2027 INDIANA CUP TOURNAMENT RULES

US Youth Soccer Indiana State Cup Championships
US Youth Soccer Indiana State Presidents Cup
The Indiana Challenge Cup

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PART I: TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION

Rule 101. DEFINITIONS

Except as otherwise provided, the following definitions apply to the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and the Challenge Cup:

(1) **Appeal.** An action submitted during the Cup Competition, by a team coach, to the Indiana Soccer Tournament and Cup Committee, because of a decision rendered by the Cup Protest Committee.

(2) **Assignor.** A person, licensed by the United States Soccer Federation (USSF), authorized by the State Referee Administrator (SRA) to assign referees to State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup games.

(3) **Bond.** A "good faith" payment made to ensure that a team entered to play in the State Cup, Presidents Cup, or Challenge Cup will play in all their scheduled tournament games.

(4) **Club Coach.** A coach issued a pass by Indiana Soccer as requested by a club, allowing them to participate as a team official for any team in the same club. Club Coaches might not appear on a roster.

(5) **Club Member.** Any person associated with the club – player, coach, administrator, parent, etc.

(6) **Club Pass Players.** A player passed to a different team in the same club other than their primary team.

(7) **Double-Blind Draw.** A process used to place teams in tournament brackets for each age division. One draw will pick the bracket, and the other will pick the team playing in that bracket.

(8) **Event Roster.** A list of registered players available to participate in an event.

(9) **Game Roster.** A list of players who will participate in a particular game or competition.

(10) **Play-In Game**. A game played to determine the final teams to play in the Preliminary, Semi-Final, or Finals round of play. A play-in game is played when the number of teams qualified and selected for an event exceeds the number of bracket positions for a particular age division.

(11) **Premier Team**. A premier team is one that plays all its primary games in a designated premier league. For the purposes of these Cup games, premier leagues are designated in Rule 203.

(12) **Primary Player.** Players on the team roster and designated as primary meaning that the listed team is their primary team assignment.

(13) **Protest.** An action submitted during the Cup Competition, by a team coach, to the Cup Protest Committee, related to the qualifications of competitors, interpretation of Cup rules, or any dispute as it may relate to the State Cup, Presidents Cup, or the Challenge Cup.

(14) **Protest Committee.** A select group of TCC members, as appointed by the Tournament Director, to make decisions on filed protests.

(15) **Protest Committee Representative**. A member of the TCC serving on the Protest Committee and physically located at one of the Preliminary Round or Finals sites.

(16) **Roster Freeze Date.** The date designated by Indiana Soccer, after which the player roster of a team entering the State Cup, Presidents Cup, or the Challenge Cup may no longer be changed.

(17) **Seasonal Year**. The seasonal year is from September 1 through August 31.

(18) **Secondary Player**. A player rostered to a second team. Players listed as secondary on a roster are not eligible to participate in any Indiana Soccer Cup competition for that Secondary Team.

(19) **Select Team/Tournament Team**. A team comprised of players who may be registered to more than one team rostered only for the purpose of attending: (1) a tournament sanctioned by another National State Association, or (2) international tournaments sanctioned by Indiana Soccer. Tournament teams are not eligible to play in the State Cup, Presidents Cup, or the Challenge Cup.

(20) **SRA/SYRA.** The State Referee Administrator, State Youth Referee Administrator, or designee is responsible for coordinating the obtaining, training, scheduling, and assigning of game officials for each play-in, preliminary, semi-final and final game in the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup competitions.

(21) **TCC.** The Indiana Soccer Tournament and Cup Committee.

(22) **Team**. A recognized entity organized for the purpose of playing the sport of soccer.

(23) **Team Official**. A person who possesses an approved Indiana Soccer pass and is listed on the event roster. A team official may be a coach, assistant coach, manager, or trainer.

(24) **Transfer Player**. Any player who has moved from one team roster to another team roster in a different club, or returns to the same roster, in the same seasonal year.

(25) **US Youth Soccer.** The United States Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

(26) **USSF.** The United States Soccer Federation.

Rule 102. ESTABLISHMENT

Section 1. The US Youth Soccer Indiana State Cup Championships

(1) In accordance with the policies and rules of the US Youth Soccer National Championships Committee and US Youth Soccer, Indiana Soccer shall conduct individual, and separate, state championships for boys and girls in age groups determined each year by the TCC. The official name of this event for Indiana Soccer is The US Youth Soccer Indiana State Cup Championships (hereinafter referred to as the "State Cup").

(2) State Cup winners in each age group, both boys and girls, upon approval of the TCC and Indiana Soccer, shall advance to and represent Indiana in the US Youth Soccer National Championships. Wildcard berths may be awarded to second place teams as determined by the National Championships Committee. A team who fails to fulfill this obligation will automatically be replaced by another team in that age group as determined by the TCC.

Section 2. The US Youth Soccer Indiana Presidents Cup

(1) In accordance with the policies and rules of the U.S. Youth Soccer Presidents Cup Committee and US Youth Soccer, Indiana Soccer shall conduct individual, and separate, state championships for boys and girls in age groups determined each year by the TCC. The official name of this event for Indiana Soccer is The US Youth Soccer Indiana Presidents Cup (hereinafter referred to as the "Presidents Cup").

(2) Presidents Cup winners in 13U-19U age groups, both boys and girls, upon approval of the TCC and Indiana Soccer, shall advance to and represent Indiana in the US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup National Qualifier. Wildcard berths may be awarded to second place teams as determined by the Presidents Cup National Qualifier Committee. A team who fails to fulfill this obligation will automatically be replaced by another team in that age group as determined by the TCC. An Indiana team (13U-19U) that wins its age group competition at the Presidents Cup National Qualifier level will automatically advance to the US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup national finals.

Section 3. The Challenge Cup

Indiana Soccer shall conduct individual, separately conducted; championships for boys and girls in age groups determined each year by the TCC. The official name of this event is The Challenge Cup. The Challenge Cup competitions are established in accordance with the policies and rules of Indiana Soccer.

Rule 103. AWARDS TO TEAMS AND PLAYERS

Section 1. The State Cup and Presidents Cup
First and second place teams will receive a team award. The players and coaches of the first and second place teams will each receive individual medals.

Section 2. The Challenge Cup
First and second place teams will receive a team award. The players and coaches of the first and second place teams will each receive individual medals.

