

# 2025

## CAL SOUTH NATIONAL CUP RULES & REGULATIONS



***CALIFORNIA STATE SOCCER ASSOCIATION - SOUTH***

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## **1. Title**

- 1.1. The **Cal South National Cup** shall be governed by these rules.
- 1.2. Champions of the Cal South National Cup will represent California State Soccer Association South (**Cal South**) in the US Youth Soccer West Region. Cal South teams who win the US Youth Soccer West Regionals in boys and girls 13U through 19U age groups will represent Cal South and West Region in the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (**USYSNCS**) National Championships. Failure to comply with the mandatory attendance provision shall subject the team to possible disciplinary action.

## **2. Administration**

- 2.1. The Cal South Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) shall oversee all Cal South National Cup Tournaments. The Cal South CEO will ensure a Cal South National Cup Program Coordinator (**NCPC**) is appointed to administer the tournament.
- 2.2. The **NCPC** shall administer the competition format, dates, times, and sites for all game and arrangements including referees. The **NCPC** may convene a National Cup Competitions Panel (**NCCP**) comprised of no less than three (3) Cal South Tournament Staff members to adjudicate National Cup game protests, disciplinary appeals and player or team eligibility issues.
- 2.3. The Cal South NCCP shall have the authority to rule on any matters pertaining to the National Cup competition. The NCCP will address forfeits, misconducts, and/or any other incident arising out of a National Cup game. The NCCP may increase automatic minimum game suspensions.
  - 2.3.1 The decisions of the **NCCP** are final, however, the decisions may be appealed per **Section 14**.
- 2.4. The current FIFA/IFAB Laws of the Game will govern all games as amended by US Youth Soccer Rules governing National Championship Series Competition as well as Cal South Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and these competition rules.

### **3. Team Eligibility**

A team entering the National Cup shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

- 3.1. The team must have competed in a Fall League, Regional League or Sanctioned Cal South Event, using Cal South approved player passes for the seasonal year with the exception of 19U boys and girls.
- 3.2. The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered players on an Activated Team within the Cal South Registration System (CSRS) (as defined by the Rules of US Youth Soccer and Cal South). No team may register a player not residing in Cal South to its roster without prior written permission from the Cal South President or their Designee and the home State or National Association of the player.
- 3.3. The team must be in good standing with Cal South and its League/Club of registration and has not violated, any of the rules of US Youth Soccer and Cal South.
- 3.4. **Roster Continuity:** 12U teams must maintain a minimum of seven (7) players and 13U to U18 teams must maintain a minimum of nine (9) players common to the rosters between the Cal South Registration System Team roster and National Cup competitions. Player retention shall be based on the Cal South Online System Team registration roster **as of November 15th of the current seasonal year**, except 19U teams. To be eligible to participate in the US Youth Soccer Far West Regionals or National Champions Series a team must comply per **USYSNCS Rule 221, Section 1 (5)**, states that “A team must demonstrate continuity of rosters at every level of the National Championships competitions by maintaining a minimum of **9 players** common to the roster of the team at each level of the competitions.” This provision does not specify which nine (9) players, only that the roster at each level of the competitions must have at least 9 players common to the **CSRS** Team registration roster.
- 3.5. The Club has the flexibility to manage player movement between teams for the National Cup and US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (**NCS**) as provided by the “Club Pass” provisions in the US Youth Soccer National Championship Policy (**USYSNC Policy**) as expressed in **Rule 221, Section 2 (b)** In addition to the application of the club pass provisions of the policy, a team participating in the National Championships competitions may release involuntarily a player from its roster if the player has violated bylaws, policies, or requirements of the Federation, US Youth Soccer, the State Association, or the member of the State Association through whom the player is registered The Club can also remove a player involuntarily from a team if the player has violated the bylaws, policies, or

requirements of the Federation, US Youth Soccer, the State Association, or the member of the State Association through whom the player is registered or if the player is unable to play as described in the Cal South Rules and Regulations.

- 3.6. **USYSNC Policy Rule 224, Section 4:** The first National Championships roster to which the player is rostered is the only team which the player may participate in at each level of the National Championships competitions for a seasonal year. The roster submitted to the team's State Association as required by the State Association, is the National Cup roster (Team Tournament Roster as defined at the Roster Freeze Date) for that player. The Club will determine when a player is placed on a Team Tournament Roster. Once a player is rostered for the National Cup Competition and the Roster Freeze Date is reached for that Division and Level, the player is not allowed to move within his or her Club or other Clubs until the player's team is eliminated from the competition and then only within the same Club and for the next level of the NCS. At the time, a team names its NCS roster (the Team Tournament Roster at the Roster Freeze Date) it may not have more than five (5) previously rostered (transfer players) players from a different Club or drop pool. Moving a player from the drop pool is considered a Transfer. Team administrators are responsible to ensure all rostered players fulfill all US Youth Soccer player eligibility requirements at all levels of the NCS.
- 3.7. Every team shall have a **National Cup Team Tournament Roster** and will present a **National Cup Team Game roster** for every National Cup game. The Maximum Roster Size for the respective Team Rosters are identified in the table below. Every National Cup team roster shall have a minimum of nine (9) players on the roster at all times. (US Youth Soccer Policy 205 Section 2) (Cal South Rules and Regulations 1.4.5 and 1.4.6).

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Registration Roster</i>	<i>Tournament Roster</i>	<i>Game Roster</i>
<b>12U</b>	16	16	16
<b>13U</b>	18	18	18
<b>14U to 17U</b>	22	22	18
<b>18U/19U</b>	22	22	<b>18*</b>

**Note:** \*18U/19U teams may dress up to 22 rostered players for a game, but only 18 players may enter the game.

- 3.7.1. The team must submit its Game Roster to the tournament officials prior to their first scheduled National Cup game. The maximum number of players per

Game Roster is shown in Section 3.7 herein. Every player listed on the Team Game Roster must be included on the Team Tournament Roster to be eligible to participate with the team. The **18U/19U** Age Group teams may dress up to 22 rostered players for a game, but only 18 players may enter the game.

