

# #MTOC23

## 2023 MASSACHUSETTS TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to all of the teams participating in the 2023 Massachusetts Tournament of Champions. The weekend will be full of new experiences for players, coaches, parents and officials. Through it all, let us remember the true **SPIRIT OF THE GAME**.

Sportsmanship, Fair Play and Respect will always be valued cornerstones of THE GAME. Take pride in yourself, your team, your town and your league. Represent them with dignity and sportsmanship.

Team Sportsmanship Awards will be given to those teams which best exemplify the true meaning of Sportsmanship & Fair Play.

## ***Good Luck to All!***

## **2023 MTOC Committee**

<i>Dana Santilli</i>	<i>Co-Chair, South Shore</i>
<i>Dean Sidell</i>	<i>Co-Chair, Essex</i>
<i>Thomas Parker</i>	<i>South Coast</i>
<i>Reg Wilcox</i>	<i>BAYS</i>
<i>Matt Naventi</i>	<i>Berkshire</i>
<i>Kevin Cantwell</i>	<i>Coastal</i>
<i>Rick Porter</i>	<i>MAYS</i>
<i>Caryn Goulet</i>	<i>Middlesex</i>
<i>Greg Kosiarek</i>	<i>Nashoba Valley</i>
<i>Jeff Heinze</i>	<i>Roots</i>

# Welcome to the 2023 MTOC

## Sportsmanship

Qualifying for the Massachusetts Tournament of Champions (MTOC) is a tremendous achievement. This tournament brings together nearly 200 teams, each of which have worked hard all spring to earn the honor of representing their league. Your MTOC Committee is delighted to host some of the finest teams from across the state. We are expecting nearly 4,000 players and coaches and we hope that your individual and collective soccer experiences will be both pleasurable and memorable. We pride ourselves on a tradition of high quality competition and a high degree of sportsmanship in this tournament. We look forward to having you participate in such a rich tradition.

We recognize that in the heat of competition emotions can run high. We sincerely hope that all participants, including players, coaches, and spectators, will maintain a balanced perspective and recall the purpose of the tournament. We are here for the growth and development of the state's top players, both as soccer players and as young people.

We encourage all players, coaches, team officials, and spectators to review the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association's newly updated documents:

- Zero Tolerance Policy
- Player's Code of Conduct
- Coach's Code of Conduct
- Parent's / Guardian's / Spectator's Code of Conduct

It is expected that all participating in MTOC 2023 abide by the principles outlined in these documents. See page 8 for links to all codes.

### **Sportsmanship is an important part of the Massachusetts Tournament of Champions.**

Respect for fellow players, coaches, spectators, and referees is a value we hold in high regard. In each division of play in the tournament, one team may earn recognition with the MTOC Sportsmanship Award. (Please refer to MYS Codes of Conduct for more details)

Each of the MTOC leagues provides volunteers to assist in the process of determining the Sportsmanship Award winners. Each of these volunteers have been involved with youth sports for a number of years and are known throughout their town leagues to set the highest standards of sportsmanship.

Additionally, each referee crew will be providing input to the Sportsmanship Committee. The volunteers and referees will be looking for consistent displays of good and sporting behavior on the part of players, coaches, and parents. Likewise, they will be noting the occurrence of the opposite type of behavior—players who resort to fouls in an attempt to gain an advantage, coaches who berate or badger their players, or fans who shout at opposing players, referees, or even their own players.

Recognizing good sportsmanship is simple. We all know it when we see it and we are often painfully aware when it doesn't exist. We hope to select a winner from each division of play, but the Sportsmanship Committee will not select a winner unless the honor is truly deserved.

## Directions

This will be the thirteenth Massachusetts Tournament of Champions held at the spectacular **Massachusetts Youth Soccer Fields at Progin Park** in Lancaster, MA and we've again made some improvements from last year.

