

# 2017 United Cup Rules



## Headquarters

Trotters Park  
Orlando, FL

## REGISTRATION FEES

**All Entry Fees must be postmarked by October 25, 2017** to guarantee consideration. All late applications will be put on a wait list for review. Upon acceptance, the fee is non-refundable. If your team is accepted and later withdraws, the entry fee is non-refundable. **Registration fees not received by or postmarked by the registration deadline will incur a \$50 late fee.**

### **Credit Card Payments:**

All Credit Card entries will be charged upon acceptance and refunded immediately upon non-acceptance. Email confirmation of entry will follow completed application.

### **Check or Money Order Payments:**

All Check or Money Order entries must be postmarked by October 25, 2017 and should be made payable to ACYS Spirit United. All entry fees received through check or money order are deposited immediately and refunded within 2 weeks of non-acceptance. Teams must include with your entry fee a copy of e-mail entry confirmation. **Registration fees not received by or postmarked by the registration deadline will incur a \$50 late fee.**

### **Entry Fees should be mailed to:**

ACYS Spirit United  
ATTN: United Cup  
2105 Lee Rd  
Orlando, FL 32810

## REGISTRATION AND TEAM ELIGIBILITY

The tournament shall be open to all teams comprised of properly registered youth players (as defined by the rules of the affiliated organization) in all age groups listed in the "Tournament Rules", provided such team is in good standing with its youth association.

Tournament officials shall conduct all credentials checks:

- At initial registration.

## Team Check-In Instructions

Check -in will be done electronically ONLY this year. Please visit [www.unitedcup.org](http://www.unitedcup.org) for more details.

## CONCUSSIONS:

Pursuant to Florida Statutes (FS 943.0438) Florida in 2012 enacted a very stringent Head injury and Concussion Law. If the referee (or assistant referee) believes that, in his/her opinion, a player has suffered a head injury or possible concussion, the match must be stopped IMMEDIATELY. The injured player if able to leave the field on

their own must be escorted to their coach and the coach must be told that the player cannot return for the duration of the match. If a trainer is brought onto the field because the player is incapacitated, the referee must still notify the coach that the player cannot return to the game. It is the responsibility of the coach and the player's parent(s) or legal guardians to seek medical attention. The player may not resume participation until he/she has been cleared by a medical doctor. The Referee HAS NO FURTHER responsibility beyond removing the player from the match in which the player was injured. The referee crew must ensure, that UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES or due to the appeal from any coaching staff that the player is allowed to return to the game.

## Heading Guidelines 16-17

In conjunction with US Soccer and US Youth Soccer, Florida Youth Soccer Association will be instituting a heading ban for players age 10 and younger.

In accordance with the recent U.S. Soccer recommendations on concussion risk management:

FYSA has eliminated heading in matches for player's age 10-years-old and younger (2006-11u and younger), per the new calendar year registration guidelines. 2005-12U teams will participate in non-heading divisions until December 31, 2016 and then heading divisions shall be permitted Jan 1, 2017. The guidelines apply to leagues, tournaments, and other FYSA sanctioned events that include 2006-11u and younger age group teams (2005-12U in 2016) heading will not be permitted.

Leagues and tournaments shall allow for 2005-12u heading age divisions after January 1, 2017. Leagues and tournaments will be permitted to form 2005/2006-12u non-heading divisions. (see playing up guidelines)

Teams that opt for 2005-2006-12u non-heading divisions shall only participate in non-heading divisions in league play, tournaments, and all events. Sanctions will be made against teams that do not follow this guideline.

### **PLAYER AGE AND ELIGIBILITY**

In no event will a player be allowed to participate who has not been certified by tournament committee.

**AGE DETERMINATION:** the player's playing age is determined by the following USYSA guidelines for 2017/2018.

SEASON	2017-2018
<b>BIRTH YEAR</b>	
2010	U8
2009	U9
2008	U10
2007	U11
2006	U12
2005	U13
2004	U14
2003	U15
2002	U16
2001	U17
2000	U18
1999	U19

BIRTH YEAR CHART

\*Each team will be allowed to have guest players, who are properly registered through their National and State Association, federation or any other USSF affiliated organization. Guest players must have permission to participate/travel from their National and State Association, Federation or any other USSF affiliated organization.