- 3.8. **Roster Freeze:** The team must name its **Team's Tournament Roster** for National Cup competition by the **Roster Freeze Date** (per **Section 3.6** above). This date depends on the Cup Competition age group but will be three (3) days prior to the start of the competition for the particular age group. All changes to team rosters, adds, transfers, etc., including electronically posted changes to tournament entries, team rosters, adds, transfers, etc., made via Internet on the Cal South Online System, **must be posted** on the Cal South Registration System **by 6:00pm PST on Wednesday, three (3) days prior to the start of competition** if competition starts on Saturday, or 6:00pm **PST** on Thursday, **three (3) days prior to the start of competition** if competition starts on Sunday.
- 3.8.1. Once a player is rostered to the team's state National Cup Tournament Roster and the Roster Freeze is in effect for the respective Division, the player is ineligible to play on any other team participating in State Cup or National Cup at that level of the competition. Once the player's team is eliminated from the competition the player may be Club Passed to another Team within the same Club per **Section 3.6** above. Team administrators are responsible to ensure all rostered players fulfill all US Youth Soccer player eligibility requirements at all levels of the **NCS**.
- 3.9. Teams may enter the National Cup in a different age group than they were initially registered for in the current seasonal year as long as every player registered to the team is age appropriate for that competition's age group. If a team enters the competition in an older age group than originally registered, the team can club pass players in as long as age appropriate for that age competition. Teams can play up maximum of two (2) years.
- 3.10. Teams must enter National Cup via Internet on the Cal South Online System no later than the date set by the **NCPC**. All entries must be posted electronically by **11:59 pm PST on this date** and must be paid in full.
- 3.10.1. Teams wishing to withdraw from the competition after applying to National Cup must have their head coach or team manager notify the **NCPC** in writing (e-mail will suffice) of their desire to withdraw their team entry. Teams withdrawing prior to the Draw Date, but after the registration deadline will receive a refund minus a \$125.00 administrative fee. Teams withdrawing after the Draw Date shall forfeit their entire entry fee and may be subject to further disciplinary action including a fine up to \$500.

- 3.10.2. Teams withdrawing after publication of the game schedule for their division are subject to a \$500 fine which shall be invoiced to the affiliate club.
- 3.11. Teams may enter only one Cal South State Tournament in the seasonal year.
- 3.12. Teams agree to play wherever and whenever they are assigned to play within the Cal South geographical area.
- 3.13. The team's administrator acknowledges the team has complied with the above requirements at the time of completed online registration application.
- 3.14. A team entering the Cal South National Cup shall, if becoming Champion of an age group, represent Cal South at the US Youth Soccer West Regional Championships and if Regional Champion at the US Youth Soccer National Championships. Failure to comply with the mandatory attendance provision may subject the team and administrators to disciplinary action including a club fine.
- 3.14.1. The exception to this rule is if a Team has already qualified for the US Youth Soccer National Championship via the US Youth Soccer National League.
- 3.15. **Club Pass:** The **USYSNC Policy, Rule 221, Section 7** allows for the rostering of a player from the team's club that was not on that team's National Championship roster at the prior level by using Club Passes. Under subsection (a) of the section, the additions to the team's National Championships roster may occur at the Regional or National Championships levels, or both. However, the only players the team may add to its roster at those levels are eligible registered players of the Club at the start of the team's National Cup competition.
- 3.15.1. A player may only be rostered to one team at each level of Cal South National Cup or the **NCS** and that player may not play for another team as long as the team remains in the competitions. Once the player's team is eliminated from any level of the competitions, the player then becomes eligible for another team in the Club at the next level of the NCS should the player meet all the necessary requirements.
- 3.15.2. Players may move between teams in a Club at each level of the competition but can never be on more than one National Cup Tournament Roster for that level as is provided in **USYSNC Rule 224. USYSNC Rule 221, Section 2 (a) (1)**, A club may issue a club 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 the State Association level of the National Championships competition

submits its National Championship roster for its first competition at the State Association level.

- 3.15.3. If a Club Passed player is Released and/or Transfers from his or her Team of Registration then the Club Pass is Null and Void and the player if eligible, must be Club Passed again from their new Team of Registration.
- 3.15.4. Team Eligibility (non-disciplinary) decisions of the National Cup Competition Panel (NCCP) may be appealed to the Cal South State Cup Appeals Committee (SCSC). See Section 14.2 for procedures.
- 3.15.5. Teams agree to play, wherever and whenever they are assigned to play within the Cal South geographical area.
- 3.15.6. Teams advancing to the US Youth Soccer West Regional or National Championship tournaments must comply with the current US Youth Soccer National Championship Policy and US Youth Soccer Policy on Players and Playing Rules.
- 3.15.7. Players and coaches competing in National Cup finals must attend the post-game award ceremonies or inform the tournament officials in advance if the team is unable to attend the ceremonies.

#### **4. Player Eligibility**

- 4.1. Players must be properly registered and rostered to their team at the time it names its National Cup Tournament Roster for that team.
- 4.2. A player may only be rostered to one (1) Team entered in a Cal South State Tournament during the current seasonal year. Only Fall Season Player Passes are permitted.
- 4.3. A player who has been suspended may play after the player's term of suspension has been completely served.
- 4.4. Player eligibility (non-disciplinary) decisions of the National Cup Competition Panel (NCCP) may be appealed to the Cal South State Cup Appeals Committee (SCAC). See Section 14.2 for procedures.
- 4.5. Teams advancing to the US Youth Soccer West Region or National Championship tournaments must comply with the current US Youth Soccer National Championship Policy and US Youth Soccer Policy on Players and Playing Rules.



## 5. Form of Competition

- 5.1. National Cup competition shall be offered annually in the following age groups for boys and girls: 12U, 13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 17U and 18U/19U.
- 5.2. National Cup Competition shall be a modified tournament format, with a Round 1 and Round 2 brackets of games, if formatted, from which teams will advance to a single-elimination format with, depending on the number of teams entered, round of 32, round of 16, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals. Bracket round games can end in a tie.
- 5.3. For all games beyond the bracket round, games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will play two (2) equal periods of extra time per **Section 7.2. Section 7.3** will govern the determination of a winner if a game goes to overtime.
- 5.4. Teams will be awarded points for games in the preliminary rounds:

Item	Points
<b>Points for a win</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Point for a tie</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Points for a loss</b>	<b>0</b>

- 5.5. Ties in points in the bracket rounds shall use the following tiebreaker rules in order:
  1. The winner in head-to-head competition
  2. Goal differential (goals scored minus goals allowed to a maximum differential of 4 per game)
  3. Least goals allowed
  4. Most goals scored
  5. Shut-out wins (forfeits not counting)
  6. FIFA/IFAB kicks from the penalty mark
  7. If there is a tie between two or more teams for wild card placement, step 6 will be replaced with a coin toss by the **NCPC** or Designee.
  8. If more than two (2) teams are tied at the end of the preliminary round, the tiebreaker criteria listed shall be used in the order shown until one team is advanced or one team is eliminated, or both. If remaining teams are still tied at this

point in the tie-breaking process, they will then be compared beginning again with step 1 until another team is either advanced or eliminated or both.

