Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association 2010 Outdoor Cup Information

| 2010-C EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA STATES CUIP | Eastern Pennsylvania State Cup National Championship Series (NCS) | The Eastern Pennsylvania State Cup— National Championship Series (NCS) competition is an open competition that draws teams that participate at the highest levels of competition in US Youth Soccer, Region I, and EPYSA Application Fee: \$200 |
|---|--|--|
| | Presidents Cup | The Presidents Cup is an open competition that is focused on high-level teams that wish to play in a competition that offers a statewide championship where the winners advance to regional and national play Application Fee: \$175 |
| EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION | EPYSA Challenge Cup | The EPYSA Challenge Cup is an open competition that draws teams that wish to participate in an EPYSA-wide competition which crowns a statewide champion Application Fee: \$150 |

Each year EPYSA will offer three Outdoor statewide Cup competitions. Teams may only enter one of these competitions each seasonal year. The three competitions offered are:

1) State Cup – The Eastern Pennsylvania State Cup is the first leg of competition in the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS). The EPYSA State Cup competition is an open competition that draws teams that participate at the highest levels of competition throughout the state and region. The State Cup champion advances to US Youth Soccer Region I Championships. Regional champions advance to compete in US Youth Soccer National Championships in late July.

The EPYSA NCS competition will be conducted in two specific time periods that aligns the play with the age groups and selected external soccer conflicts. The competition is divided as follows:

March to May (previously known as Spring Cup Play) – during this period we will conduct the State Cup (NCS) for the U-12 to U-14 girls and U-12 to U-17 boys age groups.

| 2010 State Cup (NCS) Playing Dates & Roster Freeze Dates | | | | |
|--|------|--------|---------------|--------------------|
| Age | Male | Female | Playing Dates | Roster Freeze Date |
| U-12 (8 v 8) | Х | X | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-12 (11 v 11) | X | X | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-13 | Х | X | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-14 | X | X | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-15 | Х | N/A | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-16 | Х | N/A | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-17 | Х | N/A | March to May | March 15, 2010 |

May to June (previously known as June Cup Play) – during this period we will conduct the State Cup (NCS) for the U-18 and U-19 boys and the U-15 to U-19 girls age groups.

| 2010 State Cup (NCS) Playing Dates & Roster Freeze Dates | | | | |
|--|------|--------|---------------|--------------------|
| Age | Male | Female | Playing Dates | Roster Freeze Date |
| U-15 | N/A | Х | May to June | May 25, 2010 |
| U-16 | N/A | Х | May to June | May 25, 2010 |
| U-17 | N/A | X | May to June | May 25, 2010 |
| U-18 | Х | Х | May to June | May 25, 2010 |
| U-19 | Х | X | May to June | May 25, 2010 |

2) The Presidents Cup – the Eastern Pennsylvania Presidents Cup is a statewide championship that is part of a national tournament. Presidents Cup is an open competition that is focused on high level teams that wish to play in a statewide competition that also offers opportunity at the regional or national level. The EPYSA Presidents Cup champion advances to Region I Presidents Cup. Regional winners advance to the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup.

The Presidents Cup for U-13 to U-17 boys and girls will be conducted during the March to May time period.

| 20 | 2010 Presidents Cup Playing Dates and Roster Freeze Dates | | | | |
|------|---|--------|---------------|--------------------|--|
| Age | Male | Female | Playing Dates | Roster Freeze Date | |
| U-13 | X | X | March to May | March 15, 2010 | |
| U-14 | X | X | March to May | March 15, 2010 | |
| U-15 | X | X | March to May | March 15, 2010 | |
| U-16 | X | Χ | March to May | March 15, 2010 | |
| U-17 | X | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 | |

3) EPYSA Challenge Cup – the Eastern Pennsylvania Challenge Cup is an open competition that draws teams that wish to participate in an EPYSA-wide competition which crowns a statewide champion.

