

US Youth Soccer Nevada State Cup 2023-2024

State Association Level of the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series

Part I - Levels of Competitions

Rule 101. US Youth Soccer Nevada State Cup (“State Cup”)

Section 1. Nevada State Cup is the first level of competition for all boys and girls age groups at the State Association level for the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (“NCS”).

Section 2. Nevada State Cup competition rules are supplementary to Nevada Youth Soccer policy and the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series policies and represent Nevada’s implementation of those policies. In any omission or contradiction in these supplemental rules, the National Championship Series policy will always prevail.

Rule 102. US Youth Soccer National Championships – Regional Competition

Section 1. State Cup competition will help determine the teams that will represent Nevada at the National Championship Series at the Region level within the West Region of USYS.

Section 2. The region level of competition includes Far West Regionals and Far West President’s Cup.

Rule 103. US Youth Soccer National Championships

Section 1. NCS Regional competition will help determine teams that represent age groups at the national level of the National Championships Competitions.

Section 2. Teams representing each of the Regions in each of the boys and girls age groups shall compete in the National Championships Competitions to determine the champion team for each of those boys and girls age groups. Format of the competition is established by the US Youth Soccer National Championship Leadership.

Part II – Rules:

Rule 201. Registration and Eligibility

Section 1. Eligible teams will meet the following requirements:

1. Registered members in compliance with all NYSA policies;
2. current on all balances, dues, or other outstanding requirements owed to NYSA;
3. have a D-Licensed coach on the roster (see 13:02:02:03);
4. no more than five (5) transfers onto the team during the seasonal year (see 13:02:02:01);
5. have no active suspensions or probations;
6. be ready and willing to commit to attend USYS Regional Championships, should they qualify (see 13:01:05:01).

Section 2. Teams are required to be available for the established game dates posted on the NYSA website.

Section 3. Teams must comply with all posted deadlines for registration, payment, roster freeze and age verification or risk being dropped from State Cup.

Rule 202. Rosters

Section 1. Only players that have had their ages verified per NYSA Policy 5:02:03 will remain on the frozen roster after the roster freeze date.

Section 2. All players must have the jersey number reflected on the frozen roster.

Rule 203. Player Cards

Section 1. Player passes will be printed for each player on the completed (frozen) roster. These cards may only be used for NCS games and are not applicable for any other tournament or league play.

Section 2. Players are required to have NCS cards at each game. If cards are not present, only a member of the NSL or their designee, who is present at the game may verify player’s eligibility and allow them to play. If there is no State Cup Committee member or designee present at the game, the team who does not possess player cards will forfeit the game and is subject to the forfeit fine as outlined in the rules.

Section 3. Cards provided for NCS will have the USYS watermark and corresponding wording to differentiate them from other player passes. Passes without these markings will not be valid for State Cup (NCS) games; the team who does not possess correct player cards will forfeit the game and is subject to the forfeit fine listed below.

Section 4. Replacements for lost player passes will be \$10 per pass.

Rule 301. SCHEDULES

Section 1. Teams are required to be available for games the week of posted play dates, including weeknights.

Section 2. State Cup will take place over one weekend (Friday-Sunday) as posted on the NYSA website.

Section 3. Supplementary games State Cup may be scheduled on weeknights.

Part III – Game Play

Rule 401. PLAYING RULES

Section 1. The rules and policies described here are subject to appending and changing without notice.

Section 2. The playing rules of State Cup shall conform to the FIFA “Laws of the Game” except as modified by this rule.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the length of games, overtime play periods, for each age group shall be as follows:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Game Length</u>	<u>Overtime (Finals)</u>	<u># of Referees</u>	<u>Roster Size</u>
19 and Under	Two 45’ halves	Two 15’ periods	3	22 (18 Rostered)
18 and Under	Two 45’ halves	Two 15’ periods	3	22 (18 Rostered)
17 and Under	Two 45’ halves	Two 15’ periods	3	22 (18 Rostered)
16 and Under	Two 40’ halves	Two 15’ periods	3	22 (18 Rostered)
15 and Under	Two 40’ halves	Two 15’ periods	3	22 (18 Rostered)

14 and Under	Two 35' halves	Two 10' periods	3	22 (18 Rostered)
13 and Under	Two 35" halves	Two 10" periods	3	22 (18 Rostered)
12 and Under	Two 30" halves	Two 10" periods	3	16
11 and Under	Two 30" halves	Two 10" periods	3	16

Rule 402. SUBSTITUTION TEAM/REFEREE PROTOCOL

Section 1. Before the match begins an official will collect, from each team, the NCS player cards for the starting 9-11 players only. Each substitution that is ready to enter the game must give his player card to the official to be allowed to enter the field of play. At the conclusion of each half both teams will receive all player cards back from the official. This process will repeat for each half of play. Please remember to pick up player cards after each match.