### Directions to and Parking at the Fields at Progin Park

The Massachusetts Youth Soccer Field Complex is located at 512 Old Union Turnpike, Lancaster, MA 01523. The field complex is best reached by connecting with Route 2. All of the major interstates (I-95, I-495 and I-190) intersect with Route 2. Please check a map to determine the best interstate to use to connect with Route 2. For more detailed directions go to the link on our website listed below.

***Please note: Not all mapping websites or GPS devices give accurate directions to our complex.***

[http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/progin\\_park/directions/](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/progin_park/directions/)

Massachusetts Youth Soccer has two parking areas that provide ample parking for all of our events at the **Massachusetts Youth Soccer Fields at Progin Park**. Visitors **MUST** know which field their player is playing on. This enables visitors to park in the parking area designated for their player's specific field. The appropriate parking areas are designated by signage throughout the complex and by parking attendants on duty.

- Visitors going to the Lower Fields (Nos. 1-10) **MUST park in the Main Lot**. If this lot is full we will direct you to the Quarry lot that has ample overflow parking. Courtesy carts provide ongoing service for any people needing transport from the back lot to the front fields.
- Visitors going to the Upper Fields (No. 11-16) **MUST park in the Quarry Lot located behind Fields No.11-16**.
- At all times Visitors must comply with the directions of Massachusetts Youth Soccer parking attendants.
- Any vehicle parked in an unauthorized area **WILL BE TOWED** at the owner's expense.
- All on-site parking is limited to passenger cars or vans. **ABSOLUTELY NO RVs or BUSES**.
- Carts will be providing transport from the back lots to fields 11-16 and from the back fields to the Pavilion. Carts will pick up and drop off in the designated zones.
- Handicap Transportation: If you require transportation please let the parking attendant know and they will communicate with the transportation crew to get a cart to your location.

Massachusetts Youth Soccer has worked diligently to meet the needs and wishes of our visitors. The convenience and comfort of all of our visitors depends entirely upon everyone's cooperation in parking where they are supposed to. Please help us make everyone's visit to our complex as safe, convenient and enjoyable as possible.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: DROP OFF ZONE CLOSED.** The Lancaster Police Department will absolutely not permit cars to stop and unload, park or make any U-Turns, on Route 70 adjacent to the front fields. Stopped traffic presents an extreme risk to anyone using Route 70 and these restrictions will be strictly enforced. **Again the DROP OFF ZONE on Route 70 is CLOSED with an eight-foot fence.**

## Tournament Rules and Procedures

Congratulations to all of the teams participating in the **38th Annual Massachusetts Tournament of Champions** and a tradition of high quality competition and a high degree of sportsmanship. Qualifying for the MTOC is an achievement of which all participants should be extremely proud and each team should be extremely honored to represent their league. MTOC is founded on the observance of the Spirit of the Game. Sportsmanship, fair play and respect for fellow players, coaches, spectators and referees are values we hold in high regard.

The following information should answer most of your questions regarding the logistical details for teams and coaches and the actual playing rules of the tournament. Full details on the 'Rules of Play' are also located online at [www.mayouthsoccer.org](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org). The website should be your first point of inquiry for any questions related to the MTOC weekend, especially in the event of game rescheduling due to weather.

Each league is required to fill slots that are assigned to them as of June 1<sup>st</sup> for MTOC. Failure to fill a slot or complete the assigned schedule will result in a fine to the league of \$1,000 per slot. (See below for MTOC Team Selection process)

## Team Registration and Check-In

Many Coaches will be registering at the same time and the tournament staff will do their best to make the process proceed as efficiently as possible. Understanding, and preparing for, the following processes will be most helpful to a speedy check-in process:

**One rostered coach for each team will check in at the Main Pavilion next to field one.**  
**Registration for Grade 7/8 Teams will take place at the at the back Fields #11-16.**  
**Transportation will be provided for coaches to and from the back fields # 11 - 16.**  
**Designated coach shuttle point will be the back field pavilion near field 13.**  
**Registration is required at the start of each day of competition.**

