

## **2016/2017 Missouri Presidents Cup Rules**



- I. **PURPOSE**
  - a. These are the rules of the US Youth Missouri Presidents Cup. The Region II Presidents Cup Championships and US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup Championship Series rules are part of the US Youth Soccer Missouri Presidents Cup Championship.
  
- II. **FORMAT**
  - a. Each state association shall determine the format for the competitions. The format shall be a tournament format. League competition may not be considered a tournament format.
  
- III. **AGE DIVISIONS**
  - a. 13U – 18U Girls **(18U age groups will only advance to the Regional Level)**
  - b. 13U – 18U Boys
  
- IV. **SCHEDULE**
  - a. Fall Presidents Cup (15U – 18U Girls) Dates to be Posted
  - b. Spring Presidents Cup (13U – 14U Girls and 13U – 18U Boys) Dates to be Posted
  
- V. **TEAM ELIGIBILITY**
  - a. The Missouri Presidents Cup shall be open to eligible teams whose players are registered with US Youth Soccer through a State Association for the team to be in compliance with all of the following requirements:

- i. The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered youth players (as defined by US Youth Soccer and the Missouri Youth Soccer Association).
  - ii. The team must be in good standing with the State Association and must be in compliance with, and has not violated, any of the bylaws and policies of US Youth Soccer and the Missouri Youth Soccer Association.
  - iii. The team must be entered in the competition of the Missouri Youth Soccer Association, in which at least 50 percent of its players must be domiciled.
- b. Every team participating in the National Presidents Championship competitions shall have a team roster and will present an official roster to the tournament administrators.
  - i. *Team Roster* – The team roster shall be approved by the State Association where the team resides. The roster may have up to twenty-two (22) youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year.
  - ii. *Game Roster* – For Presidents Cup, the game roster shall be prepared by Missouri Youth Soccer and given to the referee crew. The game roster shall have a maximum of eighteen (18) players and a minimum of seven (7) players. Every player listed on the game roster must be included on the team roster to be eligible to participate with the team.

**VI. ROSTER REQUIREMENTS**

- a. Only primary and secondary registered players on the team roster are eligible for cup competition. As the winners from this event advance to the Regional Presidents Cup, **NO GUEST PLAYERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO PLAY.**
- b. Any teams that have more than eighteen (18) players on their frozen roster must designate on the game card (which the referees will have at the fields), which players will not be dressing out.

**VII. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- a. A club may issue a player pass to any youth player who is a registered youth player of the club before the team to which such youth player is to be rostered for state level of the Presidents Cup Series competitions submits its roster prior to Roster Freeze at the Missouri Presidents Cup.
- b. Missouri Youth Soccer is not required to consider as a rostered player a player on a school team when the State Association administers school programs
- c. A team may have on its team roster only players of the following age groups for the seasonal year in which the team is participating in the National Presidents Cup Championships:
- d. A player may only play for ONE TEAM during any segment of the Presidents Cup Series which can include: The Missouri Presidents Cup, the Region 2 Presidents Cup Championships, and the National Presidents Cup Championships.

- i. A player may not participate in more than one (1) Presidents Cup each year. For example, a team may not play in the Illinois Presidents Cup and then the Missouri Presidents Cup. They can only play in one or the other.
- e. Players who are on a roster of the winning team from the Missouri Presidents Cup are not eligible to participate in the Missouri State Cup during the same seasonal year. Any player participating in the Missouri State Cup Pool Play (groups of 16) or Knock-out Rounds are not eligible to participate in the Missouri Presidents Cup or any of the Regional or National Presidents Cup Series.
- f. Players must be registered on teams within the Missouri Youth Soccer Association.
- g. A player who has been suspended may play after the player's term of suspension has expired. Suspensions that are not served at this year's Presidents Cup will extend to the next Presidents Cup Series (PCS) event(s), which can include the following year's PCS event(s) as well.
- h. A youth player with permission (completed state approved Amateur Eligibility Clearance Request form) will be permitted to play in an unlimited number of amateur games without losing his/her eligibility clearance from MYSA.

**VIII. COACH AND MANAGER ELIGIBILITY**

- a. All coaches must have a minimum of a Missouri Youth Coaching Certificate. A team must have a licensed coach on their bench at all times.
- b. All bench personnel must have completed the CDC Concussion Training through the GotSoccer registration software. Proof of completion is required.
- c. A maximum of four (4) bench personnel consisting of registered coaches, managers, and/or trainers with current seasonal year ID pass will be permitted on a team bench for each game. All bench personnel must either be listed on a Presidents Cup team roster or must be listed as a DIRECTOR with the club & have a DIRECTOR ID pass.

