

2019 MDCVSA State Championships Operational Guide

- I. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS OVERVIEW:** The purpose of the MDCVSA State Championships is to determine a MDCVSA champion in each of the competitions. The State Championships are also for the enjoyment of the game for the participants. The State Championships are open to all MDCVSA affiliated teams. This Operational Guide provides the team captains and players with the information they need regarding the 2019 MDCVSA State Championships. This Operations Guide is published by the Central Virginia Soccer Association. Its provisions supplement those of the MDCVSA State Championship Rules. It is written for the benefit of the players of the Tournament and to cover situations not foreseen by the MDCVSA State Championships Rules. Any questions not answered within the guide can be directed to the MDCVSA Board.
- A. **Divisions:** Men's Open State Cup, Men's Challenge Cup, Men's Veteran's Cup, Women's Cup, Co-ed Cup.
- Men's Challenge Cup is for those players born on or before December 31, 1989
 - Men's Veteran's Cup is for those players born on or before December 31, 1979
 - Coed Division teams play with a maximum of seven men on the field during the game. There is no maximum number of women that may be on the field.
- B. **Format:** Each division is ultimately subject to the level of interest from participating teams. In the event of insufficient interest for a particular division, it will be combined with a similar division wherever possible.

The format of play for each division will be based on the number of teams in the division

- Three (3) Team Divisions: Round-robin tournament with Championship
 - Four (4) Team Divisions: Round-robin tournament with Championship
 - Five (5) Team Divisions: Round-robin tournament with best record to determine Champion
 - Six (6) Team Divisions: Two (2) separate, Three (3) team round-robin with semi-finals and championship
 - Eight (8) Team Divisions: Two (2) separate, Four (4) team round-robin with Championship
- C. **Location and Dates of Competition:** The Tournament will take place Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8 at the Bryan Park Soccer Complex in Richmond, VA. Game start times will vary between the hours of 8AM – 3PM

D. Rules

The CVSA will host the Championships. The CVSA has a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY regarding alcohol at any and all of the game locations before, during or after any CVSA-affiliated games. All violations of this policy will result in serious sanctions, up to and including player and/or team suspensions from games or the permanent suspension of player(s) and/or team(s) from the CVSA. Please note that zero tolerance means the FIRST offense will result in one or more of the above sanctions.

FIFA Rules apply with the following modifications:

- Teams must have a minimum of seven players to play a regulation game.
- No overtime will be played in group play as ties will stand. For any semi final or final tournament games, the overtime format will be two 10-minute overtime periods, followed by kicks from the penalty spot, if the game is still tied, to determine a winner.
- All players must be the age of 18 or older prior to registering and playing in their first game
- Teams are allowed an unlimited number of substitutions on any team's goal kick, after a goal is scored, in between halves or overtime periods, on a throw-in when the team is in possession (or if the other team is in possession and makes a substitution). A team may also make a substitute for an injured player or for a cautioned player. If a team elects to substitute an injured player (or players), as a courtesy the opposing team is allowed to substitute a like number of players. All substitutions require the permission of the referee.

Division Specific Rules:

- The Challenge Cup will be open to all players born on or before December 31, 1989 and before. All rules will be consistent with the open MDCVSA Divisions except:
 - All Challenge Cup players must meet age criteria above.
- The Veterans Cup will be open to all players born on or before December 31, 1979 and before. All rules will be consistent with the open MDCVSA Divisions except:
 - All Veterans Cup players must meet age criteria above.
- The standard make-up of a Coed team is seven (seven) men and four (4) women on the field at a time. A team may play with more than four women, but it may not exceed more than seven men on the field at any

time. If fewer than four women are available, the team must play short-handed.

- If a male player is ejected from a match, the maximum number of males allowed on the field is six. This follows suit if additional male players are ejected.
- If a coed division has a tournament match that reaches a penalty kick shootout, kicks must be alternated between male and female players.

II . TOURNAMENT STANDINGS: If group play is used, group standings will be decided by the following point system: Win: 3 points; Tie: 1 point; Loss: 0 points.

A. Determination of Semi-finalists/Tiebreakers: Group standings will be based upon total points accumulated upon the completion of preliminary matches with the team accumulating the most points finishing first. Total point ties within group brackets will be broken by the following tiebreakers in order:

- Head to head competition during the tournament of the two teams tied. (Disregard if more than two teams are tied. You must continue to the next criteria and may not revert back);
- Team with the highest goal differential. A maximum of 3 goals per match will be counted- positive only.
- Total goals scored (maximum of 3 goals counted);
- Most wins;
- Least amount of goals allowed during the preliminary matches; and
- If still tied after steps “a” through “e”, both teams will proceed to an available field, at a time and place directed by the Tournament Committee/Commissioner, to take kicks from the penalty mark
- In final matches, the team with the most points earned in preliminary matches will be seed #1 (visiting team). If tied, the referee will flip a coin, with one team designated as heads and the other team designated as tails before the flip, to determine which team is designated the home team (the home team is the team that “wins” the coin toss)

III . TEAM REGISTRATION

A. Teams can register using this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/158HeodeDYThIHY08JB6sPuXP-bWus-rLqvHUUV9thEU/viewform?edit_requested=true. Team Registration closes on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at 5:00PM. Teams may make division requests based on their preference, but ultimately will be placed in divisions based on the approval of the MDCVSA. There is limited availability so teams will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Any further teams requesting registration will be wait-listed.