The following is required for the coach completing the registration:

- A rostered coach from each team must check in at least 30 minutes before their first game of the day
- Players are **not required** to check in at the registration locations. They will be checked in by the referees at the field prior to each game.
- The Coach will provide 2 printed rosters, approved by their league/club registrar, per game.
- Rosters: Rosters must be in color and typed with players in alphabetical order and must be completed to show the jersey number of each player.
  - Rosters eligible for MTOC play are frozen as of May 15<sup>th</sup> for all teams
  - Signed or stamped by your league registrar
  - No more than three (3) out-of-state players are allowed on a team's roster
- Pass Cards, Photo Rosters or Photo ID Sheet: Each player must have a current pass card, appear on a league signed photo roster, or on a photo ID sheet of player pictures attested to by the League/Club Registrar.
- **All MA Youth Soccer Adult Credentials for Coaches who will be on the sideline must be presented at Check-In. Approved Credentials will have MTOC 2023 sticker**

**affixed to it.**

**If these criteria are not met, the player or coach may be declared ineligible.**

Registration staff:

- Will compare this roster to the frozen roster submitted by the league president. There must be no more than 22 players for 11 v 11 teams and 18 players for 9 v 9 teams on the roster. Guest players are not allowed. Players that will not be participating will be crossed off the roster.
- Registration staff will affix an "MTOC Verified" sticker on it, sign it, and print the date.

Field/Referee Check-in:

- Teams with Head Coach must hand the referee a copy of their MTOC Verified Roster, signed by a Tournament Registration Administrator prior to all matches at the time the referees check in the teams. For age groups playing 11v11, Team Roster may have up to a maximum of 22 players. For the age groups playing 9v9, Team Rosters can have a maximum of 18 players.
- Referees take and keep the roster until the end of the game.
- At the end of the game referees verify the score with the opposing coaches and obtain their initials on the game scorecard.
- Referees turn in the roster along with the coach-initiated Game Scorecard.
- . Teams unprepared for their starting time will be subject to game forfeiture. Teams will be subject to a forfeit if not ready to begin a match with at least 7 players playing 11v11, at least 6 players playing 9v9, up to 10 minutes after scheduled start time.

A. All League Administrators, Team Coaches, will be issued a tournament sticker to be applied to their official MAss Youth Soccer Adult Credential. These Adult Credentials with stickers are required in order to gain access to the sideline coaching areas. Do not leave your Adult Credential in your car. If a team's official team roster only provides space for the names of two (2) coaches and you intend to have a third coach on the sidelines, this individual must be registered with Massachusetts Youth Soccer, have a currently valid Mass Youth Soccer Adult Credential, and a tournament sticker which the Registration Staff uses to identify them. Mass Youth Soccer Adult Credentials with the tournament sticker must be worn in the game bench areas.

B. Uniforms. Players must be in full matching team uniforms and be ready to play at the Referee/Field check-in.

C. Failure to supply rosters and/or players cards or photo ID sheets will result in the head coach being suspended for each game that the documents are not available. If the information is not available prior to the completion of the game, the game will be recorded as a forfeit.

## **Uniforms**

- 1) Players' uniforms of matching color and style shall consist of the following:
  - a. A soccer jersey with visible, legible numbers that match the players listed on the roster.
  - b. There shall be no numbers duplicated on any roster or team.
  - c. Soccer shorts of matching color and style