Players may **not** play for more than one team in the tournament.

### **7v7 rules**

- No heading
- No punting
- We will use build out lines
- Offside will be called (using build out lines)

### **LAWS OF THE GAME**

All matches must be played in accordance with the FIFA laws of the Game, except as specifically modified as follows in the tournament rules.

#### **LAW 1: Field of Play**

U13 - U15 No change per FIFA "Laws of the Game"

U9 & U10 (7v7) and U11 & U12 (9v9) must play in accordance with the US Youth Soccer Official under 12 & 10 Playing Recommendations.

#### **LAW 2: The Ball**

U13 and older Size #5

U12 and younger Size #4

#### **LAW 3: Number of Players\***

U13 and Older (11) per side per FIFA

U11-U12 (9) per side

U09 and U10 (7) per side

#### **Max Roster Size**

U13 and Older (22)

U11-U12 (16)

U9-U10 (12)

### **SUBSTITUTION TIME**

Substitutions shall be unlimited, except as noted below, Substitutions may be made only upon proper notification of the referee through the linesmen, with the referee's permission, at the following times:

- Throw-ins (non-possession team is permitted to substitute if possession team substitutes);
- On goal kicks;
- After a goal by either team;
- After an injury, by either team, (one for one) when referee stops play;
- At the beginning of the second half or overtime periods:

The substitute shall not enter the field of play until the player he/she is replacing has left, and then, only after receiving a signal from the referee.

#### **LAW 4: Players' Equipment**

Player equipment must conform to FIFA rules. All players will wear shin-guards (under the socks).

**PLAYERS WEARING A PERMANENT ORTHOPEDIC CAST SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY GAME.**

FYSA Rule 402.2 - However, soft braces can be worn *with written approval from a doctor*, and judgment as to safety is at the discretion of the referee.

It is the policy of FYSA that no player be allowed to wear ANY jewelry while participating in any FYSA sanctioned match. The only exception that may be allowed is a medical alert bracelet or necklace when taped to the body. The referee shall make the decision as to the safety of the player and the referee's decision is final.

Teams will wear uniforms of matching design and color with a minimum of six (6) inch numbers affixed to the back of the uniform shirt.

The designated home team per the tournament schedule will be required to wear white/light color jerseys. In cases where the schedule does not designate a home team the first team listed on the game report will be considered the home team.

The uniform of the goalkeeper must be distinctly different in color from the basic colors of the competing teams and the referee.

**LAW 5: The Referee**

The center referee for all matches must be certified by the Federation.

Referees are required to submit a completed official USSF or a tournament specific game report to the Site Director containing any information relating to any game incidents involving players/coach, spectator misconduct, or injuries.

In the event, the assigned referees fail to appear and the assignor and/or Site Director fails to provide a replacement, the senior assigned assistant referee shall assume the duties and shall find a alternate assistant. The game will be played as scheduled and will be deemed official.

**LAW 6: The Assistant Referee**

Two (2) assistant referees will be used in matches U9 and above. In the event, the assigned assistant(s) fail to appear, the referee must find suitable replacements. The game will be played as scheduled and be deemed official.

**LAW 7: The Duration of the Match**

The duration of the game will be:

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Pool Play (min)</b>	<b>Overtime (min)</b>
U13-U15	2 x 35 = 70	2 x 5 = 10
U11-U12	2 x 30 = 60	2 x 5 = 10
U9-U10	2 x 25 = 50	No over time directly to "Kicks from the Penalty Mark"

\*Note: Kicks from the penalty mark will only be taken in the semi-final and final matches

**Law 8 - 10:**

No change per FIFA "Laws of the Game".

**Law 11: Offside:**

U9 - U15: No change per FIFA "Laws of the Game".

**TOURNAMENT AND MATCH SCHEDULES**

ACYS tournaments are designed as follows for all age groups and gender:

- All teams are guaranteed a minimum of 3 scheduled games.
- Maximum number of games is 4.
- Teams can play up to 2 games in one day.