- 5.6. Entries into the National Cup will be seeded and placed in brackets based primarily on California Regional League participation and the previous year's National Cup results, providing that the team returning has on their current season's roster nine (9) players common. If a team has changed their club affiliation since last year, or if a team has changed their team number or made a change to their name, the NCPC must be notified in writing (email will suffice to [nationalcupinfo@calsouth.com](mailto:nationalcupinfo@calsouth.com) ) of these changes when the team first applies to the tournament.
- 5.7. If, due to the withdrawal of teams, a Round 1 bracket contains three or fewer teams, the remaining teams may be placed in different brackets. In addition, the **NCPC** may redraw any age group if withdrawals reduce the total number of teams in that age group competition to a level, which would eliminate the need for one round of competition.
- 5.8. Teams shall be notified of schedules a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to their first round of games.
- 5.9. During progression from Preliminary Bracket Round to the first Elimination Round, Wildcard adjustments are made to prevent two teams from the same Bracket from facing each other in the first Elimination Round.

## **6. Precedence of Games**

Cal South National Cup games shall take precedence over all other Cal South sanctioned games including California Regional League.

## 7. Playing Rules

- 7.1. **Anti-Discrimination:** All State Tournament participants, including all players, coaches, team administrators, referees and spectators are prohibited from all forms verbal, physical or mental harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status. The **NCCP** will impose competition sanctions and or penalties against the teams, players, referees and coaches found to be in violation of this rule. All reported incidents will be forwarded to the Cal South Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee for further review and disciplinary action.
- 7.2. **Duration of game:**

AGE GROUP	GAME LENGTH	EXTRA TIME (Elimination Rounds)	BALL
18U/19U	Two 45 Min. Halves	Two 15 Min. Halves	No. 5
17U	Two 45 Min. Halves	Two 15 Min. Halves	No. 5
16U	Two 40 Min. Halves	Two 15 Min. Halves	No. 5
15U	Two 40 Min. Halves	Two 15 Min. Halves	No. 5
14U	Two 35 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
13U	Two 35 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 5
12U	Two 30 Min. Halves	Two 10 Min. Halves	No. 4

- 7.3. Elimination round games tied after regulation will have two periods of extra time. If the score is still tied after the two periods of extra time, the game will be decided by FIFA/IFAB kicks from the penalty mark, which will immediately follow the periods of extra time. Only players who were on the field of play at the end of the game are eligible to participate in FIFA/IFAB kicks from the penalty mark.
- 7.4. The home team is listed first in the schedule, and shall have choice of team bench. Whenever possible, the field layout will be set up so both teams sit on the same side of the field with the team's spectator sitting opposite of their team bench of the other side of the field and not past the center line. The home team shall change jerseys if the referee decides there is a color conflict, and shall supply the game balls.

- 7.5. Prior to each game, each team must present to the referee the completed Game Roster form and the team's Cal South-player passes, and Administrator/Coach passes from the same League/Club of registration. In an **EMERGENCY**, a current Cal South Administrator/Coach who holds the appropriate USSF license with a current approved Risk Management designation may coach the Team during a National Cup game. Coach ejection is not consider an emergency.
- 7.6. Each coach may review the Game Roster form and player passes of his/her opponent only at the time the game official checks credentials.
- 7.7. A fifteen (15) minute grace period is allowed from the scheduled starting time of the game. In the event both teams are more than fifteen (15) minutes late for the game, one or both teams will be deemed to have forfeited the game. Seven (7) rostered players and a Coach constitute a team ready to play. The type of Forfeit is outlined in **Section 11**. The National Cup Program Coordinator may extend the grace period under extenuating circumstances such as unanticipated freeway closures, accidents, snow, rain, earthquakes or other acts of god.
- 7.8. Each team is responsible for one-half of the official's game fees. The correct amount for each team is posted on the National Cup web page. The teams must pay the referee on the field prior to each game; in cash. Once the game has started there is no refund of the official game fees.
- 7.9. **Substitutions** will be as described in the **USYSNC Policy Rule 242 Section 3**:
- (1) For the 12U, 13U and 14U age groups, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed; and
  - (2) For all other 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. After leaving the game during overtime play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game.
  - (3) If a player is suspected of suffering a head injury they may be substituted for evaluation without the substitutions counting against the team's 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' Heath 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 substitute. 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 substitute available.

7.10. Cal South supports the **IFAB/ Law 4**:

7.10.1. FIFA Law IV states, "**A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry).**"

7.10.2. The determination of whether a player may play or not will be made by the referee in accordance with **FIFA/IFAB** Law 4.

7.11. It shall be the responsibility of each team to maintain proper spectator conduct. The coach, manager, and team shall be held primarily accountable for the conduct of the spectators from their respective teams. At no time shall offensive, insulting or abusive language be permitted.

7.12. Only four (4) credentialed Administrators/Coaches with Cal South passes and listed on the Team Game Roster for the current seasonal year may be on the technical area. Any coaches with a Cal South pass may be in the technical area during National Cup games. During a National Cup game, teams without at least one (1) Licensed coach with a Cal South pass in the technical area shall forfeit the game. There will be a brief grace period if a coach needs to be replaced. A properly credentialed coach must be presented to the referee immediately.

7.13. Coaching from the sidelines (conveying tactical instructions to one's own team on points of strategy and position) is allowed as long as it is within the technical areas provided:

7.13.1. Use of cell phones or electronic communication devices in the technical area are prohibited. Use of a cell phone for player welfare or safety is permitted. A team official who uses unauthorized equipment or who behaves in an inappropriate manner as a result of the use of electronic or communication equipment will be sent off.

7.13.2. The tone of the voice is informative and not derogatory;

7.13.3. Each coach, substitute, or player remains within ten (10) yards on either side of the halfway line;

7.13.4. No coach, substitute, or player is allowed to make derogatory remarks or gestures to the referees, other players, substitutes, opposing coaches or spectators;