- d. Socks that match each other and those of their teammates
  - e. Pair of soccer shoes. No “spikes” will be permitted.
  - f. Shin guards are mandatory. Players will not be allowed to check-in or play without them.
  - g. Matching uniform details are of tremendous importance in assisting the officials of the games. If the game involves two teams with similar jersey colors, the HOME team will wear alternate colored jerseys (or mesh pinnies that allow the player number to be discernible). The home team is the team listed first on the schedule. The referee shall have final authority on color conflicts.
- 2) Please note that players shall not be permitted to wear the following:
- a. Cut off shorts
  - b. “Jams”
  - c. Spandex that does not match the color of the players’ shorts
  - d. Boxer shorts
  - e. Jewelry (string bracelets, barrettes, hairpins, earrings, hair beads, etc.)
  - f. Casts, hard splints, hats, hard protective headgear or unprotected braces (including hard plastic and or metal)**
    - i. Protective braces contain the manufacturer's neoprene sleeve or tubi-grip sleeve.
  - g. Unnecessary face, hair, or body painting or other offensive displays
  - h. In all instances, the referees cannot allow anything to be worn that might injure the player or an opponent on the field. Any items involving interpretation will be referred to the Tournament Director (or the Director’s designee) and the judgment of the Tournament Director will be final.
- 3) Spectators:
- a. no loud noise making devices such as but not limited to:
    - i. Air horns
    - ii. whistles
    - iii. cow bells
    - iv. vuvuzela
    - v. etc

**Semi-finals and Finals**

- a. **A rostered coach must check in at least 30 minutes before each game on Sunday. Check-in of the players will be by the referees at the field.**
- b. Final Four t-shirts will be distributed at registration to the coaches
- c. All other procedures remain the same for each respective age group
- d. Teams participating in the finals will have a presentation of medals and Team Plaque at the backdrop near field 10.

**Game Logistics**

- 1. **Weather Delays.** In the event that a portion of the game schedule is suspended due to weather (or for any other reason), the following rules will apply:
  - a. In the event of a stoppage, games that have completed a half, or are in the second half, will be deemed completed and the score at the time of the stoppage will stand.

- b. In the event of a stoppage, games that are in the first half will be replayed in their entirety (both halves), subject to time and field constraints of the tournament.
- c. In the event of a stoppage, the Tournament Committee and the Referee Director will determine when it is safe to restart play. Games will resume on the original schedule with the next scheduled time slot due to play. (i.e. if it is safe to play at 3:45 PM, games will recommence with those teams regularly scheduled **for 4:00 PM.**)
- d. Games with the first half not completed, or games not played due to stoppage, will be rescheduled in available time and field slots. Specific details will be available online..
- e. Semi-Finals and Finals: The Tournament Committee reserves the right to set aside the above for the SF and Finals if sufficient time allows for games to be played into completion.

## 2. School Delays

- a. Teams may have to play 3 games in 1 day due to some schools still being in session.

3. **Team Benches.** Both teams will be located on the same side of the field. Spectators will be located on the opposite side of the field. Only the players and up to three (3) coaches per team are allowed on the team side of the field. **Coaches must wear their stickered MASS YOUTH SOCCER coach's credentials on the sidelines** so referees and tournament officials can easily identify them as team representatives.

4. **Substitutions.** Substitutions are **unlimited**. Both teams may substitute **On any stoppage**. Substitute players must be ready **at midfield** and substitutions are made only with the referee's consent.

5. **GRADE 6 Goalkeeper Distributions.** In GRADE 6 matches, the goalkeeper's distribution may carry the full length of the field, but it cannot go directly into the opponent's penalty area in the air.

6. **Game Time – Round Robin.** All preliminary round robin games will consist of 25 minute halves with a 5-minute halftime. Game time is kept by the referee and is running time, with no allowance for injury time. There will be no overtime periods in the preliminary round of play and all teams must be ready to play at their appointed time.

7. **Playing Surface.** Assignment of playing surfaces (either grass or synthetic) is at the sole discretion of the Tournament Committee and is not subject to discussion, protest or appeal.

8. **Change in Length of Games.** Should conditions warrant, the length of games is subject to change by the Tournament Committee. Coaches will be notified before the start of the half in which such a change is made. In the event of unsafe conditions, a game may be terminated at any point by the referee.