### **POST GAME PROCEDURES**

As a mutual courtesy, both teams will meet at the center circle and congratulate each other for a game well played. Manager/coach of both teams will insure their respective sideline areas are clean and that all trash is in containers.

### **CONTROL OF SIDELINE CONDUCT**

Players, reserve players, managers, coaches, and fans are expected to conduct themselves within the letter and spirit of "The Laws of the Game." The Site Director has the authority and the responsibility to remove any person(s) from the tournament for abuses of conduct, in addition to any specific disciplinary action brought about by any other authority. In addition to good manners, the following rules will apply to Florida Soccer Club Youth Soccer Tournaments.

The Site Director will designate one sideline to be for the sole use of the players listed on the game roster and a maximum total of three (3) managers/coaches/trainers from each team, with one team occupying one side of the mid field and one team, the other. While the game is in progress the manager/coach/trainer and the reserve players must remain on their respective benches and may not roam the sidelines. The Tournament Director will designate the opposite sideline for the spectators. No one will be allowed behind either end line.

The manager/coach will be responsible for the behavior of their fans and the referee will have the authority to warn and ultimately send off, any manager/coach whose fans behave in an abusive or disruptive manner.

### **ARTIFICIAL NOICE-MAKING DEVICES ARE PROHIBITED**

### **CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE**

It shall be solely the team's responsibility to determine the status of its players. Any suspension from a tournament, local league, etc. is the responsibility of the team to notify the tournament director of this suspension at the time of the player's check in.

Per Florida Youth Soccer Association rule 504.1-Red Card suspension or send off suspensions can only be served with the team with which the suspension was earned in games played by their team. Players **may not** serve suspensions as "guest players."

Tournaments will have a Discipline committee of no less than three (3) members. The Discipline Committee will review and rule on all reports of unacceptable conduct by players, manager, coaches, referees, spectators, etc. using the Florida Youth Soccer Association standards as set by rule Section 502.

All players and managers/coaches shall be subject to Florida Youth Soccer Association Section 502 - Discipline and Sanctions.

A player, manager, or coach ejected will have an automatic minimum one (1) game suspension regardless of the cause of the ejection.

A coach who is ejected must leave the park area immediately (out of sight and sound). Failure to comply will result in suspension from the entire event and jeopardize inclusion into future events. Suspended Coaches may be located on the spectator side of the field but may not coach or communicate with the team in any manner; players may sit with the team but may not be in uniform.

Depending on the severity of the unacceptable conduct, the discipline committee may recommend the suspension of up to the duration of the tournament with further disciplinary action by the appropriate national and State Association, Federation or any other USSF affiliated organization. The discipline committee recommendations will be available to the affected parties no later than before their next scheduled game.

At the conclusion of the tournament, it is the responsibility of the team's coach or manager to pick up the passes from the tournament office (even if suspension has not been completed). A complete report will be sent to the Florida Youth Soccer Association Review & Discipline Committee for forwarding to the appropriate State and National Association. A complete report will be sent to Florida Youth Soccer Association Review & Discipline Committee for forwarding to appropriate State and National Association within 72 hours of the conclusion of the tournament

### **DETERMINATION OF GROUP WINNERS**

In group play, there will be no overtime games. Standings in a group will be determined by:

Game Points:

- 3 points for a win
- 1 point for a Tie
- 0 points for a Loss

If two teams tie than follow the following tie breaker rules

- 1) Head-to-Head competition, or if no clear winner;
- 2) Net goal differential with a maximum of five (5) goals differential per game, or if no clear winner;
- 3) Most goals scored (Maximum of 5 per game). If no clear winner;
- 4) Least goals allowed; no maximum. If no clear winner;
- 5) Penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with FIFA "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark".