Rule 104. ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. US Youth Soccer
The overall administration of the US Youth Soccer National Championships at the National and State levels and the US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup competitions at the National, National Qualifier, and State levels is vested in the US Youth Soccer Board of Directors.

Section 2. Indiana Soccer
In Indiana, administrative oversight of the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup competitions is vested in the Indiana Soccer Executive Director and is based on the policies and rules established by Indiana Soccer and US Youth Soccer.

Section 3. The Cup Director and Cup Committee
The Indiana Soccer Executive Director will establish a Tournament and Cup Committee (TCC) and approve its chairperson. The chairperson will subsequently appoint its members and a Cup Director. The Cup Director, who may be the chairperson of the TCC, has the authority and responsibility for all administrative, organizational, and rule decisions related to the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup and the proper execution of all Cup competitions. The Cup Director reports directly to the Executive Director.

Section 4. Dates, Fees, Rules, and Locations
Based on the authority in Section 3 above, the TCC shall establish the deadline date for entry, fees, dates, rules, and the sites for all Play-In, Preliminary, Semi-Final, and Final game competitions. The deadline date and dates of play for the Cup competitions will be based on the play dates established by US Youth Soccer National Championships and US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup.

Section 5. Other Matters
The TCC shall decide any tournament and cup competition matter for the good of Indiana Soccer. The TCC shall have the authority to oversee any matters not covered within this document. Only matters that the TCC feels that it cannot resolve will be forwarded to the Indiana Soccer Executive Director for final resolution. Decisions made by the TCC or the Executive Director under this rule may be appealed to the Indiana Soccer Board of Directors.

Rule 105. GAME PRECEDENCE

Section 1. Precedence
All Indiana Soccer Cup competition games shall take precedence over all other youth games.

Section 2. League Scheduling
Indiana Soccer affiliated leagues will minimize the scheduling of league games during preliminary and finals weekends at the host site(s) for the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup games. All cup game(s) and referee scheduling shall take precedence over league games.

Section 3. Other Competitions
Teams who accept entry into other sanctioned tournaments or competitions on the same weekend that any State Cup, Presidents Cup, or Challenge Cup event is scheduled, in anticipation of their team not advancing, and the team does advance, must comply with the game schedule published by the TCC or risk additional penalties.

Rule 106. NOTICES

Section 1. Outgoing
All notices pertaining to Cup competitions will be placed on the Indiana Soccer administrative web site as soon as reasonably possible. All notices will be emailed to club and team officials as listed in the team application.

Section 2. Incoming
All notices and other communications required to be given under this policy, and these rules shall be in writing and shall be addressed to the TCC.

Section 3. Rules and Rule Changes
A copy of the rules to be used during the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup competitions will be published on the Indiana Soccer website. All changes to the rules must be posted to the Indiana Soccer website no later than 15 days prior to the start of the first Cup game. All participating teams will receive notification of specific rule changes in addition to posting the rules.

Rule 107. FEES
Entry fees, bond payments, and other fines for the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup will be reviewed and approved annually by Indiana Soccer.

Rule 108. MEETINGS
The date(s), time, and location of all meetings will be sent to the club president/DOC, team contact(s), and placed on the Indiana Soccer website.

Rule 109. SPORTSMANSHIP

Section 1. Pre-Game Sportsmanship
Prior to the kick-off, both teams and the match officials shall “walk-on” to the field together and exchange handshakes.

Section 2. Policies and Rules
Coaches, players, teams, and referees are expected to read and adhere to all Cup rules and policies regarding behavior.

Section 3. Code of Conduct
The Coach of each team is responsible for ensuring that all team officials, players, and parents/guardians read and comply with the Indiana Soccer Code of Conduct document.

Section 4. Control of the Sideline
Players, managers, coaches, and fans are expected to conduct themselves within the letter and spirit of the **Laws of the Game**. The Cup Director or the Cup Director’s representative at any Cup site shall have the authority and responsibility to remove any person(s) from the tournament for abuses of good conduct. All spectators must remain on the opposite side of the field, directly across from their team. Spectators must remain no closer than 10 feet or established spectator line from touchline. No spectators are allowed along the goal line between the corner flags.

Section 5. Cameras

Cameras (stationary and/or handheld) must be set up on spectators' side of the field near midfield, a minimum of 10-feet from the touchline, and must be secured to the ground with stakes and/or weights.

No cameras are allowed along the bench side touchline or behind either goal line.

PART II: ORGANIZATION OF THE COMPETITION

Rule 201. THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS LEVEL OF COMPETITION

Section 1. The US Youth Soccer Indiana State Cup Championships

The US Youth Soccer National Championships competition shall be conducted at the following levels:

(1) State Level (State Cup) The first level of competitions for all boys and girls age groups 13U–19U is at the State level. This is considered a premier level tournament and is officially titled The US Youth Soccer Indiana State Cup Championships.

(2) National Level. The final level of competitions for all boys and girls age groups 13U–19U is at the national level. This is considered a premier level tournament and is called the US Youth Soccer National Championships.

Section 2. The US Youth Soccer Indiana Presidents Cup

The US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup competition shall be conducted at the following levels:

(1) State Level (Presidents Cup) The first level of competitions for all boys and girls age groups 11U–19U is at the State level. This event is officially titled The US Youth Soccer Indiana Presidents Cup.

(2) National Qualifier Level. The second level of competitions for all boys and girls age groups 13U–19U is at the National Qualifier level. This is called the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup Qualifier.

(3) National Level. The third and final level of competitions for all boys and girls age groups 13U–19U is at the national level. This is called the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup.

Section 3. The Challenge Cup

This tournament is conducted at the state level only. All boys and girls age groups in 11U-17U and 19U* age divisions for the Challenge Cup will be determined each year by the TCC. Age group winners in the Challenge Cup do not advance to any higher level of competition.

**19U has a minimum registration requirement of 4 boys' and/or 4 girls' teams for that age/gender to participate in Challenge Cup.*

Rule 202. COMPETITION FORMATS FORMATS

Section 1. Age Groups

The TCC shall determine in which age groups, whether boys or girls, or both; it will conduct Cup competitions. In addition, the TCC will also determine the selection, drawing, rules, and play-in policy for all age groups.