9. There will be a spectator line (a line about 1-yard outside the touch line) on the spectator side of the field. Spectators must stay entirely outside this line. This area is for the Assistant Referee so that he/she can run his/her side of the field and see the touchline on the other half of the field.

10. There shall be **NO PETS** of any kind allowed in any portion of the field complex. Service Animals are permitted under provisions of ADA and MERA.
11. Tents with a maximum size of 12'x12' are permissible for player/coach sidelines (ensuring there is a minimum of 6 ft to closest sideline) and in areas at least 20 feet away from sidelines and end lines of fields. Please do not block pathways or vendor areas. All tents must be secured to manufacturers specifications and taken down or moved for safety reasons if requested from Mass Youth Soccer staff. **Tents are not permitted on Spectator sidelines.**

### **Game Conduct during MTOC**

We encourage all players, coaches, team officials, and spectators to review the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association's newly updated documents:

- [Zero Tolerance Policy](#)
- [Player's Code of Conduct](#)
- [Coach's Code of Conduct](#)
- [Parent's / Guardian's / Spectator's Code of Conduct](#)

**It is expected that all participating in MTOC 2023 abide by the principles outlined in these documents.**

1. Players, coaches and spectators are expected to conduct themselves within the letter and the SPIRIT of the game and its regulations. The MTOC Committee expects all players, coaches and spectators to uphold the spirit of ZERO TOLERANCE policies. Displays of TEMPER or DISSENT by word or action against opponents or referees are cause for ejection from the match, suspension from the MTOC and/or EJECTION from the Fields at Progin Park.
2. No player ejected (red carded) may re-enter that game, nor may the player have a substitute. The ejected player must also remove him/herself well away from the general area of the game field. Players under the age of 18, must be accompanied by an adult while away from the field. It is the responsibility of the team's coach(s) to enforce this. Any player ejected from a game will be ineligible to appear until after the completion of the team's next game. Kicks from the mark Tiebreakers are not considered games.
3. If two red cards are assessed to a team in one game, that team will forfeit the game. The Tournament Committee will determine whether further action is warranted.
4. Coaches receiving an EJECTION (Red Card) for any reason will be SUSPENDED regardless of the number of teams coaching for the REMAINDER of the Tournament.
5. Each coach is responsible for his/her spectators' behavior. Coaches should inform their spectators of the rules (i.e. behavior, spectator line, etc.). Each coach is expected to monitor his or her spectators and take corrective action if necessary. Each coach is expected to support the referee or tournament official if action against a spectator is required. Failure to comply may lead to EJECTION.
6. PROTESTS: Any protest must be in writing and submitted to the MTOC Tournament Chair (located at the registration pavilion) along with a \$250.00 cash protest fee. The protest must be filed within one hour of the completion of the match in question. The protest fee of



\$250.00 will be returned if the protest is upheld.

### **Advancement to Final Four (the Semi-Finals)**

1. **Official Scores.** The **official scores** will be posted **online**. The Coach of each team shall be responsible for checking online scoreboards to determine if their team is advancing to the semifinals, and to obtain their scheduled time and field location.
2. **Divisions with 3 Groups.** In divisions of competition with three (3) groups of teams, the winners of each preliminary round-robin group of play together with a “Wild-Card” team will advance to the Final Four (Semi-finals). The Wild-Card team will be that team with the best record of those teams not qualifying as group winners.
3. **Divisions with 2 Groups.** In divisions of competition with two (2) groups of teams, the winners and runners-up in each group of play will advance to the Final Four (Semi-finals).
4. **Tie-Breakers.** The determination of order of finish will be made according to the following procedures:
  - a. Points earned in round robin games (3 points shall be awarded for a win, 1 point will be awarded for a tie);
  - b. Head-to-head results. However, in the event of a three-way tie within a section, the head-to-head results tiebreaker will not be considered (or awarded);
  - c. Goal differential. There shall be a maximum goal differential of four (4) earned per game;
  - d. Fewest goals allowed overall, to a maximum of four per game;
  - e. Most shutouts;
  - f. Kicks from the mark: The teams involved shall take kicks from the mark in the penalty kick manner prescribed below. Kicks from the mark shall be conducted immediately after the preliminary round robin phase of the tournament is completed.