The Challenge Cup for U-9 to U-17 boys and girls will be conducted during the March to May time period.

| 2010 EPYSA Challenge Cup Playing Dates & Roster Freeze Dates | | | | |
|--|------|--------|---------------|--------------------|
| Age | Male | Female | Playing Dates | Roster Freeze Date |
| U- 9 (8 v 8) | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-10 (8 v 8) | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-11 (8 v 8) | Х | X | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-11 (11 v 11) | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-12 (8 v 8) | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-12 (11 v 11) | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-13 | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-14 | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-15 | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-16 | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |
| U-17 | Х | Х | March to May | March 15, 2010 |

The planned game dates for each of the three competitions will be established after entries for the age groups are closed and they will be published as part of the scheduling process.

Application Information

To enter the 2010 US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS), Presidents Cup, or the EPYSA Challenge Cup, complete the application form electronically by visiting www.epysa.org. If not paying online by credit card, please send a check payable to EPYSA for:

State Cup (NCS) \$200 Presidents Cup \$175 EPYSA Challenge Cup \$150

Make sure to include the team name, cup entered, age, and gender on the check. All entries must send a copy of the current league-approved roster to:

EPYSA Cup Entry 2 Village Road, Suite 3 Horsham, PA 19044 Or fax to: 215-657-7740

For the March to May Competition (State Cup (NCS) and all Presidents Cup and Challenge Cup play) the following applies:

If the application is mailed please send it to the address listed above and note that it must be received and/or postmarked not later than **February 15, 2010.** Metered mail is not acceptable for a postmark, only US Postal Service postmark will qualify. The online application will be closed at midnight on **February 15, 2010**.

For the May to June State Cup (NCS) Competition the application deadline is **May 1, 2010.**

If the application is mailed please send it to the address listed above and note that it must be received and/or postmarked not later than **May 1, 2010.** Metered mail is not acceptable for a postmark, only US Postal Service postmark will qualify. The online application will be closed at midnight on **May 1, 2010**.

2010 Outdoor Cup Competition Information Summary

I. General Information for the State Cup (NCS), the Presidents Cup, and EPYSA Challenge Cup

Only US Youth Soccer/EPYSA teams will be accepted and a team may enter only one cup competition. Players can only play for one State Cup (NCS), Presidents Cup, or EPYSA Challenge Cup team.

Teams applying for the cup competition must compete in a four (4) team US Youth Soccer/EPYSA or other NSA affiliated travel league during the seasonal year and have played at least one (1) game prior to the start of cup competition. The league competition must consist of a minimum of one (1) game against each of three (3) different teams participating in the league. Select or tournament teams are not eligible for any cup competition.

Any outstanding fees and fines due EPYSA must be paid prior to the start of cup competition for a team to eligible to compete.

In compliance with US Soccer's Policy 212-1 "Participation in Affiliated organizations," any team applying to play in the EPYSA cup competition that is part of an organization/club that has a recreational, in-house, and/or intramural program that is not affiliated with EPYSA may be asked to indicate the Federation-affiliated organization that the recreational, in-house, and/or intramural players are registered with.

II. Roster Information for the State Cup (NCS), Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup Competitions

A. Roster Size

Cup rosters can include only primary players—secondary or guest players are not eligible to play on any cup team. Rosters sizes for the competitions are as follows:

| | | Maximum Roster Size | | | |
|------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|--|
| Age | Playing Size | State Cup (NCS) | Presidents Cup | Challenge Cup | |
| U-9 | 8 v 8 | N/A | N/A | 14 | |
| U-10 | 8 v 8 | N/A | N/A | 14 | |
| U-11 | 8 v 8 | N/A | N/A | 14 | |
| U-11 | 11 v 11 | N/A | N/A | 18 | |
| U-12 | 8 v 8 | 18 | N/A | 14 | |
| U-12 | 11 v 11 | 18 | 18 | 18 | |
| U-13 | 11 v 11 | 18 | 18 | 18 | |
| U-14 | 11 v 11 | 18 | 18 | 18 | |
| U-15 | 11 v 11 | 18 | 18 | 18 | |
| U-16 | 11 v 11 | 22 | 22 | 22 | |
| U-17 | 11 v 11 | 22 | 22 | 22 | |
| U-18 | 11 v 11 | 22 | N/A | N/A | |
| U-19 | 11 v 11 | 22 | N/A | N/A | |