This is a restricted tournament. Participation is restricted to MDCVSA registered teams/players only, but teams are allowed to place players on their final team roster that may not be registered with the team for league play, so long as those players are MDCVSA registered players. In order to promote participation, teams are allowed to register up to six “guest” players and use a twenty-two (22) player roster. A player that registered as a guest with the MDCVSA before is always considered a guest player. All players must be properly registered (no later than 5 days before the match, with fees paid) and listed on the approved final roster by the deadlines established by the MDCVSA State Cups Commissioner.

- B. Payments:** Cost to enter is \$350.00 per team, Deadline is COB November 23, 2019. Tournament format will be finalized after the registration deadline. Checks made payable to MDCVSA should be sent to: PO BOX 673, Locust Grove, VA 22508. A team is not considered registered, will not be eligible to play until payment is received.

IV. **Check-In Procedures:**

Tournament Check-In: Will be held Friday December 6, 2019 at Sports Center of Richmond(SCOR) from 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Game Day Requirements:

- A. Rosters:** Captains and players are responsible for having current rosters & player identification (Player Passes or government issued photo IDs) on hand at every game. A current roster is one provided by the MDCVSA. **No player will be allowed to play if proper identification is not provided.**

- B. Field Check-In:** It is the duty of the team captains to ensure that players report to the field at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start time of each match for verification of players by the Referee or Assistant Referee. The Referees must check-in all players against the approved final roster. The approved final rosters will be provided by the MDCVSA to the referee assignor. A player that is not listed on the team’s approved final roster shall not play in the match. Players are required to have a valid government issued PHOTO ID that will be used as verification, in lieu of the old player pass. There is a “no ID, no play” rule

- C. Acceptable IDs:** MDCVSA issued Player Pass, U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card, Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card, Foreign Passport, Foreign Passport Card, Driver’s License, ID Card, U.S. Military ID Card, and Military Dependents ID Card. **Please note, school IDs (collegiate, high school, etc.) are NOT accepted. Photos and/or digital copies of any of the above listed IDs are NOT accepted.**

- D. Minimum Number of Players:** A team that does not have seven (7) players

dressed and ready to play at the scheduled start time shall forfeit the match. There is no grace period. A team must always have a minimum of seven players and a Coed team must have at least two females, out of those 7 players on the field. The forfeited match will be scored as a win (3-0) for the team that did not forfeit the match. A team that forfeits a match will not be eligible for advancement.

- E. **Jerseys:** Teams are responsible for having jerseys or T-shirts, all the same color and design, with professionally applied, permanently fixed numbers (minimum 6") on the back. In the event both teams involved in a match have the same color jerseys, the HOME team MUST switch to a different color. Failure of the HOME team to have alternate jerseys may result in game forfeiture. Pennies are not a viable alternative jersey and cannot be used as such.
- F. **Game Ball:** The home team is responsible for providing the game ball (Size 5). The home team will be designated as the first team listed on the schedule.
- G. **Gear:** Proper shoes and shin guards are required for all players at all times.
- H. **Cautions and Send-offs:** If a player is sent off/ejected from the match (shown a red card) by the Referee, that player may not participate further in the match and must leave the vicinity of the field. In addition, the player sent off is suspended from the team's next tournament match, and/or from the next regular scheduled league match, whichever comes first. No substitution may be made for the player that was sent off during the match. Note that in accordance with the Laws of the Game, a player is shown the red card and sent off for receiving a second caution in the same match. Red cards issued (at any time) for violent conduct or assault are considered especially serious and are subject to review by the Tournament Committee/Commissioner. The Tournament Committee/Commissioner may impose a greater penalty for a red card involving violent conduct or assault, which penalty is not subject to appeal or protest.
- I. **Inclement Weather:** The Tournament Committee/Commissioner reserves the right to make the following changes in the event of inclement weather: a. Relocate and/or reschedule a match; b. Reduce the scheduled duration of a match; and/or c. Cancel a match. In the event that inclement weather prevents a match from being completed as scheduled, the score will stand as final if at least one half has been played. If inclement weather is reported in the vicinity, all participants and spectators must clear the fields immediately and wait in cars or another shelter until directed to re-enter the facility.
- J. **NO PROTEST WILL BE ALLOWED:** The Tournament Committee reserves the right to use their discretion for resolving conflict or other matters not specifically provided for under these Rules of Competition. The Committee or any sponsors of the tournament activities shall not be responsible for expenses incurred

by any team or club if the tournament is canceled in whole, or in part. No application fee refunds after acceptance.

V. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR. The MDCVSA Tournament Committee/Commissioner, with the consent of the MDCVSA Executive Committee, has final authority to decide all matters not provided for in this Operational Guidelines.