



2008

NORTH CAROLINA ADULT STATE CUP

Captains Handbook

Asheville
Weather Hotline: (828) 299-7277



NORTH CAROLINA ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC.

POLICY

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ARTICLE 3 NC STATE CUP

Section 1 Roster Requirements

The following are roster requirements for team and players applying to enter NCASA State Cup.

- A. Requirement that apply for all division of play
 1. Teams and players must be registered and in good standing with the NCASA.
 2. All players must possess their current NCASA player passes for the duration of the tournament to participate.
 3. To register or to add new players to new or existing teams, teams must register through a local association. Team rosters will consist of a maximum 20 players, including guest players.
 4. A maximum of 5 guest players are allowed.
 5. All guest players and player transfers must be go through a local association.
 6. Guest players must be currently registered NCASA players and possess their current player pass. Players with out of state player registration passes are not permitted to play in any division of the NC Adult State Cup.
 7. Players may register in two separate divisions
 8. The team's NCASA stamped league rosters must be submitted.
- B. Requirement specific to Men's Amateur divisions
 1. Any men's amateur team participating in the NCASA State Cup must be comprised of the players that are registered to that team during current league play.
 2. A minimum of 9 players from the current roster is required.
 3. Guest players maybe registered with any NCASA affiliated league in good standing.
 4. Professional players (domestic, international and foreign born) must demonstrate approved Amateur Reinstatement from US Soccer to participate.
- C. Requirement specific to Men's Over 30 divisions
 1. Any men's over 30 team participating in the NCASA State Cup must be comprised of the players that are registered to that team during current league play.
 2. A minimum of 9 players from the current roster is required.
 3. Guest players maybe registered with any NCASA affiliated league in good standing.
 4. All players participating in the Over 30 Division must be 30 by the end of the calendar year in which the NCASA State Cup is being held.
 5. Professional players (domestic, international and foreign born) must demonstrate approved Amateur Reinstatement from US Soccer to participate.
- D. Requirement specific to divisions other than Men's Amateur and Men's Over 30
 1. These teams are not bound to a league roster therefore teams are allowed to be created for the purpose of participating in the State Cup.
 2. All players must be register with an NCASA member league and have valid player passes.
 3. Professional players (domestic, international and foreign born) must demonstrate approved Amateur Reinstatement from US Soccer to participate.
 4. Coed teams must have a minimum of 5 female players on the field at all times.
 5. All players participating in the Men's Over 40 Division must be 40 by the end of the calendar year in which the NCASA State Cup is being held.

- Men's Over 50 teams are allowed to have three underage players, age 49 years old by the end of the calendar year in which the NCASA State Cup is being held.

Section 2

Rules and Regulations

A. Pre-Match Responsibilities

- Uniforms:** All players must wear completely covered, legal shin guards and have cleats that meet FIFA standards. Jewelry is not permitted to be worn on the field of play during match play. All team jerseys must be clearly numbered. The goalkeeper's jersey must be of a different color than either teams' jerseys. The HOME team, as listed on the tournament schedule, MUST change to alternative jerseys if there is a color conflict in the opinion of the officials.
- Captains Meeting & Team Check-In:** Team contact/captain must be present at the captain's meeting for team check-in at the tournament headquarters. Upon arrival you will provide a mobile phone number where they can be reached throughout the dates of the event. If your team is not going to be at team check-in, you must notify NCASA to arrange a pre-tournament check-in at the NCASA offices or your team will be dropped from the schedule. At team check-in you MUST have a copy of your final roster as approved by NCASA on or before the roster freeze deadline AND all the validated player passes of each of the players listed on your state cup roster, INCLUDING guest players with photos and signatures.

B. Field Check-In

Teams must be on time, at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start. 10 minutes past the scheduled start time will constitute a forfeit. (refer to FORFEITS) Seven players will constitute a team and the clock will start accordingly. Captains need to be ready when the referee calls for captains to present the team's certified jersey roster with the correct corresponding jersey numbers to the center referee and meet the opposing captain.

In an orderly fashion, have the individual players turn in their player pass to the center referee for ID, jersey number, and equipment check. Coaches, players, and spectators must remain between the penalty areas and 3 to 5 yards from the touchline. No one shall be behind the goal lines and goals. Each team, all coaches, and all spectators will take a position opposite the field from their opponents. If teams share one side of the field, coaching is restricted to their bench's half of the field.

C. Substitution

Substitutions can be made only on goal kicks, kickoffs, and possession throw-ins. An injured or cautioned player may be substituted at the referee's discretion. Stay off the field until the player being replaced comes off. Sub in at the midfield line with the assistant referee when Re-entry is allowed.

D. Divisions Groupings

Shall be determined by the tournament committee based on the number of entries received, the geographical distribution of teams, and the timeliness of applications received, as the priorities. Consideration of league schedule, league results, and previous tournament results will be secondary considerations.

E. Match Play Format

Each team will play the other teams in their designated group as scheduled one time. The points for bracket standings are as follows: 3 points for the win, 1 point for a tie, 0 points for the loss.