- 7.13.5. No coach, substitute, or player uses profanity;
- 7.13.6. No coach, substitute, or player may incite in any manner, disruptive behavior.
- 7.14. The use, possession, or transportation of illegal drugs or weapons shall not be permitted at Cal South State Tournament events. Alcohol shall not be permitted at Cal South State Tournament events unless the venue where the game is being played is licensed by the State of California to serve alcohol. In such cases, alcohol may only be purchased from the venue (alcohol may not be transported to the venue), must be consumed only in permitted areas in compliance with the venue's License, and shall not be brought to the sidelines. Coaches, Players, League/Club Administrators and Cal South Program Administrators are prohibited from consuming alcohol at all Cal South State Tournaments, including alcohol sold by the venue at which the games are played. Any person in possession of drugs or alcohol (outside the permitted areas at the venue), or under the influence of drugs or alcohol on the sidelines, shall be subject to immediate removal.
- 7.15. **Proof of Age (US Youth Soccer Policy Rule 204)**
- 7.15.1. Upon the National Cup Program Coordinator request, National Cup players must show an original proof of age birth document which are specified in Cal South Rules and Regulations 1.3.1. **"Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the United States, a birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency or board of health records, a passport, a passport ID card, an alien registration card issued by the United States Government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, a current driver's license, an unexpired federal, state, or local government identification card (if documentation of date of birth is required), or a certification of a United States citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal, or religious certificates will not be accepted."** No school ID cards. No copies, color or scanned copy will be accepted. Photos or electronic photos or documents on mobile phones or electronic devices will not be accepted. No exceptions.
- 7.15.2. Any proof of age/birth document that is not in English must have an English translation attached to the original document, using the Cal South translation form. The translator must add their name, address, phone number, and qualifications to translate. No coach of a team or parent of a player may translate for that team or the parent's own child unless they are certified and/or accredited to teach the specific language, i.e. high school teacher, professor of

languages at a university or college, a court translator, or anyone recognized as an official translator by a governing body.

- 7.15.3. All administrators of a team will be held responsible for the required documents upon request. The **NCPC** will not hear any pleas from parents, guardians, or representatives of players with improper documents. No exceptions.
  - 7.15.4. During the course of the competition, if the **NCPC** and/or Tournament Official has questions on the eligibility of any player or team, they have the authority to require the team/league to furnish proof of eligibility to participate in the competition. Failure to furnish the requested proof within forty-eight (48) hours may result in the disqualification of a player and/or team from the competition.
- 7.16. **Medical Release:** Players under the age of eighteen (18) may not participate in any National Cup game without a medical release form, with an original signature signed by a parent or guardian, being presented for the player upon request by the **NCPC** and/or onsite Tournament Official.
- 7.16.1. Any player showing signs or symptoms characteristic with a head injury or concussion will be immediately removed from participation/competition. The Player Pass will be held and the player will not be allowed to play or participate in any Cal South State Tournament or sanctioned event until all Cal South concussion policy and procedure requirements have been fulfilled and he/she submits a written clearance from a licensed health provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussion. The clearance statement must be on the licensed health provider or physician's letterhead and must include their signature and display the address of their office location. Go to the Cal South website for complete concussion medical clearance and return to play protocol requirements.
- 7.17. **INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCES (US Youth Soccer Policy Rule 207)**  
**The United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and FIFA have international clearance requirements and procedures for players coming to the United States to play soccer. A player age 10 or older requiring international clearance must receive approval from the USSF prior to being registered.**

## 7.18. **ADULT GAMES (US Youth Soccer Policy Rule 208)**

- 7.18.1. A youth player may play an unlimited number of adult games without losing his or her youth eligibility. The youth player must notify his or her youth coach or other authorized team official of the player's intention to play adult games. The youth player shall request, in writing, for the eligibility clearance from Cal South. When the clearance and permission have been granted, Cal South has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play adult games and will be responsible for establishing the procedures under which the youth player will be allowed to play. In the event of a conflict between an adult game and a youth game, the youth game shall take precedence. A youth player who is required to sign an adult form shall retain youth eligibility.
- 7.18.2. A youth team with the written permission and mutual consent of Cal South may play in an adult-approved League and not lose its youth eligibility to compete in the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. If the youth team's players are required to sign an adult form, the team shall retain its youth eligibility.
- 7.18.3. The youth team will be required to play under the rules of Cal South concerning registration, roster rules, transfer rules, and any additional qualifications that are required to be eligible for the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. Whether participation in any adult league shall qualify a youth team for the US Youth Soccer National Championships competition play shall be determined by Cal South.

## 7.19. **Tournament Check-In**

- 7.19.1. **Bracket Games Check-in.** Teams will Check-in with National Cup onsite Tournament officials prior to the beginning of their team's first Round 1 or Round 2 game. At Check-in, the team representative shall present to the officials the following documents:
  - 7.19.1.1. A completed National Cup Team Game Roster Form, printed from the CSRS.
  - 7.19.1.2. Cal South player, coach and team administrator passes for said team for the current seasonal year; (Spring Season or hand-written passes will not be accepted).
  - 7.19.1.3. The medical release forms per **Section 7.16** within this document.



## 7.20. **Player passes, Game Photo Roster Forms, and Uniforms.**

### 7.20.1. **Player Passes**

- 7.20.1.1. It is the responsibility of administrators of a team to obtain Cal South passes before the first National Cup game and that the passes are correctly prepared with photo, registrar's stamp or signature (on the back side), and fully laminated.
- 7.20.2. **Proof of Age:** Per **Section 7.15** in this document, upon **NCPC's** request, players must present an original proof of age birth document which are specified in **Cal South Rules and Regulations 1.3.1**.
- 7.20.3. **Team Game Photo Roster Forms.** Team administrators prior to the game shall present to the referee an official National Cup Game Photo Roster form for each game to be played. Each player's jersey number must appear on the National Cup Photo Game Roster.
- 7.20.4. **Uniforms.** Each player, including the goalkeeper, must have a number listed on the Game Roster form and each shall wear a numbered jersey. The number shall be affixed to the back of the jersey and shall be clearly visible. Each player must wear a different numbered jersey. Goalkeepers must wear colors, which distinguish them from other players and game officials.
- 7.20.5. All home teams shall wear a light color jersey and all visiting teams shall wear a contrasting dark color jersey for each game. The home team must change jersey colors if the referee decides there is a color conflict.

## **8. Game Officials**

- 8.1. The appointment of game officials shall be the responsibility of the State Referee Administrator, in conjunction with the authority of the Cal South CEO and or **NCPC**. Officials shall be registered with Cal South and USSF.
- 8.2. Complaints regarding game officials must be in writing and sent to the **NCPC** at [nationalcupinfo@calsouth.com](mailto:nationalcupinfo@calsouth.com) and State Referee Administrator.
- 8.3. Teams are responsible for payment of the fees.

- 8.4. The scale of charges for duly appointed referees shall be as determined by the National Cup tournament officials.
- 8.5. The referee shall have the authority to determine the fitness of the field in all games. In other respects, the duties of the referee and referee assistant are as defined in the FIFA/IFAB Laws of the Game.
- 8.6. The referees appointed to officiate in any National Cup game shall be neither a past nor present member nor be related to a member (member to include players, coaches and or administrators) of either of the competing teams. Referees accepting games that violate this rule shall be reported to the **NCPC** and the referee disciplinary committee for possible disciplinary action.
- 8.7. The referee will give to the site Tournament Official at the conclusion of the game, all Game Roster forms from the completed games. The referees shall (a) mark the Game Roster forms appropriately, (b) complete the Cal South no-show report when one team fails to appear for a game within the required time, (c) complete the referee supplemental report for all red cards given, all medical injuries and (d) turn in the forms required by (b) and (c) to the onsite Tournament Officials.

