

MESSAGE FROM THE CUP DIRECTOR TO ALL 2010 MARYLAND STATE CUP PARTICIPANTS

Thank you for entering the 2010 Maryland State Cup competition. Please read the Cup Rules prior to the commencement of play.

MSYSA ROSTERS and MATCH REPORTS

Each team must complete a separate Match Roster & Report for each game played. There will be a match roster/report posted on the Maryland State Youth Soccer website prior to the beginning of cup play for 2010. Match reports must be completed and signed by the players **PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MATCH and on the field of play**. Uniform numbers on the match report must match the numbers being worn by the players in the match. They must also match the numbers on the copy of the team's MSYSA Roster attached to the match report. In the first 3 rounds of the State Cup, the opposing team official verifies the match report, and then must initial to confirm the accuracy of the player uniform numbers and names. If there have been uniform number changes since your MSYSA roster was certified, note the corrections on the copy of the roster attached to the match report prior to the start of the match.

After the match the referee are to complete the bottom portion of the match report form, listing all cards and the match score. A Team Official must then sign the match report form, acknowledging the score and information regarding any cards issued during the match. Objections to the information on the match report must be made to a Cup Official prior to signing the form and within thirty (30) minutes of the conclusion of the Cup match. If a team fails to sign the match report form without lodging a timely objection with a Cup Official, the match report will stand as being accurate. Completed match report forms are to be turned in to the Field Marshal, the **home** team's team official, who is responsible for delivering the match reports to either the Age Group Coordinator or to site headquarters immediately following the match.

First and Second Round Matches: The Field Marshal is responsible for delivering the match reports for both teams together with the copies of the teams' rosters to the Age Group Coordinator or site headquarters immediately after the match. Both Match Reports from each team, with the official rosters must be stapled together. This is mandatory in order for the cup committee to determine the teams that qualify for the next round of play.

Third Round, Semi Finals and Final Matches: The winning team's team official is responsible for delivering the match reports for both teams together with the copies of the teams' rosters to the Age Group Coordinator or site headquarters immediately after the match to receive information and instructions for the next rounds of competition. Both Match Reports from each team, with the official rosters must be stapled together. This is mandatory in order for the cup committee to determine the teams that qualify for the next round of play.

All matches must be played to a conclusion; there must be a winner. Information regarding overtime and penalty kick procedure is included in the Cup Rules.

ALL TEAMS MUST HAVE PLAYER PASSES FOR ALL PLAYERS AT THEIR CUP MATCH.

VOLUNTEERS

In order for the State Cup to run efficiently, all 2009 State Champions will provide at least one (1) volunteer, who will be that age group's coordinator. Each State Champion, or returning seeded team, **MUST** designate a Club Representative. In the event that a team's volunteers do not fulfill their responsibilities, the team performance bond will be forfeited and an additional performance bond of \$500 will be required prior to the team's next scheduled match. Failure to submit an additional performance bond will result in disqualification from Cup play.

COMPETITION SCHEDULES

State Cup schedules will be coordinated with league schedules to avoid conflicts. State Cup matches take precedence over **all scheduled** competitions, except for Region 1 Premier and Colonial League games and the National League (*Saturday games only*) per the agreement by all the Region 1 State Association Presidents. No other scheduling requests will be honored.

Any unusual circumstances will be considered if they are presented in writing to the Cup Director (mdstatecup@msysa.org) **and** Coordinators (cupschedules@msysa.org; girlscup@msysa.org) prior the season starting, stating the specific or unusual circumstance during the entire period of Cup play. Conflicts noted by teams in regards to the schedule are subject to review by the cup committee.

CHANGES TO TEAM ROSTERS

All changes made to the roster must be completed, approved by a registrar, and a new copy of the roster must be submitted to the State Office no later than the age group's roster freeze date.

The roster freeze dates are as follows:

Age Groups	Date of First Age Group Competition	Roster Freeze Date
U13	Saturday, October 17, 2009	Friday, October 9, 2009
U14 – U17	Saturday, April 10, 2010	Saturday, April 3, 2010
U18	Saturday, May , 2010	Friday, April 30, 2010
U19	TBA	TBA

**These freeze dates do not apply to the team's participating in the National and/ or Region I Premier or Colonial Leagues. The freeze date for these teams is their first league game.*

REFEREES AND REFEREE FEES

Only USSF certified referees will be used for cup matches. The diagonal system of control must be used for Cup matches. Each team is responsible for one half (1/2) of the applicable match fees. **THE FEES MUST BE PAID IN CASH PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MATCH.**

At this time, MSYSA is working on a 2010 contract with the Maryland State Referee Committee for State Cup matches. Once this contract is agreed upon, the referee fees for 2010 will be posted for all teams competing in the 2010 State Cup. *

TWO REFEREE SYSTEM MUST NOT BE USED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE

If only two referees show up for a match, one will act as a referee and the other will serve as an assistant referee. A volunteer from one of the teams, chosen by the referee, will serve as the other assistant referee, with responsibilities designated by the referee. In this situation, the fee shall be the total of the referee's fee and one assistant referee's fee. Each team will pay half of the total.

OVERTIME FORMAT

In all State Cup matches, two full overtime halves will be played in which a winner will NOT be declared until the entire period has been played. Should the overtime period be completed without either team scoring, then the match will be decided by the FIFA's Kicks from the Stripe.

The length of matches, ball size and tie-breaking rules for each age group shall be as follows:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Match Length</u>	<u>Overtime Period</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>
Under-19	Two 45' halves	Two 15' halves	5
Under-18	Two 45' halves	Two 15' halves	5
Under-17	Two 45' halves	Two 15' halves	5
Under-16	Two 40' halves	Two 15' halves	5
Under-15	Two 40' halves	Two 15' halves	5
Under-14	Two 35' halves	Two 10' halves	5
Under-13	Two 35' halves	Two 10' halves	5

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS -- CONTACT:

MSYSA 1st Vice President – Cup Director

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