Section 2. Play Format

The play format used to determine teams representing Indiana Soccer as its state champion for each cup event, shall be established by the TCC. The TCC, at its discretion, may seed teams in each age division (See Appendix A).

Section 3. Small-Sided Game Format

(1) The 9 v 9 small-sided format, as approved by the Indiana Soccer Board of Directors, will be used for all 11U and 12U age divisions.

(2) 11U and 12U teams may enter the Presidents Cup or the Challenge Cup. Small-sided teams may not enter the State Cup.

(3) 11U and 12U teams will not be allowed to play up to a different age format. 10U or younger teams will not be allowed to enter the 11U division.

Section 4. Play-In Games

(1) The need for play-in games will be determined by the TCC based on the number of team entries received for an age group. Play-in games may be scheduled for any age division where it may be necessary to limit entries to a fixed number of teams in a particular age division.

(2) **Any team required to play a play-in game prior to the scheduled Roster Freeze Date** (Rule 203, Section 5)**, will have their team rosters frozen 72 hours prior to the kickoff of the play-in game.**

(3) Teams playing in a play-in game will be determined as part of the double-blind draw system for each age division. The date, time, and location of the draw shall be announced by the TCC in accordance with Rule 106 and be open to the entire membership.

(4) The home team (listed first in the team pairing) will coordinate the date, time and location of the play-in game and provide that information to the Cup Director and the Indiana Soccer office no later than the date set by the TCC. The play-in game will be played at the home team's facility or a mutually agreed upon location. Teams that cannot agree as to the date, time, and location of a play-in game will play their play-in game at a location, date, and time as determined by the TCC.

(5) The SRA/SYRA, or the designated representative, will schedule referees for all play-in games.

(6) All teams will complete these games no later than the final date allowed for play-in games as published by the TCC.

(7) Play-in games will not end in a tie (Rule 211, Section 4).

(8) If a team drops out of the preliminary round after the completion of all play-in games in that bracket, the losing team from a play-in game may be invited to fill that vacancy.

(9) Teams that do not advance out of the play-in round will have a portion of their entry fee returned as determined by the TCC.

Section 5. Preliminary Round

(1) Time/Location. Preliminary Round competition dates will be determined by the TCC and posted on the Indiana Soccer website. The number/location of teams entering the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup competition shall determine the final number of playing sites and their location. Indiana Soccer Affiliated Club(s) may be asked to assist in hosting these competitions. The TCC Chair will select the host clubs. Host Clubs shall be responsible for meeting all requirements as outlined in the Host Club Agreement.

(2) Team Check In. Team officials will check-in players and team officials with physical passes before the start of each game with the referees/tournament officials.

(3) Format. It is mandatory for all non-USYS member teams, N1 Premier 1, ISL Champions, and ISL Premier teams to apply for STATE Cup. Not all these teams will be accepted into State Cup. Only ISL first division and lower and N1 Premier 2 teams who are not selected for State Cup will be considered for placement in Presidents Cup.

A. State Cup.
   1. The State Cup will be limited to 13U–19U, boys' and girls' teams. All age divisions will be limited to a maximum of 16 teams each.
   2. Participating teams will be selected by a ranking process outlined by the TCC giving DOCs (or their designee) of participating teams in each age group an opportunity for input. The TCC will have final approval. All Teams will be placed in brackets using a double-blind draw process of first selecting the bracket and then selecting the team. Two (2) or more teams from the same club may end up in the same preliminary round bracket. In the event this happens, teams from the same club in the same bracket will play each other first for group play. The normal order of games to be played will resume after this game(s).
   3. The preliminary round competition shall be in a round robin or crossover format (see Appendix A).

4. Each age division will play the appropriate number of games in its bracket based on the number of teams in that bracket. See Appendix A for team advancement. No more than four (4) teams will advance to the Semi-Final round from each age division.

B. Presidents Cup
   1. The Presidents Cup will be limited to 11U–19U, boys' and girls' teams. All age divisions will be limited to 16 teams each. Only USYS ISL first division or lower and N1 Premier 2 or lower teams are allowed to participate in Presidents Cup.
   2. Participating teams will be selected by a ranking process outlined by the TCC giving DOCs (or their designee) of participating teams in each age group an opportunity for input. The TCC will have final approval. All Teams will be placed in brackets using a double-blind draw process of first selecting the bracket and then selecting the team. Two (2) or more teams from the same club may end up in the same preliminary round bracket. In the event this happens, teams from the same club in the same bracket will play each other first for group play. The normal order of games to be played will resume after this game(s).
   3. 11U–19U USYS ISL first division or lower teams that are not selected for Presidents Cup may be offered the opportunity to participate in the Challenge Cup.
   4. The same rules apply as listed above (3-4) from State Cup format.

C. Challenge Cup
   1. The Challenge Cup is restricted to Indiana Soccer registered 11U – 17U, 19U*, boys' and girls' teams participating in USYS sanctioned league, except teams participating in ISL's Champions or Premier level divisions. If more than 16 teams enter an age division, the division may be divided into two (2) equal age divisions or play-in games may be used to determine the final 16 teams. The maximum number of teams that will be accepted for any age group/gender will be 32 teams. The first 32 teams to apply will be accepted. **19U has a minimum registration requirement of 4 boys' and/or 4 girls' teams for that age/gender to participate in Challenge Cup.*
   2. All Teams will be placed in brackets using a double-blind draw process of first selecting the bracket and then selecting the team. Two (2) teams from the same club will not be placed in the same bracket unless the number of teams from a single club exceeds the number of brackets available in one gender and age group.
   3. If, due to the withdrawal of a team, a preliminary bracket contains three (3) or fewer teams, the TCC may place teams in different brackets. In addition, the TCC may redraw any age group if the withdrawal reduces the total number of teams in that age group competition to a level which would eliminate the need for one round of competition.
   4. The preliminary round competition will be in a round-robin or crossover format (see Appendix A).
   5. Each age division will play the appropriate number of games in its bracket based on the number of teams in the bracket. Winners of each bracket, based on total points, will advance to the semifinal round of competition. No more than four (4) teams will advance from each age division. In those cases where there are more than 4 brackets, quarterfinal games will be added to reduce the division to four (4) teams for semifinals.