## **9. Misconduct and Breaches of the Rules**

### **9.1. Player Ejection/Coach Ejection:**

- 9.1.1. If a player or administrator is ejected from a game, the referee shall give the pass and a supplemental referee report to the onsite Tournament Official. Coaches and team administrators ejected from the game shall spend the remainder of the game a minimum of 100 yards away from the field or at the discretion of the referee, if the parking lot is too close to the field, the coach must also leave the parking lot or be out of sight. The game can be suspended until the coach or team administrator leaves the field area as directed by the referee or tournament official. Players ejected from the game shall spend the remainder of the game on their team bench under adult supervision or under the supervision of a Tournament Official. The National Cup Program Coordinator has the authority to enforce the provisions of the rules.
- 9.1.2. The referee may show a Yellow Card (Cautions) and/or RED card (Ejections) to a coach/administrator or spectator.
- 9.1.3. Any player ejected from one (1) National Cup game shall be ineligible to participate in his/her team's next played National Cup game(s) (games forfeited to that team do not count as games played). If a player is advancing to Regional Competition his/her suspension will be served at the Regional

Competition. Un-served suspensions will carry forward to the next year's competition where he/she is listed on the Team Tournament Roster.

9.1.4. In the case of an administrator/coach ejection, the administrator/coach will be ineligible to participate in any National Cup game for the next two (2) games for the team from which he/she was ejected.

9.1.4.1. National Cup Champion and "wild card" administrators with an outstanding suspension and moving on to the US Youth Soccer Region IV or National Championships shall have the suspension(s) carried forward to that competition.

9.1.4.2. If the team is eliminated prior to the game suspension being fully served the balance of the un-served penalty will carry over to next years competition.

9.1.5. Any player or administrator ejected from a second National Cup game shall be ineligible to participate during the balance of the current Cal South National Cup competition. (Once suspension(s) have been served, they may participate at the Regional level).

9.1.6. In National Cup play, suspensions shall apply to subsequent Regional play.

9.1.7. An ejection is not subject to protest.

9.1.8. The **NCPC** may increase automatic game suspension(s) at their discretion.

## 9.2. **Suspension Guidelines for Players and Team Officials**

9.2.1. The **NCCP** shall act on all disciplinary matters and shall have discretionary powers in determining disciplinary action applied to team officials personnel and players. Game suspensions listed below are to be regarded as minimums for the charged offenses. Depending on the findings of the **NCPC**, penalties may be increased according to the severity of the offences infringements. When sent off the field of play and shown the red card for infringement of the Laws of the Game, players and substitutes shall be disciplined by additional game suspensions as follows:

9.2.1.1. **Serious Foul Play**

9.2.1.1.1. A tackle or challenge for the ball that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality; punishable by a sending-off (red card). All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

9.2.1.2. **Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language**

9.2.1.2.1. Verbal or physical behavior, which is rude, hurtful, disrespectful; punishable by a sending-off (red card).

9.2.1.2.2. Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to, words uttered in frustration and, in the referee's opinion, loud enough to be heard outside the field of play; words or actions directed towards any person. All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

9.2.1.3. **Receiving a Second Caution in the Same Game**

9.2.1.3.1. Second yellow card after a previous yellow card in the same game. All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

9.2.1.4. **Violent Conduct**

9.2.1.4.1. **An action which uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, team official, game official, spectator or another person, regardless of whether contact is made.**

9.2.1.4.2. Examples include, but are not limited to:

9.2.1.4.2.1. An unseemly act, on another person; striking or attempting to strike another person. **All age groups: Suspend for a minimum of two (2) games.**

9.2.1.4.2.2. Pushing is an act of aggression, striking, or attempting to strike a referee, assistant referee, fourth official or tournament personnel. **All age groups: Suspend from the balance of National Cup and CRL competition in the current year and the next year's National Cup and CRL competition with review by the Cal South Protest, Appeals, and Disciplinary**

**(PAD) Committee or Board of Directors regarding further disciplinary action.**

- 9.2.1.5. Any player, substitute, or team official who refuses the referee's or Tournament Official's request for his/her name, date of birth or gives a false name or information while gathering data to report on an infringement of the tournament rules involving him/her, shall have one (1) game added to the suspension that would normally be levied by the **NCPC** or National Cup Competitions Panel.
- 9.3. **Ejected Coaches:**
- 9.3.1. During the game suspension(s), there can be NO contact of any kind or by any means between the team and the coach from 30 minutes before the game until the conclusion of the game.
- 9.3.2. The Coach must remain off the Venue (parking lot not included, unless in the discretion of the referee the parking lot is too close to the field in which case the coach must also leave the parking lot) during the game. Additionally, the coach must not be involved in unacceptable conduct (defined to include coaching his/her players or harassment of opponents/players/game officials). The **NCPC** has the authority to ban an ejected coach for more than one (1) National Cup game.
- 9.4. Any team found guilty of using an ineligible player is not eligible to compete further in the National Cup competitions in the current seasonal year. Any coach, manager, or official found guilty of using an ineligible player is not eligible to compete further in the National Cup or NCS competitions in the current and subsequent seasonal year. The NCPC shall rule if games are FOFA and if all played games shall be scored as a 1-0 forfeit loss for the team using an ineligible player. Ineligible player incidents will be reported to the Cal South Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee for review and/or disciplinary action.
- 9.5. A player (through his/her parent/guardian or club) found guilty of submitting falsified birth information is prohibited from competing further in National Cup competitions in the current and subsequent seasonal year. The NCPC shall rule if games are FOFA and if all played games shall be scored as a 1-0 forfeit loss for the team using an ineligible player. Ineligible player incidents will be reported to the Cal South Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee for review and/or disciplinary action.
- 9.6. 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 US Youth Soccer and Cal South.

- 9.7. The head coach and or assistant coach shall be held fully responsible for the actions of any individual at any game that, in the opinion of the referee, is a supporter of that team. Team spectator misconduct disciplinary actions or game suspensions will also be applied to the team and coaches.
- 9.8. Other individuals, who may be reasonably construed, as being associated with a team, such as relatives and spectators, shall also be subject to the jurisdiction and authority of NCPC.
- 9.9. **Non-Discrimination and stance against Racism.**
  - 9.9.1. Discrimination of any kind against a player, team, referee, administrator, coach, official, private person or group of people on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion. Such matters shall be elevated to the Cal South Protest, Appeals, & Disciplinary Committee for further adjudication.