**IX. RULE BREACHES – TEAM AND PLAYER**

- a. It is the responsibility of the Presidents Cup Committee to investigate a properly protested violation immediately following its receipt. Failure by a team coach or team manager to cooperate with that investigation shall result in disciplinary action up to including suspension.
- b. Any team found guilty of using an ineligible player is not eligible to compete further in the Presidents Cup Series competitions in the current seasonal year.
- c. Any coach, manager, or official found guilty of knowingly using an ineligible player is not eligible to compete further in the Presidents Cup Series competitions in the current year and two (2) subsequent seasonal years. In addition, said coach, manager, or official found guilty will participate in a hearing which may result in further suspension.

- d. A player found guilty of submitting falsified birth information is prohibited from competing further in Presidents Cup Series competitions in the current and subsequent seasonal year.
- e. Players – Players ejected from any Presidents Cup game shall not be allowed to compete in their team’s next played Presidents Cup Series game. Player may not be replaced for the remainder of the game. Player passes for anyone ejected shall be surrendered to Presidents Cup officials. Player passes can then be picked up from the MYSA mobile office or state office following the suspension. Players ejected for violent conduct will automatically be given a two (2) game suspension and may be subject to additional penalties to be determined by a Hearing Committee appointed by the President and Presidents Cup Chairperson.
- f. Coaches/Managers/Trainers/Administrators – Any Coach, Manager, Trainer or Administrator sent off at Missouri Presidents Cup, Region 2 Presidents Cup Championships or the National Presidents Cup Championship will result in a penalty of no involvement with that team for one (1) Presidents Cup Series game. Further suspension may be levied depending on the severity of the send-off. A hearing review will be conducted if the guilty individual wishes to appeal the suspension.
- g. 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 Missouri 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.
- h. Any suspension that is not fully served by the end of the Missouri Presidents Cup shall carry-over to the next Presidents Cup Series event. A suspension may carry-over into the next seasonal year.
- i. Each red card shall be reviewed and finalized by the Hearing Committee. The Committee reserves the right to increase or lessen automatic suspensions at their discretion. Hearing Committee suspension decisions can be appealed.
  - i. Red card appeals must be submitted within 24 hours of their communication with the individual in order to be heard.

**X. COST**

- a. The entry fee for all age groups at the Missouri Presidents Cup will be posted on the MYSA website. Fee must be received at the MYSA office by the date specified on the MYSA website. Payment must be in the form of cash, cashier’s check, money order, or online payment.

- i. If a team participates in a qualifying game and is eliminated from the Presidents Cup Series competition, then a portion of their entry fee will be prorated back to the team.
- ii. There is a minimum \$200 administration fee held from all payments.

**XI. WITHDRAWAL & REFUND POLICY**

- a. All refund requests in respect to a team's withdrawal from the Missouri Presidents Cup, and application fee, will be subject to the judgment of the Missouri Presidents Cup Committee. *Refunds are not guaranteed.*
  - i. If a team seeks to withdraw from the Missouri Presidents Cup *prior* to the official Missouri Presidents Cup Draw, they may do so without penalty. The team will receive a refund, less administration fee, if the notification is submitted, received, and acknowledged by the MYSA State Office.
- b. If a team forfeits after Missouri Presidents Cup draw, the brackets will not be redrawn to be in compliance with Presidents Cup tournament formats.
- c. If a team forfeits during the tournament, the team or club may be subject to an additional fine up to \$500 and suspension from the subsequent Missouri Presidents Cup tournament(s). Said fine and suspension will be determined by the Missouri Presidents Cup Committee.
- d. In the event of weather, in which games are cancelled, all refunds will be at the discretion of the Presidents Cup Committee
  - i. Teams that only get 1 game due to weather will be guaranteed a refund equal to the fixed costs of the event deducted from the entry fee (all broken down to the per/game amount).
  - ii. Teams that get 2 games due to weather will not be guaranteed a refund in the event of weather. It will be at the discretion of the Presidents Cup Committee if those teams receive a refund.

**XII. APPLICATION DEADLINE**

- a. Applications and payment **MUST** be received in the Missouri Youth Soccer Association state office by the date posted on the tournament webpage and communicated to all participating teams with absolutely no exception.
- b. It is the responsibility of the applicant to confirm receipt of their application to make sure it has been received by the deadline dates listed above for the appropriate age divisions.