The tiebreaker will be applied in the following sequence A, B, C, D and E for ranking.

- Head to Head.** If two or more teams are tied for the same ranking, the tiebreaker will be the result of the game previously played between these two or more teams; the winner will be ranked prior to the other(s).
- If two or more teams are still tied, the tiebreaker will be the team with greatest goal differential, (with a maximum goal differential of 3 per match).
- If two or more teams are still tied, the tiebreaker will be least goals allowed.
- If two or more teams are still tied, the tiebreaker will be most goals scored.
- Finally if two or more teams are still tied, the tiebreaker will be go to kicks from the mark (FIFA).

F. Forfeits

A forfeit shall be awarded if a team is not present and prepared to play within 10 minutes of the scheduled commencement time, with the score being 3-0 in favor of the team that was there on time. The match can be played by the teams when they arrive with approval of the tournament director and both coaches, but no score will be kept. A forfeit will be issued for teams who do not follow the eligibility requirements. Any team that is issued a forfeit will lose its entire performance bond. Additional penalties may be applied. Any team that forfeits or abandons a scheduled match will not be eligible to play in the finals.

- G. Referees
All matches will be officiated by USSF certified referees. The referee must report the score of the match to the headquarters within 15 minutes of the conclusion of each match.
- H. Elimination Matches
If tied at the end of regulation time, two 15 minute overtime periods will be played. If the game is still tied after the overtime periods, the kicks from the mark (FIFA) procedure will be used to determine the winner.
- I. Wanderer's Rules
If a match is abandoned after 25 minutes of play by the official the score will stand and the match will be counted. Teams that abandon a match at any point will be considered having forfeit and may be subject to further penalties, beyond forfeiture of performance bond.
- J. Player/Coach Ejections
Any player/coach ejected from a match: will not be replaced; will not be allowed to remain at the field; the player could be subject to an immediate multiple game suspension and/or other penalties if they remain within sight and sound of the field. The player will be suspended for the next match or next league match. All player passes of ejected players/coaches will be turned into the tournament committee. The passes will be returned to the team's captain after the suspension of one match. The tournament committee reserves the right to administer additional penalties as warranted.
- K. Protests and Appeals
The North Carolina State Cup will be overseen by a tournament committee consisting of NCASA's executive director, NCASA's State Cup Commissioner, and a member of the hosting organization. All tournament committee decisions are final. However to appeal a tournament committee decision, one must submit a written appeal in triplicate to NCASA along with a \$100.00 appeal process fee and be postmarked within 72 hours of the dispute. The appeal will be heard by the executive committee of NCASA.
- L. Inclement Weather
Regardless of the weather conditions, teams must appear on the field ready to play as scheduled. Failure to appear will result in forfeiture of the match. Only the referee or tournament director may cancel or postpone a match. In case of severe weather before play, referees may reduce the length of the match by up to 50%. Should a match be terminated after 25 minutes due to weather, the match will be considered official and the score will stand. Referees should not begin or continue a match when lightning is seen in the area. In case the entire tournament is postponed, a rain date has been set. Teams are expected to participate. For more weather information call the Hotline at 336-856-0702. In case the Cup is cancelled teams will be refunded all but \$100.00 of their entry fee.
- M. Bond & National Fees
All performance bonds will be refunded in full by mail within 30 days after the tournament, barring any violation of State Cup rules and requirements. Teams under tournament committee or discipline and appeal consideration will have their performance bonds held indefinitely, until all associated matters are resolved by the appropriate NCASA governing committee. Withdrawal from the tournament after the application cutoff date, will result in forfeiture of the team's entry fee AND performance bond. Teams interested in competing in the National Cup, the Coed National Championship or the Veteran's Cup will have to pay the appropriate fees and bonds for those events. In an effort to keep the NC Adult State Cup fee as low as possible, NCASA no longer pays the entry fee of these tournaments for adult state cup division winners.
- N. Disclaimer
NCASA reserves the right to adjust the competition format depending on the number of team entries in a given division. NCASA may even close a division due to lack of team registration. In which case, the teams entered will receive the full refund of their registration and performance bond. NCASA will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any person, team, league, or any other association as a result of participating in the State Cup. By participating in the North Carolina Adult State Cup the team is acknowledging that team officials have read and understood the rules and that the team will abide by all the rules of the NC Adult State Cup. THE NC ADULT STATE CUP'S INTENTION IS TO DETERMINE A STATE CHAMPION FOR EACH DIVISION FROM THE VARIOUS LEAGUE SYSTEMS ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT NC ADULT STATE CUP IS DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF THE GOOD OF THE GAME AND GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP. THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MAY SUSPEND WITHOUT RECOURSE TO APPEAL, PLAYERS TEAMS, AND/OR COACHES WHO DEMONSTRATE POOR SPORTSMANSHIP.