## **10. Protests**

- 10.1. The **NCCP** shall have the authority to rule on any matter pertaining to this competition.
  - 10.1.1. The **NCCP** shall deal with forfeits, protests, misconduct, or any other incident arising from a National Cup game.
  - 10.1.2. The **NCCP** has the authority to assess suspensions for more than one game.
  - 10.1.3. Protests filed due to field markings, field conditions or field equipment deemed unacceptable by a coach may not be accepted by the NCPC if teams play their game(s) under these conditions.
- 10.2. The decisions of the **NCCP** are final.
- 10.3. Filing a protest shall not stay the National Cup competition.
- 10.4. Protests based on violations of the rules and regulations are eligible to be considered by the **NCCP**. Protests based on referee judgment calls as defined by the FIFA/IFAB Laws of the Game are not eligible for protest.
- 10.5. Filing a protest:

- 10.5.1. A documented protest (via email), citing the actual rule that has been violated, must be delivered to the **NCPC** or Designee no later than two (2) hours following the conclusion of the game in which the violation occurred.
- 10.5.2. The written protest must be accompanied by one hundred dollars (**\$100**) fee, in the form of U.S. currency, money order, or cashier check made out to Cal South. The protest filing fee is non-refundable.
- 10.5.3. The **NCPC** will submit the Protest to the **NCCP** for adjudication.
- 10.5.4. Disciplinary decisions of the National Cup Competition Panel (**NCCP**) may be appealed to the Cal South Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee. Appeals must be submitted in writing within twenty-four (24) hours from the receipt of notification from the National Cup Competitions Panel. The written appeal must be accompanied by a one-hundred-dollar (\$100) fee, in the form of U.S. Currency, money order, or cashier check made out to Cal South, otherwise the affiliate club will be invoiced the amount due. The appeal fee is non-refundable. See **Section 14.1**.
- 10.5.5. Non-disciplinary decisions of the National Cup Competition Panel (**NCCP**) may be appealed to the Cal South State Cup Appeals Committee (**SCAC**). Appeals must be submitted in writing within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of notification for the **NCCP**. The written appeal must be accompanied by a one-hundred-dollar (\$100) fee, in the form of U.S. Currency, money order, or cashier check made out to Cal South, otherwise the affiliate club will be invoiced for the amount due. The appeal fee is non-refundable. See **Section 14.2**.
- 10.5.6. Protests and appeals will not stay the competition.

## **11. Forfeits and Failure to Compete**

- 11.1. **Team Withdrawals:** Teams wishing to withdraw from the competition after applying to National Cup must have their head coach or team manager notify the **NCPC** in writing (e-mail will suffice) of their desire to withdraw.
  - 11.1.1. Teams withdrawing **prior** to the Draw Date, but after the registration deadline, will be assessed **\$125.00** administrative fee which will be retained from the application fee refund.

- 11.1.2. Teams withdrawing **after** the Draw Date shall forfeit their entry fee and be subject to further disciplinary action including a fine.
- 11.1.3. Teams withdrawing after the publication of the game schedule will be subject to a minimum **\$500.00** fine and shall be invoiced to the affiliate club.
- 11.1.4. Teams withdrawing after the start of the competition are subject to the application of the Forfeit One Forfeit All (FOFA) Rule and may be subject to additional penalties and fines. Teams without the minimum number of players at a scheduled game start may notify the referee onsite they are voluntarily withdrawing or abandoning a game due to a lack of players. In these instances, the withdrawing team is required to pay the referee fees for both teams. The referee fees may be paid onsite by the withdrawing team. Tournament officials will invoice the team/club for the referee fees if payment is not made onsite.
- 11.2. **Failure to Appear:** Teams failing to appear for a scheduled game must have their head coach or team manager notify the **NCPC** in writing (e-mail will suffice) at least a twenty-four (**24**) hours prior to the game start time or a minimum **\$500** fine will be invoiced to their affiliate Club. It shall be the **NCCP** responsibility to decide whether to invoke the **FOFA** or **FOFO** rule and any additional disciplinary actions.
- 11.3. **Abandoned Games:** Every effort shall be made to complete a game. Abandoned games are not permitted unless approved by the National Cup Program Coordinator. Should a game be prematurely abandoned due to Disciplinary issues with one or both Teams, it shall be the **NCPC** responsibility to review the referee report on the termination and decide if the game is to be recorded as a **FOFA** or **FOFO** forfeit, completed or let the game result stand or if one or both teams are to be disqualified from the competition. Teams notifying the referee and the tournament official they are voluntarily abandoning a game after playing the first half due to a lack of minimum players will be reviewed by the SCPC to determine the final game result and or disciplinary action.
- 11.4. **Rules Violation:** Any team found guilty of violating any of the rules of this competition or of Cal South shall be subject to disciplinary action, which may include disqualification from the tournament. It shall be the **NCCP** responsibility to decide whether to invoke the **FOFA** or **FOFO** rule and any additional disciplinary actions.
- 11.5. **Force Majeure** - Any consequences resulting from Force Majeure, will be evaluated by the **NCCP** who shall have the authority to employ either the **FOFA** or the **FOFO** rule.



11.6. **Forfeits** - The National Cup Competition has a two (2) Tier approach to adjudicating Forfeits. **FOFA** Forfeit One Forfeit All Games and **FOFO** Forfeit One Forfeit One Game:

11.6.1. **FOFA - Forfeit One Forfeit All Games:** Teams forfeiting any game in the bracket round for the following reasons shall cause the **FOFA** rule to engage and the team shall be eliminated from this seasonal year's competition and may be subject to the additional penalties and a minimum \$500 fine which will be invoiced to their affiliate club. The game scoring will be subject to the **FOFA** Scoring process as described in **Section 11.8** within this document.

11.6.1.1. **Intentional Forfeit** - When a team fails to appear for a scheduled game by the official game start time inclusive of the grace period provided by the Competition, the Cal South **NCCP** shall have the authority to rule on the intent of the Team's failure to appear. If there was intent to forfeit the game the Team will Forfeit the game and cause engagement of the **FOFA** Rule.

11.6.1.2. **Terminated Games** - Should a game be prematurely terminated due to any actions of the Team Administrators and or players the Cal South **NCCP** shall have the authority to rule on the intent of the Team's failure to complete the game and if there was an intent to forfeit the game the Team will Forfeit the game and causing the engagement of the **FOFA** Rule.