#### **Special Rules for MTOC Tie Breaker “Kicks from the Mark”** *(following preliminary round robin only):*

- i. The time and location for each tie breaker shootout will be set at the Field Pavilion, generally one to two hours after the ties are determined. The Coach of each team is responsible for obtaining the time and field location scheduled for the penalty kicks;
- ii. Each team shall select five (5) kickers from the MTOC roster. The goalkeeper (or goalkeepers) may come from the five (5) eligible kickers. Each coach will provide a written list of the five (5) kickers, along with their player pass cards and roster or photo roster, to the referee in charge of the kicks from the mark. If the team cannot field five (5) kickers, the absent kickers are scored as a no

goal;

- iii. If more than two (2) teams are tied, they will all take kicks from the mark at the same time with the order of teams participating to be determined by coin toss;
- iv. Each team will take five (5) kicks from the penalty mark with each team alternating kicks. The team shooting first shall be determined by a coin toss conducted by the referee;
- v. If the teams are tied after each team has taken five kicks by different eligible kickers, the referee will continue the process, going through the eligible kickers again until the tie is broken.

g. Team Placement Into Semifinals:

- i) Winner of Section A plays Winner of Section B; and,
- ii) Winner of Section C plays the Wild Card team, except when the wild card team comes out of Section C, in which case A plays C and B plays WC.

### **Forfeit procedures during round-robin play**

In the event of a forfeited game, the non-forfeiting team will be awarded:

1. 3 points for a win;
2. A goal differential of 2 goals will be awarded to the team benefiting from the forfeit.
3. A 'goals allowed' of zero.
4. Awarded a shut-out

The forfeiting team will have one point deducted from its earned total for each game it forfeits.

### **Semi-Finals and Finals**

**NOTE: MTOC honors the players of teams qualifying for the semi-finals ("The Final Four") with a commemorative t-shirt. These t-shirts are distributed immediately following team registration on Sunday morning and **BEFORE** the semi-final game.**

1. All semi final and championship games shall be 30 minute halves, with a 5 minute half-time interval.

Overtime periods will only be played in the semi final and championship rounds of play. All overtime periods will conform to current IFAB rules and games that go into overtime will no longer be decided by a "golden goal." Overtime in all age groups will consist of two (2) 5-minute overtime periods. Both overtime periods will be played in their entirety.

2. If teams remain tied after regulation and overtime play, 'kicks from the mark', following regular [IFAB penalty kick procedures](#), will be used to determine a winner. These will take place immediately following the completion of overtime play.

## MTOC Team Selection

There are 10 Residentially based leagues eligible to play at MTOC each year. Leagues may opt out of all or some portion of the grade groups represented at MTOC. Leagues need to be opted out prior to the MTOC Draw (see details below).

All leagues regardless of size, who meet the team and play requirements for a grade group may send their designated champions for divisions MTOC 1 and MTOC 2 to participate in the tournament. A total of 14 slots are available for each league's champions.. Competitive groups will be randomly selected in groups of 8, 10 or 12 depending on the number of teams participating in a designated grade group. Where needed Wildcards will be selected as part of the MTOC Draw process to fill out the groups.

Grade Groups competing in MTOC 1: G6 Girls and Boys, G8 Girls and Boys, G10 Girls and Boys and G12PG Girls and Boys.

Grade Groups Competing in MTOC 2: G6 Girls and Boys, G8 Girls and Boys, and G10 Girls and Boys.

**Roster Composition:** In affirmation of the importance of providing community-based soccer opportunities for youth players, rosters must meet the following requirements. Registrars from each league, in submitting rosters to MTOC, affirm rosters meet the criteria below.