D. Any team entry received after the stated entry deadline for any cup competition will be given the option to be "wait listed." Any waitlisted teams may be added to the competition to fill out a bracket or to replace a team that withdraws from the competition after the cup draw.

E. The Cup Committee reserves the right to adjust any age division/bracket structure in the State Cup, Presidents Cup, or Challenge Cup based on the number of teams participating.

(4) Game/Field Schedule. The Cup Committee will determine the game/field schedule for each age division at each Preliminary Round site.

Section 6. Semi-Finals/Finals

(1) Time and Location. The semi-final and/or finals will generally be held late May/early June. Indiana Soccer Affiliated Club(s) may be asked to assist in hosting these competitions. The TCC Chair will select the host clubs. Host Clubs shall be responsible for meeting all requirements as outlined in the Host Club Agreement.

(2) Format. Semi-Final and/or Final competition shall be in a single elimination format. Not all divisions will have semifinal or final games. The TCC will determine which divisions will have semifinals and finals based on the number of entries in the event and the competition level.

(3) Game/Field Schedule. The TCC will determine the game/field schedule for each age division.

Section 7. Advancement

(1) Upon approval by the TCC and Indiana Soccer, 13U–19U age division champions in the State Cup competition shall represent Indiana Soccer at the US Youth Soccer National Championships.

(2) Upon approval by the TCC and Indiana Soccer, 13U-19U age division champions in the Presidents Cup competition shall represent Indiana Soccer at the US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup National Qualifier event.

(3) After the semifinalists have been determined, each 13U-19U team participating in Presidents Cup or State Cup will be required to declare if they will accept their bid to Presidents Cup National Qualifier and Presidents Cup Nationals or USYS National Championships should they win their respective Cup.

(4) Teams participating State Cup, Presidents Cup, or Challenge Cup who have earned advancement from any preliminary round games to finals and then refuse the advancement will be fined a minimum of $1000 and may also be declared ineligible for any cup play the following year.

(5) Teams participating in State Cup or Presidents Cup who have earned advancement and have declared that they will accept their bid and then refuse the advancement to USYS National Championships/Presidents Cup National Qualifier event, or Presidents Cup National Qualifier to Presidents Cup National event will be fined a minimum of $3000 and may also be declared ineligible for any cup play the following year. The fine collected will be forwarded to the team selected to fill the vacancy to offset the travel expenses for that team.

(6) Age division champions in the Challenge Cup do not advance to a higher level of competitive play.

Rule 203. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. The State Cup

13U–19U teams will be eligible for the State Cup if all the following criteria are met:

(1) USYS, N1, and all other US Soccer member organization teams are eligible to apply for the Indiana Soccer State Cup Championships.

(2) The team roster is comprised of properly registered youth players as defined by US Soccer and Indiana Soccer and contains a minimum of 9 players from the team's league roster.

(3) The team has an approved US Soccer member organization roster, and that roster contains at least 50% Indiana resident players.

(4) The team has competed/entered in an Indiana Soccer approved league of at least 4 teams and play consists of a minimum of one game against each of three (3) different teams in that league in the current seasonal year. Teams in specific leagues or league levels are limited to the cup event in which they may participate and must meet the criteria listed in Section 5 below.

(5) The team is not a Select team according to Rule 101-19.

(6) The team has submitted the entry form on time with proper payment and acknowledges the Indiana Soccer Code of Conduct.

Section 2. The Presidents Cup

11U–19U teams will be eligible for the Presidents Cup if all the following criteria are met:

(1) Only USYS and N1 teams who meet the league competition level restrictions are eligible to participate in Presidents Cup.

(2) The team roster is comprised of properly registered youth players as defined by US Soccer and Indiana Soccer and contains a minimum of 9 players from the team's league roster.

(3) The team has an approved US Soccer member organization roster.

(4) The team is not a Select team according to Rule 101-19.

(5) The team has submitted the entry form and proper payment.

(6) The team has competed/entered in an Indiana Soccer approved league of at least 4 teams and play consists of a minimum of one game against each of three (3) different teams in that league in the current seasonal year. Teams participating in ISL Champions, ISL Premier, and N1 Premier 1 levels are not eligible to participate in Presidents Cup.

Section 3. Challenge Cup

11U–19U teams will be eligible for the Challenge Cup if all the following criteria are met:

(1) The team roster is comprised of properly registered youth players as defined by US Youth Soccer and Indiana Soccer and contains a minimum of 9 players from the team's league roster.

(2) The team has an approved Indiana Soccer roster.

(3) The team is not a Select team according to Rule 101-19.

(4) The team has submitted the entry form and proper payment.

(5) The team has competed/entered in an Indiana Soccer approved league of at least 4 teams and play consists of a minimum of one game against each of three (3) different teams in that league in the current seasonal year. Teams participating in certain ISL levels of play are limited in the cup event in which they may participate.

Section 4. Team and Game Rosters

Every team entered in State Cup, Presidents Cup, or Challenge Cup shall have a US Soccer member organization approved event roster.

(1) Team Event/Game Roster.
   A. The Indiana Soccer Registrar shall approve the team roster.
   B. Minimum team event roster limits are as follows:
      (a) 11U-12U teams: 6 players
      (b) 13U-19U teams: 9 players
   C. Maximum team event roster limits are as follows:
      (a) 11U-12U teams: 16 players
      (b) 13U-19U teams: 22 players
   D. Players not participating in the game will be held to the same standards of conduct specified in **Law 5**. They may be ordered to leave the site for irresponsible behavior. Any player so ordered will not be allowed to participate in their next scheduled Cup game.

Section 5. The Roster Freeze Date

At a date determined by Indiana Soccer, in accordance with this Section and Rule 104, Section 4, the rosters of all teams participating in the State Cup, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup will be frozen after which no team may make any player change to their Cup roster. The roster, as of the date of the roster freeze, is the roster the team must play with throughout

the duration of their participation in the state level of their respective cup competition. State Cup and Presidents Cup teams advancing to National Qualifier and/or National Championship levels may add or change club pass players in accordance with the rules and policies set forth by US Youth Soccer and the National Qualifier rules that govern participation in those events. Coaching changes may be made at any time for any cup event.

Rule 204. FORFEITS FOR FAILURE TO COMPETE

Section 1. Withdrawal from Competition

(1) Any team that withdraws from these competitions after having entered the competition, but before the Cup selections/seeding (State & Presidents Cup) or draw (Challenge Cup), shall not be penalized.