**XIII. PROTEST PROCEDURES**

- a. All protests:
  - i. Shall be filed in writing.
  - ii. Must contain the particulars on the grounds upon which the protest is filed;

- iii. Must be accompanied by the Appeal/Protest fee of \$200 in the form of money order or certified check payable to the Missouri Youth Soccer Association.
  - iv. Two (2) copies of the protest shall be logged with the Missouri Youth Soccer Association Presidents Cup Chairperson within two (2) hours following the match to whom it relates.
- b. All protests will be heard by the Missouri Presidents Cup Committee, which will be appointed by the Missouri Youth Soccer Association President and Missouri Presidents Cup Chairperson or by his/her representative.
  - c. Decisions of game officials are not grounds for protests: The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final. The referee may only change a decision on realizing that it is incorrect, or at his discretion, on the advice of an assistant referee or the fourth official, provided that he has not restarted play or terminated the match.
  - d. All decisions made by the Missouri Presidents Cup Committee will be final.

**XIV. TEAM CHECK-IN / GRACE PERIOD**

- a. Each team manager/coach shall bring the following to the team check-in:
  - i. One (1) copy of its official roster.
  - ii. Copies of medical release forms for all players. These may be verified by the check-in staff. The teams will retain the release forms & have available at all times. The medical release forms do not need to be notarized.
  - iii. Fully laminated Player & Coach ID passes with a current picture.
  - iv. Presidents Cup Team Information & Code of Conduct Form
    - 1. MYSA to provide at check-in
- b. PLAYERS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE AT CHECK-IN
- c. If requested prior to games, failure to provide Player ID passes, the official signed roster and medical release forms will result in a forfeit of the game. Player(s) without approved Player ID passes and medical releases may not play in Presidents Cup games.
- d. There will be a 15-minute grace period from the scheduled game time in the following instances.
  - i. Teams without a minimum number of players required to start the game
  - ii. Teams without one (1) properly registered or rostered licensed coach
- e. If the grace period has expired and the violations remain, the referee must report to the Missouri Youth Soccer Association Presidents Cup Chairperson documentation on the game report and the game will be recorded as a forfeit. The head referee will be the official time-keeper for the grace period.

**XV. GAME FORMATS**

Divisions	Game Lengths	Overtime Periods	Ball Size
13/14	2 x 35 minutes	2 x 10 minutes	#5
15/16	2 x 40 minutes	2 x 15 minutes	#5
17/18	2 x 45 minutes	2 x 15 minutes	#5

- a. Overtime periods will not pertain to bracket play. Tie games at the end of regulation playing time in round-robin pool play will stand as a tie.
- b. The overtime periods shall be played to completion. No golden goal.
- c. The outcome of games tied after both overtime periods are completed shall be determined by using kicks from the penalty mark using only the players on the field at the end of the last overtime period.
- d. If a team finishes the match with a greater number of players than their opponent, they shall reduce their numbers to equate with that of their opponent and inform the referee of the name and number of each player excluded. The team captain shall have this responsibility.
- e. A coin toss shall be used to determine who kicks first. The first team listed is the HOME team.
- f. The VISITING team is responsible for changing jerseys when there is a conflict, failure to have an alternate jersey available will result in a \$50 fine per game.

**XVI. SUBSTITUTIONS**

- a. Unlimited substitutions shall be allowed for all ages. Referees will handle substitutions in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.  
The overtime periods will be considered a single, separate half and re-entry will be allowed in accordance with President Cup Series Rules.

**XVII. GAME CONDITIONS (WEATHER AND FIELDS)**

- a. Suspension of games due to weather and/or field conditions considered dangerous to the players shall be at the discretion of the referee. If the first half of the game has been completed the game is official and shall not be re-started or replayed. If the game is stopped in the first half the game will be re-started from that point of the game.
- b. All weather suspensions will be determined by the Missouri Presidents Cup Committee representatives on site.

- c. All Presidents Cup field size recommendations are to be within the US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup Series guidelines
- d. It is recommended that the grass length on the fields be between 1 ½ - 2 inches. Artificial turf is also an acceptable surface for the Missouri Presidents Cup matches.
- e. For all games, the home team will provide the game ball. If the teams are unable to agree on a game ball, they will each submit a ball to the referee crew, who will then decide which ball to use.

**XVIII. CUP DRAW METHOD**

- a. The four (4) semi-finalists from the previous year's Missouri Presidents Cup shall be seeded.
- b. A Double blind draw method will be used to determine the remainder of the bracket in all age divisions unless otherwise determined by the Missouri Youth Soccer Board of Directors.
  - a. The State Cup Draw will be held at the location of the Host Organization or at the choosing of the Missouri Presidents Cup Chairperson.
  - b. Teams that are "playing up" in an age group shall be the first teams entered into a Qualifying game, should they be necessary.

