North Texas Soccer Presidents Cup
Rules and Procedures

In the event a situation arises that is not covered under the following rules, the National Presidents Cup Policy will apply. Except as otherwise provided herein, IFAB Laws of the Game as modified by US Youth Soccer shall apply.

Rule 101. Team Eligibility

Section 1. The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered North Texas Soccer youth players (as defined by US Youth Soccer).

Section 2. The team cannot be in Elite Division of the Lake Highland Girls Classic League or the CCSAI Boys Classic League.

a. Lake Highlands Girls Classic League or the CCSAI Boys Classic League to 10 teams, any team currently in place 5 (5) or below in the Elite Division standing may petition the North Texas Soccer Presidents Cup Committee to be considered eligible for this competition.
b. The committee will consider current standing, teams played, and the previous year's division to assist in making the decision. Teams must register for the event to begin the process.

Section 3. The team must demonstrate the continuity of rosters between the league and every level of the Presidents Cup competitions by maintaining a minimum of nine (9) players common to the rosters of the team at every level of the competitions. Player retention shall be based on the roster freeze date.

Rule 102. Player Eligibility

Section 1. No team shall be allowed more than 22 players on their roster. (Includes 13U and 14U)

Section 2. Team bench personnel (maximum of four (4) people) will have identification passes provided by the President's Cup Committee.

Section 3. A team may not roster any player who was previously rostered during the seasonal year to another club's team unless formally released to transfer by North Texas Soccer. At the time a team names its Presidents Cup Tournament roster, it may not have more than five (5) previously rostered transfer players from other Club's teams activated on the Presidents Cup Tournament Roster. (NTSSA Official Roster).

Section 4. Proof of age for each player is not required at check in, but must be available within 24 hours if requested or if a protest of eligibility is made. It is strongly suggested that this information be available throughout the tournament.

Section 5. Club Pass Players are allowed. Club Pass players in the North Texas President's Cup event may not come from Division I teams.

Section 6. Player/Coach Passes
Each player/coach must have an official USYSA pass or Virtual ID cards. The pass shall have a current photograph of the player/coach.

Rule 201. Format of Competition

Section 1. Game Balls- Referee will ask each team to provide a game ball.

Section 2. Grace Period
Teams are required to be at the match field a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a team. Teams not ready to play at the scheduled start time of any match shall be granted a 10-minute grace period. The match may be forfeited if a team is not at the match field and prepared to play after the grace period expires. President Cup Committee may extend the grace period for unusual or extenuating circumstances before declaring the match a forfeit.

Section 3. Home Team/Visiting Team- The team listed first in each pairing is the home team.

Section 4. Technical / Bench Area
Players and team officials will be located in the technical/bench area on one side of the field. A maximum of four (4) team officials (i.e., coach, assistant coach, manager, or trainer) may be in the technical/bench area. Team officials must wear the Bench Pass provided by the event Presidents Cup Committee around their neck to be permitted on the team sideline. No coaching is allowed from other than in the technical/bench area. A team may use its own Athletic Trainer as one of their four (4) credentialed team officials

Section 5. **Uniforms**- Each team must have two (2) complete uniform kits (one light color, including socks, the other dark color, including socks) at each match during the event. The home team is required to wear the light uniform (including socks), and the away team is required to wear the dark uniform (including socks). If in the opinion of the Referee, there is a color conflict, the team causing the conflict must change. Uniform numbers must be a minimum of six (6) inches in size on the back of the shirt. Duplicate and/or taped numbers are not permitted. Goalkeeper jerseys shall also be numbered. Duplicate numbers are not permitted.

Section 6. At every level of the National Presidents Cup competitions, a player or team official intending to participate in a match or associated activity may only have on the outerwear of the player or team official a name, logo, or other identifying mark of a youth soccer organization that is US Youth Soccer, a State Association or other member of US Youth Soccer, a member of a State Association, or an organization that is a member of a State Association. A name, logo, or other identifying mark of any other youth soccer organization must be removed, replaced, or covered before the player or team official can remain at the match field for the match or associated activity. Covering non-complaint marks with tape is not permitted.

Section 7. North Texas Soccer will follow US Youth Soccer Concussion procedures and protocols, as well as any state or local laws regarding concussions. North Texas Soccer competition Athletic Trainers are primary to any team trainers, who are deemed secondary.