(2) Any team that withdraws after the brackets have been posted, but before the schedules have been officially published, shall forfeit its registration fee.

(3) Any team that withdraws after the schedules have been officially published and before all the preliminary games have been played for their Cup division shall forfeit its registration fee and may be suspended from all Cup competitions for the following Cup year. The Club to which that team belongs shall be fined $500.00.

Section 2. Missing Games

(1) Any team missing a particular game during any Cup event for any reason shall forfeit their entry fee, and the Club to which that team belongs may be fined $500.00. The game will be recorded as a forfeit.

(2) Any team who forfeits a game in Preliminary Round play for any reason, will not be allowed to advance to the Semi-Final/Final round of competition.

Rule 205. PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. General

Each player and team official must have an approved US Soccer member organization player/team official pass. The pass must contain a recent picture of the individual. All members of the team must be registered to the same US Soccer member organization.

Section 2. Roster and Club Passing

(1) **Club Pass Players**. Teams may Club Pass players for Cup competition. A Club Pass process is provided to clubs to designate these players. The Club Pass players must be designated by the roster freeze deadline. Once a player is club passed to a team, they may only participate with that team during that event stage.

(2) For USYS/Indiana Soccer registered teams, players listed on the team's official Indiana Soccer State registration Roster as of the roster freeze date will be on the frozen event roster for cup unless the club submits changes prior to the freeze date/time that affect only the cup roster.

Rule 206. BREACH OF RULES

Section 1. Investigations

The Cup Protest Committee is responsible for investigating and rendering a decision on a properly protested alleged violation immediately after receipt.

Failure of any team official, player, or parent to cooperate with that investigation or accept the decision of the Protest Committee may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

Section 2. Disciplinary Actions

Any team found guilty of using an ineligible player will forfeit the game in which the ineligible player participated and is not eligible to compete further in the Cup competition in the current seasonal year. Other sanctions may also be taken against that player or team. Any coach, manager, or team official found guilty of knowingly using an ineligible player is not eligible to compete further in the Cup competitions in the current and subsequent seasonal year. A player found guilty of submitting falsified birth information is prohibited from competing further in the Cup competitions in the current and subsequent seasonal year. These violations may not be appealed.

Rule 207. PROTESTS AND APPEALS

Section 1. Protest

(1) The Protest Committee. The Cup Director shall appoint the Protest Committee. The Cup Director, or a designated representative, shall serve as Chairperson. Protest Committee members will not participate in decisions involving or affecting players/teams from Clubs of which they are members.

(2) Qualifications. All questions related to the qualifications of competitors, interpretation of rules, or any dispute or protest whatever, shall be in writing and be referred to the Cup Protest Committee, whose decisions shall be final.

(3) Protest Submission. An official protest must be submitted in writing, by the team's Primary Coach as listed on the Team Event Roster. The protest can be submitted via email. For play-in games, the protest will be submitted to the Indiana Soccer State Office, ATTN: Cup Protest Committee, no later than 24 hours following the conclusion of the game being protested. For all other games, the protest will be submitted directly to the Cup Director, or a designated representative~~,~~ within one (1) hour after the conclusion of the game being protested. Referee's judgment will not be a basis for protest.

(4) Protest Bond. A $350 bond must accompany all protests. Club check or cash will be accepted as payment. If the protest is upheld, the bond will be returned. If the protest is denied, the bond will be retained.

(5) Notifications/Procedure. Upon receipt of an official protest, the Cup Director, or a designated representative at the Site location, will notify the Primary Coach of the teams involved that a protest has been filed. The Cup Director, or designated representative, will convene the Protest Committee as soon thereafter as is reasonably possible upon receipt of the protest. The Committee may elect to hear from any or all witnesses wishing to testify and may solicit such testimony from game officials, teams, and other witnesses. The Protest Committee will make its decision as soon as is reasonably possible after all the information is received. All decisions are to be made in accordance with these rules and the guidelines set forth in IFAB Laws of the Game, the USSF Administrative Handbook, and US Youth Soccer.

(6) Decisions. The decisions of the Protest Committee shall be by a simple majority vote with the Cup Director, or designated representative, authorized to vote only in the event of a tie. At the conclusion, The Cup Director, or designated representative, will forward the decision of the Protest Committee to the Primary Coach of both teams. A copy of the decision will be kept on file at the Indiana Soccer State Office.

Section 2. Appeals

(1) Process. The decisions of the Protest Committee may be appealed only to the TCC. An appeal must be made in writing and filed within 24 hours of receipt of the Protest Committee's decision accompanied by a $500 bond fee. If the appeal is upheld, the bond will be returned.
(2) Decisions. The decisions of the TCC are final.

Rule 208. SCOREKEEPING AND GAME REPORTING

Section 1. Reporting

(1) Game Results will be posted on the Indiana Soccer web site within 48 hours of completion,

(2) The Cup Director will issue a preliminary tournament report to the Cup Committee and the Indiana Soccer Executive Director within 45 days of the completion of the tournament. The final report will be issued approximately 60 days following the conclusion of the event.

Rule 209. RECORDING OF "SEND-OFFs"

Section 1. Administration

The TCC at each site maintains a record of all infractions that result in send-offs (red cards). This record is compiled from "Official Game Cards" completed and submitted by game referees.

Section 2. Retention of Player Cards

The Cup Committee no longer needs to retain passes for ejected players or team staff. Suspensions are now tracked electronically.

Section 3. Send-Offs

(1) Any player or team official receiving a sendoff from a game shall be ineligible to participate in that team's next Cup game. At the discretion of the Cup Committee, the suspension could be increased and could result in more than a one game suspension. No substitution shall be permitted for a player who has been sent off in a particular game.

(2) Send-offs will carry over from one Cup year to the next Cup year. If a player/team official received a sendoff or was dismissed from the last game of any of the previous year's Cup events, that player/team official must sit out their suspension starting with the first game of the current year's Cup games or at the first game of the USYS National Championships or Presidents Cup National Qualifier if the team has advanced to Nationals or the National Qualifier level. This also applies to a sendoff received in the last game of regional or national play.

(3) Player Send-Off's.