11.6.2. **FOFO - Forfeit One Forfeit One Game:** Teams forfeiting any game in the bracket round for the following reason shall Forfeit One game and engage the **FOFO** Rule and may be subject to additional penalties and a **\$500** fine which will be invoiced to their affiliate club. The game scoring will be subject to the **FOFO** Scoring process as described in **Section 11.7** within this document.

11.6.2.1. **No Licensed Coach** - Teams without at least one (1) coach with a Cal South licensed Coaches card, at the beginning of the game or at any time during the game shall forfeit the game and engage the **FOFO** Rule. In an EMERGENCY, a current Cal South Administrator/Coach who holds an appropriate **USSF** license with a current approved Risk Management designation, may coach the Team during a National Cup game.

11.6.2.2. **Check-In Failure** – Failure of a Team Administrator to Check in at the Cal South designated time and place and present the required documents for the respective rounds as specified in **Section 7** within this document, or failure to present the required documents as described in **Section 7** within this document, to the Referee for Check-in at the field prior to the

start of the game will cause the engagement of the **FOFO** Rule. This includes failure to present:

- 11.6.2.2.1. A completed National Cup Team/Game Photo Roster Form.
- 11.6.2.2.2. Cal South Administrator pass for Licensed Coach for the current seasonal year.
- 11.6.2.2.3. Cal South player passes or Official Game Roster with player pictures for said team for the current seasonal year.
- 11.6.2.2.4. Cal South medical release forms per **Section 7.16** within this document.

### 11.7. Scoring of FOFA and FOFO games

11.7.1. When the **FOFA** Rule is engaged **Forfeiting a Team** out of the Competition, all the Preliminary Round Games played or to be played by the Forfeiting team will be recorded as:

- 11.7.1.1. 1-0 wins for Non-Forfeiting Teams and 3 points.
- 11.7.1.2. Plus 1 Goal Differential
- 11.7.1.3. Plus 1 "Goal For" for the game
- 11.7.1.4. Any cards, yellow or red given in Forfeited game stand

11.7.2. When the **FOFO** Rule is engaged **Forfeiting a Team** for one game the Scoring process for a Preliminary Round Game Forfeited will be recorded as follows:

11.7.2.1. The Forfeit score for the **Non-Forfeiting Team** will be recorded as:

- 11.7.2.1.1. 1-0 Win and 3 points.
- 11.7.2.1.2. Plus 1 Goal differential for the game
- 11.7.2.1.3. Plus 1 "Goal For"

11.7.2.2. The Forfeit score for the **Forfeiting Team** will be recorded as:

- 11.7.2.2.1. 0-1 Loss and 0 points.
- 11.7.2.2.2. Minus 1 Goal Differential
- 11.7.2.2.3. Minus 1 Goals Against

11.7.2.3. Any cards, yellow or red given in Forfeited game stand.

11.7.2.4. If both Teams are declared to have **FOFO** and forfeited the game, both Teams will be scored according to **Section 11.7.2** within this document.

## **12. Suspension of Game**

- 12.1. A Suspended Game is a game temporarily stopped and must be Resumed or Abandoned. If the game is suspended prior to the commencement of the second half, the game shall be replayed in its entirety.
- 12.2. If the game is suspended during the second half, the game shall be considered a full game, unless there was a purposeful misconduct or misuse of this regulation. The NCPC shall apply rule 12.5 below after making a determination as to which team misused this rule.
- 12.3. If periods of extra time are required and the game is suspended prior to or during a period of extra time, both extra time periods shall be played on a suitable date.
- 12.4. If the suspended game is a preliminary round game, the decision to replay the game shall be at the discretion of the **NCPC** if the game has no effect on the outcome of either team advancing to the next round.
- 12.5. If a game is stopped or suspended due to misconduct, the **NCPC** shall decide whether the game is to be completed, replayed or declared a FOFA or FOFO, after deciding as to which team or if both teams are adjudged at fault.
- 12.6. Suspension of Game due to weather or unforeseen events
  - 12.6.1. In the event of inclement weather, the teams shall assume that the game will be played unless official notification is given.
- 12.7. A game may be Abandoned if there is a failure to meet the Laws of the Game regarding Law 3 – an insufficient number of players to continue the game or Law 1 & 4 – Safety of the Field or Players' Equipment. If the game is abandoned during the second half, the game shall be considered a full game unless the National Cup Program Coordinator rules otherwise, or there was a purposeful misconduct or misuse of this regulation.
  - 12.7.1. The **NCPC**, in an effort to provide one preliminary game per day, may arrange for an alternate field site on the day of play. In the case of bad weather, teams shall be notified at the earliest opportunity, which may be the morning of play. Providing the authority that has control of the field in question has not refused permission to use the field, the National Cup Program Coordinator and facility owner shall have the sole authority to decide whether a game shall be played or suspended due to inclement weather.

### **13. Game Abandonment due to Misconduct**

Should a game be abandoned, it shall be the **NCPC's** responsibility to review the referee report on the game abandonment and determine if the game is to be recorded as a forfeit and the type of Forfeit **FOFA or FOFO** per **Section 11** within this document or let game stand, or if one or both teams are to be disqualified from the competition.

### **14. Appeals**

- 14.1 Disciplinary decisions of the National Cup Competition Panel (NCCP) may be appealed to the Cal South Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee. Appeals must be submitted within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of the notification from the National Cup Competition Panel (NCCP). The written online appeal must be accompanied by a one-hundred-dollars (\$100) fee, payable online to Cal South at the time of submitting the appeal. The appeal fee is non-refundable.
- 14.2 Non-Disciplinary decisions of the National Cup Competition Panel (NCCP) may be appealed to the Cal South State Cup Appeals Committee (SCAC). Appeals must be submitted in writing within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of notification from the National Cup Competitions Panel. The written online appeal must be made accompanied by a One-hundred-dollars (\$100) fee, payable online to Cal South at the time of submitting the appeal. The appeal fee is non-fundable.
- 14.3. Filing an appeal shall not stay the National Cup competition. The National Cup Program Coordinator (NCPC) and/or National Cup Competition Panel (NCCP) shall have up to 30 days to rule on any tournament protest and appeal.
- 14.4. All decisions of the Cal South PAD and SCAC are final and as such no further appeals will be heard.
- 14.5. Once the respective Age Group Roster Freeze dates as described in Section 3.8 have been reached, the SCAC will not process any new cases regarding Player movement or Transfer eligibility.