In the event of a tie among three (3) or more teams, the elimination procedure begins with Step 2 as noted above. Once two (2) teams remain, the tie shall be broken by repeating the above elimination procedures beginning with Step 1. If all 3 teams remained tie after step 4, then a coin toss will determine which team sits out for the first round of PK's . The winner of the first round of PK's will then take on the team that sits out to determine a winner. 10 & Under Group to reflect rules under Law 7: The Duration of the Match

### **DETERMINATION OF SEMI FINAL AND FINALS GAME WINNERS**

In head to head competition, if the game is not decided after regulation time, two 5 minute overtime periods (ONLY SEMI-FINAL and FINALS) will be played. If still there is no decision after completion of overtime, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with FIFA "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark". U10 and below will not play overtime, instead go directly to penalty kicks.

NOTE: Teams may be asked to move to a designated Penalty kick area to permit the next scheduled game to proceed.

### **FORFEITS**

A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a game for U13 and above. A minimum of 4 players constitutes a game for U9-U10 and a minimum of 6 players for U11-U12. A team shall be allowed a ten (5) minute grace period from the scheduled match time before awarding the game to their opponents. A team "walking off" the field during the game shall be considered to have forfeited. No team that has forfeited a game shall be eligible for semifinal or

final games. A team that forfeits shall have a game score of 3-0 awarded to their opponent. If both teams fail to appear they shall both be charged with a loss and charged three (3) goals scored.

#### **PROTEST AND DISPUTES**

There will be **NO PROTESTS**. Decisions by referees may not be appealed. All disputes will be resolved immediately by the Site Director. These decisions will be final.

#### **EXTERNAL CONDITIONS, WEATHER, ETC.**

Regardless of weather conditions, players and coaches must be on the field at the scheduled time, ready to play. In case of inclement weather or field conditions, games may:

- Be shortened - The Tournament Director may reduce the length of matches due to weather conditions before the start of a match; all such matches will be considered official.
- Be rescheduled (time and location determined by Tournament Director).
- Go to "Taking of Kicks from the Penalty Mark." (Time and location determined by Tournament Director)
- Be canceled

Only referees or the Tournament Director can suspend a match already started due to weather conditions. Any one single suspension of a match may last no longer than 60 minutes or to the next schedule game start time whichever is later.

In case of extreme weather (heat/humidity), a break will be given at the midpoint of each half of regulation time and at the end of each overtime period (if played) for player hydration. This break will be given at a normal stoppage of play and it is mandatory for any FYSA sanctioned match during which the air temperature is or is expected to reach eighty-five (85) degrees. (FYSA Bylaw 402.4)

#### **TERMINATED GAMES**

Games terminated for other than inclement weather, i.e. violent or uncontrollable situations will not be replayed.

The decision as to the score of such games and whether teams advance will be made by the Tournament Director after receiving reports from game officials. The decision of the Director will be final and is binding on all parties.

#### **CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL CEREMONY**

Following the completion of each championship game, the two competing teams will present themselves to the Tournament Director for awards.

#### **GENERAL**

ACYS, the Tournament Director, Committee, FYSA, and Tournament Sponsors will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team due to the cancellation in part or in whole of this tournament.

The Tournament Director's interpretation of the foregoing rules and regulations shall be final.

The Tournament Director has the responsibility to uphold any previous suspension imposed by FYSA/USYSA. Coaches and players committing breaches of the law may be ejected from the tournament at the discretion of the tournament committee.

#### **TOURNAMENT REFUND POLICY:**

After a team is accepted, then no refunds are issued, unless the tournament cannot provide a bracket for your team to participate in. Payment is due with application.

#### **FYSA refund policy:**

Any tournament that fails to return an entry fee and application within fifteen (15) days after notification that the team is not accepted, or within ten (10) days of withdrawal request of the application by a team prior to

the acceptance of that application by the tournament, will be subject to an assessment fine not to exceed ten (10) times the original entry fee.

- A. Within five (5) days after notification that the team is not accepted by their application.
- B. Within five (5) days upon cancellation of the tournament.
- C. Within ten (10) days of withdrawal request of the application by a team prior to acceptance of that application by the tournament.

Any team that will not be permitted to play in the contracted age group shall have the option to withdraw and receive a full refund of all entry fees. All tournaments shall notify any participant not less than fifteen days prior to the beginning of the tournament if any age group advertised will not be offered.