A. A player shown a red card (send-off) from a game must remain seated at the coach's side at all times during the remainder of the game. The coach will be responsible for the action(s) of the sent-off player.

B. If a sent-off player seated on the bench causes a disturbance, the player will be ejected from the site. The TCC may take action against the coach if the sent off player violates the spirit of this rule.

C. The player's official pass will not be held by the referee and turned into the tournament headquarters. The sendoff will be recorded on the game card and turned into the Cup Headquarters for records management of the suspension. The suspended player's name will be stricken out on the remaining event game rosters until the suspension has been served.

(4) Team Official Send-Off's.

A. Team officials playing in the Cup competitions are expected to exhibit the highest level of sportsmanship.

B. A team official sent off from a game must completely leave the playing site area and cannot return to the playing field after the completion of the game. The term "playing site area" for the purpose of these Cup games is defined by the TCC as an area where the play cannot be seen or heard. A member of the Cup Committee or his designee at the playing site will escort the team official from the playing area.

C. The team official sent off is not allowed to have any contact with the team, in any form, for the remainder of the match. The team official sent off will not participate in coaching the team or providing any technical or tactical information in any visible or audible manner. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of any form of electronic means (i.e., cell phone, 2-way radio) or communication through a third party.

D. The team official that has been sent off will serve a one game suspension (or more at the discretion of the TCC). The suspension must be served during the next cup game for that team. The official will not be allowed near the playing

site area, as described above, during that game and will not be allowed to have contact with the team during the game.

E. **Any team official sent off from a game will be assessed a $250 fine and may be paid immediately at tournament headquarters. The CLUB will be responsible if not paid by the team official.**

F. The team official's pass will not be retained by the referee and turned into the tournament headquarters. The send-off will be recorded on the game card and turned into the Cup Headquarters for records management of the suspension. The suspended team official's name will be crossed out on the remaining event game rosters until the suspension has been served.

G. **Any CLUB COACH sent off will be fined $500.00 and may be paid immediately at tournament headquarters. The CLUB will be responsible if not paid by the Club Coach.**

H. A Club Coach (carded as an official club coach) who is sent off will not be permitted to participate with any team in any way for the rest of the competition. (Example: a club coach sent off during the preliminary rounds could not return for the remainder of the preliminary rounds but could return for the finals. If the club coach is sent off in the finals, they could not return for the duration of the finals competition.)

Section 4. Reporting
The Cup Director will forward to the appropriate USYS contact a list of all send-offs that must be served during the National Championship and Presidents Cup National Qualifier.

Section 5. Reviews
The TCC shall review each send-off to determine if additional penalties should be recommended to the Indiana Soccer Disciplinary Committee.

Rule 210. PASSES AND ROSTERS

Section 1. Player Passes
Players who do not have a proper player pass will NOT be allowed to participate in the event with the team.

Section 2. Team Official's Passes
There will be no more than four (4) team officials on the team side of the bench at any one time. Team officials who do not have a proper team official pass must receive authorization directly from the TCC. This authorization may be written or verbally communicated to the game referees. Team officials without a proper pass may be required to show a photo ID.

Section 3. Event and Game Rosters
The TCC will maintain a copy of the approved event roster for every team at headquarters. The TCC provides the game cards which contain the approved event roster. Only players typed on the approved game roster are allowed to participate in the game.

Rule 211. PLAYING RULES

Section 1. "Laws of the Game"
All Cup games shall be played in accordance with IFAB Laws of the Game, except as modified by USSF, US Youth Soccer, and/or Indiana Soccer.

Section 2. Start Times
(1) All games will start at the scheduled time.
   A. The minimum number of players required to start a full-sided game is seven (7), one of whom shall be designated as the goalkeeper.

B. The minimum number of players required to start a small-sided game is six (6), one of whom shall be designated as the goalkeeper.

C. Any team with less than the minimum required number of players at the scheduled start time shall have their game declared a forfeit.

(2) If extenuating circumstances develop while a team is traveling to the game site, and less than the required minimum number of players are available to start at the start time, the Cup Director, or his designated representative at a Preliminary Round site, may grant an extended grace period. As soon as the minimum number of players arrive, the game shall start. In no case will the grace period extend beyond 30 minutes from the originally scheduled start time, unless mutually agreed to by the home team, the visiting team, and the Cup Director. Should the team not arrive by the mutually agreed adjusted time, the team requesting the delay will forfeit the game.

Section 3. Age Groups

Except as otherwise provided, the length of the game and ball size for each age group shall be as follows:

Age Group	Game Length	Halftime	Size
17U/19U	2 x 45 min halves	10 min	#5
15U/16U	2 x 40 min halves	10 min	#5
13U/14U	2 x 35 min halves	10 min	#5
11U/12U	2 x 30 min halves	10 min	#4

Section 4. Ties after Regulation Play

(1) Play-in games will not end in a tie. If the game is tied at the end of regulation play, the game will proceed directly to Penalty Kicks with no Extra Time played.

(2) In Preliminary Round play, if the game is tied at the end of regulation play, the game will stand as a tie.

(3) Semi-Final/Final games will not end in a tie. In the Semi-Finals, if the game is tied after regulation play, the game will proceed directly to Penalty Kicks with no Extra Time played.

Section 5. Penalty Kicks

When taking "Penalty Kicks," the following procedures will apply:

(1) Each team shall select five (5) players to kick from the players on the field at the conclusion of the regulation play period. When a team finishes the match with a greater number of players than their opponents, they shall reduce their number to equate with that of their opponents and inform the referee of the name and number of each player excluded. The team captain has this responsibility.

(2) The referee tosses a coin, and the team whose captain wins the toss can choose to either kick or receive.

(3) Teams shall alternate kicks.

(4) If, before both teams have taken five (5) kicks, one team has scored more goals than the other team could, even if it were to complete its five kicks, taking kicks shall cease and the score reported.

(5) If, after both teams have taken five (5) kicks, both have scored the same number of goals or have not scored any goals, the taking of kicks shall continue, in the same order, until such time as both teams have taken an equal number of kicks, and one team has scored a goal more than the other.

(6) Each kick is taken by a different player, and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick.