B. Roster Freeze Information

After the roster freeze date no roster may be altered for spring league play until cup competition for that team is completed. The following guidelines apply to the competitions:

- 1) For teams playing in the Spring Region 1 Premier League, rosters freeze at noon the Wednesday before the first game scheduled in a team's Premier League age group or the EPYSA roster freeze date for their playing dates whichever comes first.
- 2) The EPYSA roster freeze dates are as follows:
 - March to May Competition (State Cup (NCS) and all Presidents Cup and Challenge Cup play) - March 15, 2010
 - May to June Competition (the specified State Cup (NCS play)) May 25, 2010
- 3) For Region 1 Premier League teams that will participate in the State Cup (NCS) May and June Cups competition, their roster for the EYPSA Cup play will freeze at noon the Wednesday before the first game scheduled in a team's Premier League age group or the EPYSA roster freeze date for their playing dates whichever comes first.

- 4) For teams playing in Colonial League games, rosters freeze on the applicable EPYSA Cup roster freeze date for their age group's playing dates for the competition that the team has entered.
- 5) Please Note: ONCE A TEAM ROSTER IS FROZEN FOR STATE CUP PLAY, THAT ROSTER REMAINS FROZEN UNTIL THE TEAM IS ELIMINATED FROM CUP PLAY.

C. Transfer Players

A team is limited to five (5) transfer players. A team must maintain continuity of rosters between league and cup competition. For U15 and below teams a minimum of nine (9) players must be common to both league and cup rosters. For U-16 and older teams, a minimum of eleven (11) players must be common to both league and cup rosters.

PLEASE NOTE: A transfer player is ineligible for the State Cup (NCS), the Presidents Cup and/or the Challenge Cup Competition if they engaged in NCS competition in this seasonal year in any other National State Association (NSA).

D. Schedule

Once the cup draw is completed, the cup commissioner and the state office will prepare the schedule. The cup commissioner and/or the EPYSA President or Chief Executive Officer can exercise discretion and change the schedule after it is published if a participating team will be missing players due to Regional and/or National Team commitments or because of Region I Premier League conflicts. Any other schedule changes must follow the procedures outlined in the cup competition rules and regulations.

III. Key Dates for the 2010 State Cup (NCS), the Presidents Cup and Challenge Cup Competitions

A. March to May Competition Dates (for appropriate State Cup (NCS), all Presidents Cup, and all Challenge Cup age groups)

Each entry will be notified of the exact time and date of the cup draw.

No games will be played before the roster freeze date—**March 15, 2010**. No games will be scheduled on the weekends of April 3/4 and May 8/9 (except teams not participating in the semi-finals and finals of the Region I Premier League). Cup Semi-finals will be on the weekend of May 1/2 and the finals on May 15/16, 2010 AT Thornbury Soccer Park and Delacy Soccer Complex hosted by West Chester United SC.

B. May to June State Cup (NCS) Competition Dates

Each entry will be notified of the exact time and date of the cup draw.

No games will be played before the roster freeze date—**May 25, 2010**. No games will be scheduled on the weekend of June 12/13 (Region I ODP Tournament). Semi-finals and finals will be on the weekend of June 19/20, 2010 at Hempfield High School Complex hosted by Hempfield Soccer Club in Lancaster, PA.

C. Fields

Each club must designate a Field Coordinator who will be EPYSA's contact for field issues. EPYSA will not deal with individual coaches on field matters.