Rule 403. CONCUSSION POLICY

Section 1. If the player suspected of head injury has received clearance from a healthcare professional, the player may re-enter at any stoppage of play. A player diagnosed with a possible concussion may return to US Youth Soccer play ONLY after release from a medical doctor (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) specializing in concussion treatment and management.

Rule 404. FIELD OF PLAY

Section 1. Teams shall report to the field of play at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the game to allow for the check in of players.

Section 2. Teams are to be seated on the opposite sideline, within the coaches boxes as outlined. The home team (listed first on the schedule) will be on the north or west sideline, and the away team will be on the south or east sideline. The team's spectators will sit to the left of half line.

Teams are responsible for picking up all trash on their sideline as well as their spectators, including seed shells. Teams that do not comply will receive a warning and any offense thereafter will be fined \$100, per offense.

Fines must be paid prior to the next game via cashiers check or money order made out to NYSA. Outstanding fines will result in a forfeit, subject to forfeit fees, until payment is made.

Section 3. Each team may have a maximum of four (4) team officials (coaches, assistant coaches, managers) in the team bench area, provided that they are carded officials with Nevada Youth Soccer Association NCS specific cards, or official club Technical Directors passes. Absolutely no more than four (4) are permitted, even with proper passes and credentials.

(1) Clubs may submit their official technical directors to NYSA seven (7) days prior to competition starting.

Section 4. For 13U-19U age groups, players who are on the NCS roster but are NOT selected to the eighteen (18) member game roster may remain in the bench area, but may not wear the match jersey. These players are permitted to wear the alternate team jersey, or otherwise dress in plain street clothes.

Section 5. The home team shall provide three (3) balls to be used during the game.

Rule 404. UNIFORMS

- (1) The home team will wear white or light-colored jersey. The visiting team will wear a dark colored jersey.
- (2) If the referee believes the shirts conflict, the team with the conflicting color per 404.1 will change.
- (3) If sliding shorts, or long sleeves, are worn, it is the referee's discretion if the color conflicts with the opponent. Best practice is to wear matching or similar colors with the jersey.
- (4) Tape worn on the socks must match the main sock color.
- (5) Any garment worn to fulfill religious requirements must pose no danger to the wearer or any other participant.
- (6) All players must wear the same uniform (jersey, socks and shorts) in order to play in the match. With the exception of the goalkeeper's jersey that must be a different color.
- (7) The referee has the final decision whether he feels he can properly distinguish between teams.
- (8) The Nevada State Cup Officials shall have the option to assign jersey colors to teams for matches, should the officials deem that such procedure is appropriate.

Rule 405. COACHING FROM THE SIDELINES

Section 1. A rostered coach may coach his/her own team from the technical area provided that mechanical devices are not used, tone of voice is informative and not a harangue, and he/she stays in the technical area.

- (1) Failure to abide by the aforementioned criteria in coaching from the sidelines may result in sanctions such as dismissal of coaches and other team officials, game suspensions, game forfeitures, and fees.
- (2) Rostered coaches may be asked to show their pass by officials at any time. Failure to provide a pass will result in removal from the technical area.

Rule 406. SPECTATORS

Section 1.

- (1) Coaches are responsible for the spectators that accompany his or her team.
- (2). Spectators shall occupy the sideline to the left of half line, next to the team bench.
 - a. Spectators who do not comply may be dismissed from the field.
- (3). No electronically enhanced noisemakers of any kind are permitted.
- (4). The Referee or any Nevada Youth Soccer representative reserves the right to remove any spectator from the fields or facility whose behavior is deemed inappropriate and/or whose presence imposes a threat to anyone attending the game.

Section 2.

- (1) The State Cup Committee may deduct points from a team's results for spectator's inappropriate behavior towards players, referees or other spectators.
- (3) Teams will receive a warning for each sideline behavioral issue that occurs. If a team receives 3 warnings, spectators will be banned from each game for the remainder of State Cup.
- (4) Warnings will be provided via email to the rostered coaches.

Rule 407. UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (DRONES)

Section 1. By USYSA Policy, the use of non-approved unmanned aircraft systems (ex: drones) is strictly prohibited at any/all NCS State Cup games. Any person in violation of this policy shall be immediately removed from the field, facility, and/or event.

Rule 408. LEAGUE POINTS

Section 1.

- Three (3) points for a win
- One (1) point for a draw
- Zero (0) Points for a loss

Section 2.