**XIX. FINAL AUTHORITY**

- a. The Missouri Presidents Cup Chairperson and Committee reserve the right to make certain decisions regarding this tournament, as they deem necessary, in order to improve the game and/or protect the participants. Such decisions shall include but are not limited to:
  - i. Cancellation of games
  - ii. Rescheduling of games
  - iii. Changing of fields
  - iv. Changing of sites

**XX. SCORING METHOD**

- a. The standing of teams within brackets is based upon the number of points earned in qualifying games. Teams earn points as follows:
  - i. Three (3) points for a win
  - ii. One (1) point for a tie
  - iii. If any team forfeits any game in bracket play, the team will not be allowed to advance out of their bracket and shall be awarded 0 points for tournament.
  - iv. A forfeit will be recorded as a score of 4-0 to the winning team.

## **XXI. TIE-BREAKERS**

- a. 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:
  - i. Winner of head-to-head competition (this criterion is not used if more than two teams are tied).
  - ii. Winner of most games.
  - iii. Goal spread (goals scored minus goals against) with a maximum of four (4) goals per game.
  - iv. Fewest goals allowed.
  - v. Kicks from the penalty mark per the FIFA Law (If two or more teams are required to go to penalty kicks they will be scheduled thirty (30) minutes after completion of last game of teams involved.)
- b. In the event that three (3) teams are tied equally in the pool play round, there will be a 3-way penalty kick playoff to determine who wins the pool.
  - i. Two (2) of the three (3) teams will kick against each other following the penalty kick procedure described in Section XXI, Part A, Item V. of the Presidents Cup Rules.
  - ii. To determine which teams will kick first, the following procedure will be used:
    1. All three (3) coaches will be given a coin of equal size and weight.
    2. All three (3) coaches will flip the coin once. Whichever coin lands as the odd man out, that team will be placed in the second penalty kick. The two teams who flipped the same will face each other in the first penalty kick.
      - a. For example, two coaches flip 'Heads' while the third coach flips 'Tails'. The two coaches' flipped 'Heads' will face each other first in penalty kicks. The third coached that flipped 'Tails' will face the winner of the first penalty kicks.
    3. If all three (3) coaches flip the same, subsequent flips will happen until there is an odd man out.
  - iii. The winner of the first kick will then kick against the remaining team.

## **XXII. TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

The following formats will be used depending on the number of entries in each age division:

Brackets shall be played with number of teams as follows:

**2 teams, 3 teams, 4 teams, 8 teams, 12 teams & 16 teams maximum**

For age groups where there are an additional number of entries, qualifying games will be utilized to reduce the number of teams within an age group to the above bracketed number of teams, for

round-robin group play purposes. Other groupings for round-robin play may be considered at the sole discretion of the Cup Committee at the time of bracketing. Once brackets are drawn they will not be redrawn except to correct a procedural error.

Qualifying games, if needed, shall take precedence over all tournament and league games. If two teams are drawn from a local geographic area, those two teams may choose to schedule and play the game locally but the game MUST be played by the end of the Qualifying games weekend so scheduling can commence. The Referee Assignor for the Missouri Presidents Cup shall assign referees.

**Two (2) entries in an age division will be one game. Final Game Only**

**Three (3) entries in an age division will be round-robin. The top team wins the age group.**

**Four (4) entries in an age division will be round-robin. The top team wins the age group.**

**Eight (8) entries in an age division will be round robin play with brackets as follows:**

Bracket A 4 teams

Bracket B 4 teams

Bracket winners advance to the final

**Twelve (12) entries in an age division will be round robin play with brackets as follows:**

Bracket A 4 teams

Bracket B 4 teams

Bracket C 4 teams

Top team in each bracket plus one wild card advances to semi-finals

Semi-final winners advance to finals: Bracket A will play the wild card. Bracket B will play Bracket C. If the wild card team comes from Bracket A, then Bracket B will play the wild card and Bracket C will play Bracket A. Seeds #1-4 cannot be entered into the Qualifying games.

**Sixteen (16) entries in an age division will be round robin play with brackets as follows:**

Bracket A 4 teams

Bracket B 4 teams

Bracket C 4 teams

Bracket D 4 teams

Top team in each bracket advance to semi-finals

Semi-final winners advance to finals:

Bracket A will play Bracket D.

Bracket B will play Bracket C.