Home Fields: To be considered for a home game(s), each team must list a home field that their club/field owner has approved for their use in cup competition. Please note that submitting a home field does not guarantee a team a home game. Teams that do not have a home field will be required to post a \$200 bond to EPYSA to cover possible field

fees in the event that a field must be rented to conduct a cup game (where both teams do not have a home field).

IV. The Presidents Cup Specific Information

Any team participating in the 2010 Presidents Cup will be ineligible to participate in the 2010 State Cup (NCS) or EPYSA Challenge Cup.

The Presidents Cup will be a World Cup format event for all ages. Games will be played at home/away fields. An age group requires four (4) teams for competition to be offered. If less than four (4) teams enter, combined age groups may be created at the discretion of the Cup Commissioner. The winners of the World Cup format brackets will advance to the appropriate single-elimination bracket (i.e. divisional playoffs, quarter-finals, semi-finals, etc.).

Competition will start after the roster freeze date—March 15, 2010.

Winners of the Presidents Cup competition will not represent EPYSA at the US Youth Soccer Region I Championships, and there will not be a playoff with the State Cup (NCS) champion or EPYSA Challenge Cup champion.

Winners of the Presidents Cup will be expected to represent EPYSA at the President's Cup Regional competition on <u>May 28-31, 2010 in Albany/Saratoga Springs, New York</u>. The winners of the Presidents Cup Region 1 competition would then go on to play in the Presidents Cup National Championships on <u>July 8-11 in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.</u>

V. EPYSA Challenge Cup Specific Information

Any team participating in the 2010 EPYSA Challenge Cup will be ineligible to participate in the 2010 US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS) or President's Cup.

In the U-11 and U-12 EPYSA Challenge Cup age divisions, both an 11 v 11 format (maximum roster of 18 players) and an 8 v 8 format (maximum roster of 14 players) will be offered. Teams may enter only 1 competition: 8 v 8 OR 11 v 11.

The EPYSA Challenge Cup will be a World Cup format event for all ages. Games will be played at home/away fields. An age group requires four (4) teams for competition to be offered. If less than four (4) teams enter, combined age groups may be created at the discretion of the Cup Commissioner. The winners of the World Cup format brackets will advance to the appropriate single-elimination bracket (i.e. divisional playoffs, quarter-finals, semi-finals, etc.).

Competition will start after the roster freeze date—March 15, 2010.

The EPYSA Challenge Cup competition ends at the state level.

VI. State Cup (NCS) Specific Information

Any team participating in the 2010 State Cup (NCS) competition will be ineligible to participate in the 2010 Presidents Cup or EPYSA Challenge Cup.

Competition will be single elimination for all ages for boys and girls.

Competition will start after the roster freeze date – March 15, 2010.for the March to May Competition dates and May 25, 2010 for the May to June Competition Dates.

All games prior to the semi-finals and finals will be on a home/away basis. Note that home field means home area and specific home fields are not guaranteed.

U-11 and U-12 Formats

In the U-12 State Cup (NCS), both an 11 v 11 format (maximum roster of 18 players) and an 8 v 8 format (maximum roster of 14 players) will be offered. <u>Teams may enter only one competition (11 v 11 or 8 v 8).</u>

The State Cup (NCS) winners will advance to the US Youth Soccer Region I Championships to be held <u>July 1-6, 2010 in Barboursville, West Virginia</u>. The winners of the Region I Championships will then go on to represent Region I at the USYS National Championships on <u>July 19-25, 2010 in Overland Park, Kansas.</u>

Entry into the State Cup (NCS) competition acknowledges the above and also represents an agreement to participate in the Region I and US Youth Soccer National competitions. Should the State Cup (NCS) champion renege on this obligation, the championship may be forfeit and the team subject to a \$500 fine. If the fine is not paid, the sponsoring organization, including all of its teams, players, etc., will be considered in "bad standing" until the fine is paid.

Should EPYSA receive a wild card slot for the Region I competition, the State Cup (NCS) runner-up will represent EPYSA and is subject to the fine and rules and regulations as described above.