Section 3

The last two weekend of October will be considered the target play dates for the Amateur divisions of the North Carolina Adult State Cup subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

SCHEDULING CONSIDERATION

Requests have been made by all not to play at 8am during the weekend and to avoid Friday night play, if possible. Since there isn't enough daylight to accommodate these requests, all should be prepared to play early morning match at some point during the weekend. Divisions with more than 8 teams should prepare to play the Final on an alternate date and location.

In the event of **weather delay**, such as frost, **ALL MATCHES** will be delayed including those on synthetic turf to start at the same time. This is to avoid having divisions with late matches on Saturday or that have divisional matches across both facilities experience unequal rest periods between games. Notice of a delay will be provided with as much anticipation as possible, but is solely dependent on the weather.

FIELD DIRECTIONS

Azalea Park - John B. Lewis Soccer Complex

near the WNC Nature Center - From I-240 take the Fairview Road exit (Home Depot East) and head east toward McDonalds and Burger King. At end of road at stoplight, turn right on Swannanoa River Road. Few miles, turn right on Azalea Road at the WNC Nature Center. Stay straight at the bridge (WNC Nature Center is located on right beyond bridge).

Buncombe County Sports Park (BCSP)

Take I-40 West to the Enka/Candler exit. Turn onto Smoky Park Highway towards Enka. Turn right on Acton Circle (just before the McDonald's). At the 4-way stop, turn left towards Sand Hill School. Entrance to BCSP is on the right. Fields are marked 1-7 on signs at the park .

Memorial Stadium/Mountainside Park

Take I240 to Charlotte Street. Take Charlotte Street south to Biltmore Avenue. Turn left on Biltmore Avenue and then turn up the hill to the right of McCormick field. At the top of the hill on the right is Memorial Stadium. Mountainside Park is across the stadium.

The following rules and regulations apply to all NCASA Adult State Cup venues:

- Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are prohibited
- Solicitation permitted only with written authority of Asheville Buncombe Youth Soccer
- Unacceptable behavior such as disorderly conduct, violent behavior, abusive language is unlawful and will not be permitted
- No pets allowed in complex at anytime
- No loitering or dumping
- Parking only in designated parking lots
- Soccer complex is for officially scheduled games only. No practice use.
- Play permitted only on designated fields
- Do not move benches or trash containers
- No defacing of property
- Pick up all trash and place in trash receptacles

VOLUNTEERISM

Assisting the Tournament

What: Each Team is to provide two (2) hours of assistance to the tournament. Teams can “buyout” with a \$25 contribution from their bond.

How: Essentially each team can designate 1-2 individuals to provide a maximum total of 2 hours of assistance to the tournament on behalf of their team. The individuals don't need to be players on the roster. The tournament will make every effort to make sure that the time spent helping doesn't conflict with being able to watch/participate in matches.

When: Teams MUST provide names of the individual(s) assisting by the final roster freeze date along with a mobile phone number, or \$25 will be assessed from their bond. Sign up with be first come, first serve via email only once the schedule for assistance is posted on the NCASA website with the match schedule.

Why: The assistance that is being asked of teams is not meant to be difficult or overly labor intensive. Simply speaking, it is intended to help tournament organizers be more involved with the ongoing tournament coordination and its application of the rules.

Some Examples of Assistance

- Friday night set up and registration.
- Distributing match reports to officials before matches.
- Collecting match reports after matches and turning them into the tournament headquarters.
- Collecting loose balls during/after matches for referees.
- Field clean up after matches.

NATIONAL CUP INFORMATION

The National Cup Competition is the oldest and most prestigious soccer tournament in the United States for any person who is a member of a team playing in a league of four or more teams affiliated with the United States Soccer Federation and the United States Amateur Soccer Association.

The competition began in 1914 for the Men's Open Cup. In 1923, the Men's Amateur Cup was added to the competition, In 1980 the Women's Amateur and Over 30 Cups were begun.

Each year, some 250 teams across the United States participate in the National Cup Competition. 250 Teams! Of these, only 8 teams will become a National Champion in one of the 8 following divisions:

<u>Men's Competitions:</u>	<u>Women's Competitions:</u>
Open Cup, Amateur Cup,	Open Cup, Amateur Cup,
Over 30 Cup & Under 23 Cup	Over 30 Cup & Under 23 Cup

All teams that wish to play in the National Cup must play in state qualifying matches to advance to their regional competition. All teams that enter into state qualifying must pay the National Cup entry fee in addition to the state's tournament costs.

National Cup Fees

Open Divisions: \$225

All Other Divisions: \$175

Rules for Regionals

The Region 3 National Cup competition is held on the last weekend of May each year. The team representing the state will have to comply with USASA National Cup rules of play and roster requirements, including:

- International Clearance – required for all foreign-born NCASA registered players. The form must be completed and submitted to NCASA no less than 31 days prior to the first day of Region 3 matches for USSF to have enough time to request and RECEIVE clearance from the player's home country.
- Amateur Reinstatement – required of players with professional status competing in non-Open Cup competitions.

For more information on the National Cup, its rules, regulations and history visit: <http://www.region3adultsoccer.org/>

or

<http://usasa.com/2006logo/default.aspx>

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