Rule 301. Length of Games- Preliminary, Semifinals Championship Rounds:

Age Group	Game Length	Halftime	Overtime Periods
13U	Two 35-minute halves	10 minutes	Kicks from the Mark (KFTM)
14U	Two 35-minute halves	10 minutes	KFTM
15U	Two 40-minute halves	10 minutes	KFTM
16U	Two 40-minute halves	10 minutes	KFTM
*17U	Two 40-minute halves	10 minutes	KFTM
*18U	Two 40-minute halves	10 minutes	KFTM
*19U	Two 40-minute halves	10 minutes	KFTM
***17U – 19U**	**Championship Rounds:**		
	Two 45-minute halves	10 minutes	KFTM

Preliminary games may end in a tie. If Semifinal and Championships matches are tied at the end of regulation play, the match will go straight to KFPM. KFPM will be used to determine a winner.

Rule 303. Rules of Play

Section 1. Except as otherwise provided herein, IFAB "Laws of the Game" shall apply as modified by US Youth Soccer.

Section 2. Substitution shall be unlimited and can be made with the consent of the referee during any stoppage of play, except Penalty Kicks. Substitutes must be waiting at the half line when the referee calls for the substitution. Substituted players must leave the field of play at the half line near their team bench.

Rule 304. Spectators

Section 1. Spectators (parents, relatives and/or other individuals) who may be reasonably construed as being associated with a team are subject to the jurisdiction and authority of US Youth Soccer and the event Presidents Cup Committee. The actions of these individuals are the responsibility of the credentialed team officials appearing on the roster.

Section 2. The spectator area is located on the opposite side of the field from the technical/bench area. No spectators are permitted anywhere behind the goal line during a match. The spectator area is 3-yards beyond the touchline and extends from a point 3-yards from the center line down to the corner flag. Spectators must remain in this area, in the half of the field directly across from their team's bench, subject to the following exception.

Section 3. Technical instruction from any part of the spectator area, or provocative or unsportsmanlike behavior by any spectator may result in their removal from the complex. Any spectator asked to leave by a referee or competition official must immediately depart the field area and remain out of sight and sound of the match until the teams have departed the field of play and are no longer the responsibility of the referee.

Section 4. Whistles, air horns, megaphones, artificial noisemakers and/or similar devices are prohibited at all National Presidents Cup competitions. Air horns are for use solely by competition officials to signal when fields must be cleared due to inclement or dangerous weather conditions.

Rule 305. Discipline

Section 1. Players receiving a red card in any game shall sit out a minimum of the next game. This includes an send off resulting from two (2) yellow cards in the same game. Players that are sent off may remain on the team bench. If they cause any disruption from the sidelines, they will be have to be escorted by one of the four team officials or their parent away from the vicinity of the field.

Section 2. Players who are serving a disciplinary suspension may sit on the team bench while dressed in street clothes and will be held responsible for their actions the same as any other participant. If additional disciplinary situations occur in which a suspended player is involved, the event Presidents Cup Committee will impose additional penalties, suspensions or other punishment to be served either during the event or the following season of play.

Section 3. Any team official dismissed must leave the vicinity of the field before the match will be restarted. The team official may not have any contact with the team until the referees have left the field after the match.

Section 4. Team officials serving a disciplinary suspension may attend team activities during the suspension as a spectator only. No communication with players or team management is permitted during the suspension. A dismissed team official that is rostered to more than one team in the competition shall serve their suspension during scheduled match(es) of the team with which the ejection occurred. Any violations will result in additional sanctions being imposed by the event Presidents Cup Committee, including but not limited to, additional suspensions and/or recommendations to the State Association.

Section 5. If a player or team official is dismissed from their team's last match, the event Presidents Cup Committee will impose sanctions to be served at the next level of National Presidents Cup competitions or during the following season of play.

Section 6. Players or team officials that have displayed activities in violation of the competition's Code of Conduct, any North Texas Soccer rule or policy and/or local ordinances or laws (including, but not limited to, theft or willful destruction of property) may be denied participation for the duration of the competition.

Rule 306. Match Manipulation

Teams failing to compete in the spirit of the competition or are involved in the manipulation of a match result are subject to forfeiture and disqualification from all levels of the Presidents Cup competitions.

• If failing to compete is observed and confirmed, the President Cup Committee will give notice to the offending team or teams.

• If corrective action is not taken, the team or teams will be subject to disqualification.