There are no points for goals scored, except that in order to break a tie in league standings, the ties will be broken by these methods:

- 1- Goal Differential
- 2- Number of wins vs. Common Opponents
- 3- Least number of losses per common opponent
- 4- Removal of last team in standings results
- 5- Removal of second to last teams results
- 6 - Continue with removal to teams until a winner is determined. If after this step is considered completely, FIFA kicks from the spot.

Rule 409. SUBSTITUTIONS

1. In the U13-U14 age groups, teams shall be permitted unlimited substitutions for all games,
2. In the U15-U19 age groups, a maximum of seven (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. If a player is removed from the game and no substitute enters the same for the player (the team plays short), the original player may re-enter the game. Entry shall be at a normal substitution point with approval of the referee or at any point during the game if the referee signals for the player's re-entry.
3. Either team may make a substitution with the referee's permission at any stoppage in play.
4. If a player suffers a significant blow to the head, is suspected of having suffered a concussion, or has an apparent head injury during the course of a game, the team must remove the player from the game for a medical evaluation by a healthcare professional. A substitution for the evaluation of a suspected concussion/head injury will not count against a team's total number of allowed substitutions.
5. If the player with the suspected head injury has received clearance from a health care Professional to return to the game, the player may re-enter at any stoppage of play. The evaluated player must replace the original substitute.
6. Any cautions assessed to the substituted player will carry with that player throughout the remainder of the game, any red card to the substitute would apply to the team and the team would be required to utilize a substitution (if available) for the player with the suspected head injury to replace a different player.

Rule 410. FORFEITURES

1. A minimum of seven players constitutes a team.

2. A fifteen-minute grace period shall be allowed beyond the official start time of the game if seven players are not available at start time. If seven players are available, then the game can commence. If at the end of the 15-minute grace period the team still does not have seven players; the referee will suspend the game and report the failure of the team to take the field on the NCS game reports.
3. NCS Officials may determine if the game is to be forfeited after examining the game report and conducting an investigation.
4. In the event that any team is suspected of forfeiting a game with the design or purpose of controlling the advancement of any team the NCS official may require such an advancing team to play another qualifying game against the next highest-ranking team that would otherwise be eligible to advance.
5. A team that fails to take the field because of withdrawal from the NCS (or game) after the deadline may be subject to sanctions levied by Nevada Youth Soccer officials.
6. The score awarded to the winning team resulting from a forfeiture is 4 – 0.
7. A forfeiting team may be fined a minimum of \$500.00 per game forfeited. Any team that does not pay the fine will be considered in bad standing and the team will not be permitted to play in any future State Cup games until NYSA receives payment. Coaches of forfeiting teams will not be allowed to coach other teams in the state cup until forfeit fines are paid.

Rule 411. WARNINGS, SENDOFFS, AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

1. A team receiving three or more red cards or, five or more yellow cards in one game may result in the team coach to appear before the NYSA Board for review and/or sanctions.
2. A coach may be verbally sanctioned for dissent.
3. A coach may be verbally dismissed, or dismissed via a referee's gesture from a game for using foul and abusive language, and irresponsible behavior.
 - a. A coach that is dismissed from two games must appear before the NCS Committee before being allowed to participate in future games.
4. Failure by the referee to show a physical red card does not negate the ejection, and disciplinary sanctions as noted below will still apply.
5. The NCS Officials will decide on the length of suspensions.
6. Minimum Disciplinary Sanctions:
 - Player, Coach, or Team Official Ejection for Foul & Abusive Language: Minimum one game suspension
 - Player Ejection for Violent Conduct or Serious Foul Play: Minimum two game suspension
 - Player, Coach, or Team Official Ejection for Accumulation of Two Yellow Cards: Minimum one game suspension
 - Coach Ejection for Irresponsible Behavior: Minimum two game suspension
 - Player Fighting: Minimum two game suspension.
 - Player, Coach, Team Official or Spectator Striking an Official: Immediate and minimum one-year suspension from all soccer activities (separate hearing).
 - Player, Coach, Team Official or Spectator Striking another individual: Immediate suspension from all remaining NCS games, and additional sanctions subject to a hearing.
 - Player, Coach, Team Official or Spectator Threats: Minimum two game suspension.
 - Coach Fighting: Minimum two game suspension.
7. If considered serious enough, a player, coach, or team official may face additional sanctions for other offenses as determined by the State Cup Officials
8. If a coach or team official is dismissed and no other carded or rostered official is present, the match will be considered a forfeit regardless of the score at the time of dismissal.

Rule 501. INCLEMENT WEATHER

Section 1. Games canceled due to inclement weather may be rescheduled.

Rule 601. Protests and Appeals

Section 1. NEVADA STATE CUP OFFICIALS DECISIONS ARE FINAL AND MAY NOT BE PROTESTED.

Section 2. Disciplinary decisions from separate hearings are subject to the NYSA appeals process and information will be provided at that time.