Section 6. Unfinished Games

Unfinished games due to any cause shall be replayed in their entirety if neither team is at fault and play has not begun in the second half. If play is stopped during the second half and play cannot be resumed and if neither team is at fault, the TCC may deem the game complete. However, if play is stopped at any time due to the fault of one of the teams, it shall be at the discretion of the TCC whether the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit. Games that must be played to determine the outcome of a bracket will be given scheduling priority over games that have no bearing on the outcome of a bracket.

Section 7. Coaching Limitations and Dissent

(1) One team official at a time may convey tactical instructions to the players during the match. All team officials must remain within the confines of the technical area. They must behave in a responsible manner. No team official or spectator is allowed behind the goal during a game. The technical area is limited to players and no more than four (4) team officials.

(2) There shall be no dissent between players/team officials and the referee. Questioning the referee is considered dissent. Team officials are expected to solicit the support of their fans in monitoring this policy. Tournament officials are authorized to have unruly spectators removed from the playing area.

Section 8. Home Team

The team listed first shall always be the Home Team. The team listed as the Home Team will wear light jerseys. The team listed as the Visitor will wear dark jerseys. If a conflict should arise, the inappropriately dressed team will change or forfeit.

Section 9. Scores and Standings

(1) The standing of teams within brackets is based upon the number of points earned in qualifying games. Teams earn points as follows:

- Three (3) points for a win (including forfeits)
- One (1) point for a tie, and
- Zero (0) points for a loss

(2) In the event of a forfeited game, the team forfeiting the game will not be allowed to advance out of their group to the semi-finals. The team declared the winner of a forfeited game shall receive three (3) points for the win and a score of 5-0. No other scoring points will be awarded. All games previously played against the forfeiting team shall be re-scored 5-0 with 3 points awarded for the win; all remaining games to be played against the forfeiting team will be scored in the same manner.

Section 10. Tie Breakers

(1) Two (2) Team Tiebreaker Sequence

If two (2) teams are tied based on points earned, the team's placement will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria:

- Winner of head-to-head
- Winner of most matches
- Goal difference (Max Goals of +5)
- Fewest goals allowed
- Penalty Kicks
    - If both teams are not present, the Competition Management Team may replace the Penalty Kicks tiebreaker with a coin toss to break the tie.

(2) Three (3) Team Tiebreaker Sequence

If three (3) teams are tied based on points earned, the final rankings will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria. If a criterion creates a situation where the three-way tie is completely broken, then that determines the final order of finish between those three (3) teams. If a criterion separates just one (1) team, then the two (2) teams that are still tied based on that criterion will resort to the two-team tiebreaker to determine the order of finish between those two (2) teams.

- Points earned in head-to-head competition among the tied teams
- Winner of most matches (all matches)

- Goal difference in matches among the tied teams (Max Goals of +5)
- Goal difference in all matches (Max Goals of +5)
- Fewest goals allowed in matches among the tied teams
- Fewest goals allowed in all matches

(3) Four (4) Team Tiebreaker Sequence
If four (4) teams are tied based on points earned, the final rankings will be determined in accordance with the 3-Team tiebreaker sequence. If a criterion creates a situation where the four-way tie is completely broken, then that determines the final order of finish between those four (4) teams. If a criterion breaks a portion of the tied teams, then the tiebreaker shall move to the tiebreaker that coincides with the number of teams that remain tied.

(4) To determine WILDCARD winners, tied teams from the same bracket will use penalty kicks (Rule 211, Section 5) to determine who advances. Tied teams from different brackets will be scheduled a separate game to be played at a mutually agreeable date and time. The teams will have 48 hours after the conclusion of their preliminary round games to agree on a date. If the teams fail to agree on a date, the TCC will select the date and time. The TCC will determine the location. (Rationale – teams in the same bracket have already played to a tie, penalty kicks will determine the winner. Teams from different brackets have not yet played head-to-head.)

(5) If at any time, in any division, for any cup, a wildcard team needs to be determined and the division brackets are not even (meaning teams did not all play the same number of preliminary round games), the results will be doubled for the remaining 2 teams in a bracket after the bracket winner is advanced. This will give the second best bracket team a third result and make them equally eligible for the wildcard option.

Section 11. Substitutions *(will update as necessary to align with 2027 USYS Cup rules)*

All games shall be played with the substitution rules outlined in the IFAB Laws of the game with the exceptions outlined below:

(1) Exceptions for State Cup -
   A. 13U-14U games: **Unlimited** substitutions over **three (3) moments** per ***half*** plus halftime.
   B. 15U-18/19U games: **Unlimited** substitutions over **four moments** per ***match*** plus halftime.
   C. Substitutions can occur at any stoppage with the referee's approval. Re-entry is permitted at designated substitution points or at any time during play if the referee permits.
   D. Concussion/Head Injury Substitution Policy:
   If a player is suspected of having a head injury, the referee and/or qualified health profession (event assigned medical staff) may send the player off the field to be evaluated by a qualified health professional. The player suspected of having a head injury may be replaced with a temporary substitute that will not count toward the team's normal substitution limits.

   If the player is cleared by a qualified health professional, they may return to the match, the temporary substitute player must come off, and no substitution is charged to the team.

   If the player is not cleared and permanently removed, the change becomes a concussion substitution. In that case, both teams receive one additional substitution and the opponent can make one additional substitution of one, singular player.

   *If the team official recognizes a potential head injury, they must notify the referee that they are temporarily removing the player to be evaluated for a concussion before the substitute enters the game. If the referee is not notified prior to the substitution, the substitute will count toward the team's normal substitute limits.

(2) Exceptions – Presidents Cup and Challenge Cup: All Games.
   A. At all Presidents Cup and Challenge Cup games, unlimited substitutions are permitted.
   B. Substitutions can occur at any stoppage with the referee's approval. Re-entry is permitted at designated substitution points or at any time during play if the referee permits.
   C. If the referee dismisses a goalkeeper, the referee may allow the team to replace the goalkeeper with another player. The team must still play short with another player leaving the field of play.

D. If a player is suspected of suffering a head injury, they must be substituted for evaluation by the event's health care professional. If the player with the suspected head injury has received clearance from the event's health care professional, the player may re-enter the game.

Rule 212. REFEREE ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. The SRA/SYRA
The State Referee Administrator (SRA), State Youth Referee Administrator (SYRA), or their designee is responsible for obtaining, training, scheduling, and assessing game officials.

