct or using threatening or abusive language. The referee shall forward the name of any offender within 2 days thereafter to the NYSW Cup Chairperson. No player shall leave the field of play without the consent of the referee.

RULE NYSW 7213 – TEAM AND PLAYER REGISTRATION AT FINAL 4 WEEKEND

Section 1. All teams playing in the Final 4 Weekend must register their team at least 1 hour prior to their first (1st) game. Teams should consider registering early as the registration area can be very busy at times.

A team official and all participants/ players must be present to check-in. Players not present at sign-in must show at the headquarters/check-in table to sign in before he/she can participate.

Players should line-up in alphabetical order behind the registering team official in preparation for check-in.

The team's Blue Roster and the Certified NYSW Roster should be on file at the headquarters/check-in table.

Section 2. At registration, each team must have the following:

1. Proof of residence - Any other question of residency may be determined by NYSW by means of a voter registration card, a current driver's license, or from an original copy of a current year school transcript which shows the student's home address.
2. If a player lives outside of NYSW boundaries, he or she must have proper paper work showing permission to play in NYSW from the proper National State Association.
3. Medical Release Forms.
4. Member (Players) Passes for all players, coaches and team officials. **All passes MUST be laminated.**

RULE NYSW 7214 -- MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

The NYSW Board of Directors shall determine all matters not provided for in these rules provided that the matter is not covered by the National Championship Rules and decisions so made shall be final and binding.



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