## 15. Appendix: Definitions

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

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Add</b>	The addition of a player to a team's roster.
<b>Cal South Board of Directors (CSBOD)</b>	The Board of Directors of Cal South also referred to in this document as <b>CSBOD</b> .
<b>Cal South</b>	California State Soccer Association-South
<b>Cal South Registration System (CSRS)</b>	The software system employed by Cal South for all Affiliate Members to conduct Player Registration.
<b>Cal South Rules and Regulations</b>	These are the official Cal South Rules and Regulations as published by Cal South and provided on the Cal South Web site.
<b>Cal South State Tournaments</b>	This includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Cal South National Cup</li> <li>2) Cal South State Cup Championships: Presidents, Governors, and Mayors Divisions</li> </ol>
<b>Club</b>	A group formed for the basis of registering and training Youth and/or Adult Players and Teams that operate through a common administrative group
<b>Club Pass</b>	A rule providing clubs and coaches with the flexibility to move players from team to team in their own club as necessary for State Division competitions based on player development and team needs. Club Pass player moves do not count as part of the maximum 5 allowed player transfers and only affect the Team's Tournament Roster.
<b>Competitive League</b>	A Youth League formed for the basis of providing play between member Clubs under a common set of administrative and competitive rules.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>District Commissioner</b>	Cal South Board of Directors District Commissioner as defined by the Cal South Bylaws.
<b>Draw</b>	The process of placing the Tournament Teams into their respective Brackets.
<b>Draw Date</b>	The Cal South published Date for the Draw for the respective Competitions and Age group.
<b>Eligibility to play</b>	Registered and not Under-suspension.
<b>Forfeit One Forfeit All games (FOFA)</b>	Means Forfeit One Forfeit All games in the Competition and is a forfeit rule applied to teams that are determined to have triggered this rule per <b>Section 11</b> within this document.
<b>Forfeit One Forfeit One game (FOFO)</b>	Means Forfeit One Forfeit One game in the Competition and is a forfeit rule applied to teams that are determined to have triggered this rule per <b>Section 11</b> within this document.
<b>Game Roster</b>	Means the list of players who will participate in a particular game.
<b>IFAB</b>	The International Football Association Board
<b>Involuntary release</b>	The removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of team authorities.
<b>League</b>	An organization that conducts competition among soccer teams.
<b>League/Club of Registration</b>	A group formed for the basis of registering and training Youth and/or Adult Players and Teams that operate through a common administrative group. The organization may conduct competition among soccer Teams.
<b>National Championship Series(NCS)</b>	This is the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series as defined by US Youth Soccer and it includes the Cal South National Cup. In this document also referred to as NCS.
<b>National Championships Competitions (NCC)</b>	The competitions provided for under this policy for the 13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U and 19U age groups.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>National Cup</b>	US Youth Soccer Cal South National Championships Series
<b>National Cup Program Coordinator (NCPC)</b>	National Cup Program Coordinator ( <b>NCPC</b> ) is the individual responsible for the administration of the Cal South National Cup.
<b>National Cup Competitions Panel (NCCP)</b>	<p>The NCPC may convene a National Cup Competitions Panel (<b>NCCP</b>) comprised of no less than three (3) representatives to adjudicate National Cup protests, appeals and eligibility issues.</p> <p>The <b>NCCP</b> shall have the authority to rule on any matters pertaining to the National Cup competition. The <b>NCCP</b> will address forfeits, misconducts, and/or any other incident arising out of a National Cup game. The <b>NCCP</b> may increase automatic minimum game suspensions.</p>
<b>Player Registration</b>	The process by which an individual becomes a registered participant of an Affiliate Member.
<b>Player</b>	Any player, whether Adult or Youth, who has duly registered with Cal South.
<b>Protest, Appeal and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee</b>	The PAD is a Cal South Standing Committee responsible for Disciplinary issues. Any Disciplinary decisions of the National Cup Competition Panel (NCCP) may be appealed to the <b>PAD</b> . Contact your District Commissioner or the Cal South office for the proper procedures. All decisions of the <b>PAD</b> are final and as such no further appeals will be heard.
<b>Referee Committee</b>	The Cal South Referee Committee.
<b>Registration</b>	The signing of intent to play the sport of soccer and the paying of fees to become a member of US Youth Soccer.
<b>Roster Continuity</b>	The team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the Cal South Online System Team Registration roster and National Cup competitions by maintaining a minimum of nine (9) players common to the rosters of both. Player retention shall be based on the Cal South Registration System Team roster as of November 15th of the current seasonal year, except Under 19 teams.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Roster Freeze date</b>	This is the date from which the Tournament Rosters cannot be changed.
<b>Rostering</b>	Assignment of a registered player to a team's tournament roster.
<b>State Cup Appeals Committee (SCAC)</b>	State Cup Appeals Committee also referred to in this document as <b>SCAC</b> . This is an Appeal committee as defined by the Cal South Board of Directors to provide an appeal process for any <b>non-disciplinary</b> adjudications, including team and player eligibility decisions, made by the National Cup Competitions Panel.
<b>Suspension</b>	The temporary withdrawal of rights and privilege, 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.
<b>Team</b>	A group of registered and rostered players playing on the same side in soccer games
<b>Team Game Roster</b>	Team Tournament Roster showing the activated players selected for the respective game adhering to the Competition Rules for the maximum number of players for the Age group, Transferred players and Club Passed players allowed.
<b>Team Registration Roster</b>	Team Roster as defined and Activated in the Cal South Registration System for the respective Seasonal year.
<b>Team Roster</b>	Means a list of registered players eligible to play for a team.
<b>Team Tournament Roster</b>	Team Registration Roster submitted to the respective Competition through the Cal South Registration System.  Team Tournament Roster may include Transferred players and Club passed players based on the respective Rules of the Competitions.
<b>US Soccer Federation (USSF)</b>	The United States Soccer Federation, Inc.



<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>U S Youth Soccer Inc.</b>	The United States Youth Soccer Inc.
<b>US Youth Soccer Cal South National Championship Series (National Cup)</b>	This is the Cal South National Championship Competition also referred in this document as National Cup.
<b>US Youth Soccer Policy</b>	This is the US Youth Soccer Policy on Players and Playing Rules.
<b>US Youth Soccer National Championship Policy (USYSNC Policy)</b>	This is the US Youth Soccer National Championship Policy document as published by US Youth Soccer also referred to in this document as USYSNC Policy.
<b>Venue</b>	<p>The Venue is defined as the facility that includes the fields of play and any structures on the Venue property.</p> <p>For the purposes of this document the Venue <b>Parking Lot(s)</b> <b>are not</b> considered part of the Venue.</p>
<b>Voluntary release</b>	The removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player.
<b>Youth Player</b>	A person who has not reached the age of nineteen (19) prior to August 1 of the Seasonal Year.