Section 2. Conflict of Interest
Any referee appointed to officiate in a Cup competition shall not be a present member or related to a member of either of the competing teams or clubs.

Section 3. Referee Responsibilities
The duties of the referee and assistant referee are as defined in the "Laws of the Game."

Section 4. Non-Performance of a Referee
In the event the appointed referee fails to appear, the SRA/SYRA, or their designee will provide replacement referees. At no time will a two-person referee system be allowed.

Rule 213. OFFICIAL GAME CARD

Section 1. Completion
The official records of tournament games are the game cards provided by the TCC and filled out by the game referees and retained by the Cup Director. Indiana Soccer and the TCC, in consultation with the Referee Committee, will establish the format and content of the card.

APPENDIX A

Any scenario that does not fit any description below will be determined by the TCC for the good of the game.

	State Cup	Presidents Cup	Challenge Cup
4 Teams	• 1 bracket • Round robin (3 games each team) • top 2 teams by points advance to final match	• 1 bracket • Round robin (3 games each team) • top 2 teams by points advance to final match	• 1 bracket • Round robin (3 games each team) • Champion is determined by points.
5 Teams	• 1 bracket • Round-robin (4 games each team) • Champion is determined by points from round-robin games	• 1 bracket • Round-robin (4 games each team) • Champion is determined by points from round-robin games	• 1 bracket • Round-robin (4 games each team) • Champion is determined by points from round-robin games
6 Teams	• 2 brackets of 3 teams each • Teams will play round-robin within bracket (2 games each team) • Top two teams by points in each bracket will advance to finals weekend.	• 2 brackets of 3 teams each • Teams will play round-robin within bracket (2 games each team) • Top two teams by points in each bracket will advance to finals weekend.	• 2 brackets of 3 teams each • Teams will play all games as crossover games (3 games each team) • The top 2 teams by points without regard to bracket (Both teams could come from the same bracket) to play a championship game.
7 Teams	There will be no divisions with exactly 7 teams	There will be no divisions with exactly 7 teams	There will be no divisions with exactly 7 teams
8 Teams	• 2 brackets of 4 teams each • Round robin (3 games each) • Bracket winners and runners-up will advance to semi-finals.	• 2 brackets of 4 teams each • Round robin (3 games each) • Bracket winners and runners-up will advance to semi-finals.	• 2 brackets of 4 teams each • Round robin (3 games each) • Bracket winners will advance directly to finals.
9 Teams	• 3 brackets of 3 teams • Teams will play round-robin within brackets (2 games each) • Bracket winners and 1 wildcard team will advance to semi-finals.	• 3 brackets of 3 teams • Teams will play round-robin within brackets (2 games each) • Bracket winners and 1 wildcard team will advance to semi-finals.	• 3 brackets of 3 teams • Teams will play round-robin within brackets (2 games each) • Bracket winners and 1 wildcard team will advance to semi-finals.
10 Teams	• 1 bracket of 4 teams (will play round robin for 3 games each) and 2 brackets of 3 teams that play all games as crossover games (3 games each). • Top team from bracket of 4 will advance to semi-finals, top 2 teams by points will advance from crossover games to semi-finals • Wildcard team will advance to semifinals.	• 1 bracket of 4 teams (will play round robin for 3 games each) and 2 brackets of 3 teams that play all games as crossover games (3 games each). • Top team from bracket of 4 will advance to semi-finals, top 2 teams by points will advance from crossover games to semi-finals • Wildcard team will advance to semifinals.	• 1 bracket of 4 teams (will play round robin for 3 games each) and 2 brackets of 3 teams that play all games as crossover games (3 games each). • Top team from bracket of 4 will advance to semi-finals, top 2 teams by points will advance from crossover games to semi-finals • Wildcard team will advance to semifinals.
11 Teams	There will be no divisions with exactly 11 teams	There will be no divisions with exactly 11 teams	There will be no divisions with exactly 11 team

12 Teams	• 4 brackets of 3 teams each (2 games each) • Bracket winners advance to semi-final	• 4 brackets of 3 teams each (2 games each) • Bracket winners advance to semi-final	• 3 brackets of 4 teams each (3 games each) • Bracket winners and a wildcard team will advance to semi-finals
13 Teams	There will be no divisions with exactly 13 teams.	There will be no divisions with exactly 13 teams	• Will use a play-in game to reduce the number of teams to 12. • See 12 Team division above
14 Teams	• 2 brackets of 3 teams, and 2 brackets of 4 teams • 3 team brackets will play all 3 crossover games (3 games each). • 4 team brackets will play round robin within bracket (3 games each). • Top 2 teams from crossover games by points will advance to semifinals, and Top team from brackets of 4 will advance to semifinals.	• 2 brackets of 3 teams, and 2 brackets of 4 teams • 3 team brackets will play all 3 crossover games (3 games each). • 4 team brackets will play round robin within bracket (3 games each). • Top 2 teams from crossover games by points will advance to semifinals, and Top team from brackets of 4 will advance to semifinals.	• 2 brackets of 3 teams, and 2 brackets of 4 teams • 3 team brackets will play all 3 crossover games (3 games each). • 4 team brackets will play round robin within bracket (3 games each). • Top 2 teams from crossover games by points will advance to semifinals, and Top team from brackets of 4 will advance to semifinals.
15 Teams	• 3 brackets of 4 teams each and 1 bracket of 3 teams. • All teams play round-robin within their bracket. • Winner of each bracket advances to the semi finals	• 3 brackets of 4 teams each and 1 bracket of 3 teams. • All teams play round-robin within their bracket. • Winner of each bracket advances to the semi finals	• 3 brackets of 4 teams each and 1 bracket of 3 teams. • All teams play round-robin within their bracket. • Winner of each bracket advances to the semi finals
16 Teams	• 4 brackets of 4 teams each • All teams play round-robin within their bracket. • Winner of each bracket advances to the semifinals.	• 4 brackets of 4 teams each • All teams play round-robin within their bracket. • Winner of each bracket advances to the semifinals.	• 4 brackets of 4 teams each • All teams play round-robin within their bracket. • Winner of each bracket advances to the semifinals.
17+ Teams	There will be no divisions with more than 16 teams.	There will be no divisions with more than 16 teams.	The TCC will determine how the games will be played, and it will be announced at the Challenge Cup Draw