Rule 308. Tournament Management - All questions relating to the qualifications of competitors, to interpretation of the rules, or any dispute or protest concerning the Presidents Cup competitions, shall be referred to the Presidents Cup Committee. **All decisions of the committee are final.**

Rule 310. Inclement Weather Policy- North Texas State Presidents Cup Committee decisions are final and not subject to appeal. Every attempt will be made to have all matches played. Re-scheduled games may be played under lights in the evening or may be scheduled for early morning, prior to normal starting time at the discretion of the Presidents Cup Director. Games may continue during rainstorms.

Section 1. Games will be suspended by Presidents Cup Committee in the event of:

a. Lightning - All Coaches, Players and Spectators should leave the fields immediately, seek shelter in their vehicles, and wait for the committee to tell you when it is safe to return to fields.
b. Hail Storms
c. Un-playable field conditions

Section 2. Re-scheduling attempts will be made as quickly and fairly as possible, considering referee and field availability and the normal progress of the competition. The safety of players, referees and spectators is the tournament's primary concern followed by fairness to the affected teams and the orderly flow of competition to the championships. The Presidents Cup Committee reserves the right to modify the format of the competition at anytime.

Rule 311. Unfinished Games- Attempt to complete one-half of the match prior to next scheduled game.

a. If one-half of the match is completed, the game is official and score stands.
b. If one-half cannot be completed prior to the next scheduled game then:
    1. The game may be re-scheduled.
    2. Game may be canceled and IFAB KFPM will be used to determine a winner.

Rule 313. Scoring and Tie Breakers-

Section 1. Scoring

A. Six points for a win (including forfeits-considered a 3-0 victory)

B. Three points for a tie

C. One point for each goal max 3 points

D. One point for a shut out

Section 2. Tie Breakers: In the event teams are tied on the basis of points earned, the team's placement will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria:'

A. Winner head to head competition (this criteria not used if more than two teams are tied)

B. Winner of most games

C. Goal differential (goals scored minus goal against) with a maximum of four (4) goals per game.

D. Fewest goals allowed

Section 3. If more than two (2) teams are tied, the sequence above will be followed until a team is eliminated/advanced. The remaining teams will then restart the sequence at tiebreaker criteria B. above until the tie is broken. In a situation where three teams remain tied, a draw between tied teams will be conducted by the Presidents Cup Committee to determine order of contest between tied teams. The first team drawn will receive the bye; the next team drawn will be the home team against the remaining team in the first contest of penalty kicks. The winner of the first contest will then compete against the bye team in penalty kicks to determine the winner. The bye team will be the home team.

Rule 401. FORFEITS If a team forfeits a game or games, their eligibility to continue play in the event will be determined by the NTSSA Youth Commissioner or his/her designee.

Section 1. During group play, a team must forfeit any match where they fall below the required minimum number of players. Subsequent matches will not be automatically forfeited.

Section 2. A team forfeiting a match for any other reason will result in **all** of their group matches being declared a forfeit.

Section 3. Forfeited matches will be reported as a 3-0 loss for scoring purposes. In circumstances where forfeited matches are involved in the determination of team advancement (i.e. tie breakers), all tie breaking criteria involving goal differential or fewest goals allowed for all teams involved will be determined on a per match average to the nearest tenth of a point, excluding the results of the forfeited match.

Section 4. During knockout rounds, a team forfeiting a match will result in the opponent advancing.

Section 5. Forfeiting teams are subject to being called in for a hearing before the NTSSA Youth Commissioner Committee and sanctions for forfeiting can be issued.

RULE 401. PROTESTS

Section 1 All questions relating to the qualifications of competitors, to interpretation of the rules, or any dispute or protest concerning the Presidents Cup competitions, shall be referred to the Presidents Cup Committee.

Section 2 (a) Valid protest and eligible for consideration at the State level of the Presidents Cup Competition will only be considered for ineligible players and misapplication of the IFAB Laws of the Game. An eligible game protest:

1) must be verbally lodged by a team official listed on the team roster involved in the match with the referee and with the opposing coach at the game site before entering the field of play or leaving the match field, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section; and

2) must be filed with the event Presidents Cup Committee within 2-hours after the completion of the match being protested, accompanied by:
    A) a cash fee in the amount of $300.00;
    B) one (1) electronic or two (2) written copies of the protest, which must include full particulars of the grounds on which the protest is lodged; and
    C) one (1) electronic or two (2) written copies of any information to be presented by witnesses.

(b) Presidents Cup Committee shall immediately, upon receipt of the protest, notify the team against which the protest is made and shall provide a copy of the protest and all particulars to that team, which will then have the right to defend its case, with or without witnesses.

(c) The decision of the North Texas Soccer Presidents Cup Committee is final

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