For Grade 8 and younger: To be eligible for MTOC play, at least 75% of the players on a town's/club's submitted roster must be from that same league's recognized town/club organization. The Leagues Committee must approve any exceptions to this requirement.

For Grade 9 and older: recognizing that the difficulty in forming teams increases as the player becomes older, town organizations/clubs may collaborate to create appropriately competitive soccer opportunities where they might not otherwise exist.

In every instance, these collaborative teams must:

- o be registered with a member town/club organization of the league they are representing;
- o completely adhere to the Leagues Committee intra-league and inter-league player movement agreements;
- o play a regular league schedule within a MTOC-affiliated league;
- o have 75 percent of rostered players come from within the sponsoring league; and the towns represented by the combined team.
- o Ensure all players are properly affiliated with the state association.
- o Players may not be rostered to two MTOC Eligible Affiliated League teams concurrently.

The Leagues Committee must approve any exceptions to any of these requirements.

Roster Submission and “Freeze Dates”:

The Roster Freeze date is May 15<sup>th</sup> for all Rosters of MTOC Teams.

### **MTOC Draw and League Responsibilities**

1. Initial MTOC draw by the MTOC Eligible Affiliated League representatives is done at the March Leagues Committee meeting unless postponed, and then at the discretion of the Leagues Committee Chair.
2. Teams must play a minimum of three games in an MTOC Eligible Affiliated League. Inter-league matches count.
3. In order for a league to be eligible for a wild card slot for a specific Gender/Grade/Division, that league must have a minimum of 4 teams competing in league play for that current season. Exceptions may be granted by the Leagues Committee for the PG groups.

### **Massachusetts Youth Soccer Fields at Progin Park Rules**

Massachusetts Youth Soccer is privileged to own and operate one of the finest soccer field complexes in the country. We ask all of our visitors to respect the complex and all of the hard work that it takes to maintain and improve it. The following activities shall be prohibited at any time and at any location by anyone at the complex:

1. Unsafe, careless, or negligent behavior while engaging in Licensee's activities;
2. Any activity that may reasonably be expected to cause or which will or may foreseeably injure or harm any person or persons or which will deface or cause damage to Massachusetts Youth's property or the property of others;
3. The possession, sale or use of any alcoholic beverages of any kind and/or any unlawful drugs or substances;
4. Use of any tobacco or any form of cannabis products, including vaping;
5. Playing any other sport or engaging in any other activity other than soccer;
6. The presence of any pet of any sort other than documented service animals;
7. The use of off road motorized vehicles and snowmobiles;
8. The possession of any firearms whether licensed or not;
9. The use of any public address system, amplifier and/or megaphone;
10. The use of any generator, cooking appliance or barbecue grill;
11. Any activity which may reasonably be expected to produce any unusual, noxious or objectionable smoke, gas, vapor or odor;

12. The posting of any signs or advertisements or the distribution of any written materials calculated to generate business in any way for Licensee or others;
13. Taking up collections or making solicitations of any kind;
14. The marking of lines on any field surface with paint, tape or any other substance or material;
15. Use of the Fields in any manner that may be contrary to the interests of Massachusetts Youth or its programs;
16. Use of the Fields for any unlawful or unauthorized purpose, or in any manner that in the sole discretion or judgment of the Massachusetts Youth is offensive or contrary to the interests of Mass Youth Soccer.

### **Health and Wellness Policies**

All players, coaches, referees and administrators will adhere to the published Risk Management and Health and Wellness policies as provided by the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association. These policies are located on the Mass Youth Soccer Website, [www.mayouthsoccer.org](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org). They can be found on the Governance and Risk Management pages of the web site.

Each of the policies below is hyperlinked for direct access to the web site page.

- [Concussion and Return to Play Policy](#)
- [Heading Policy](#)
- [Weather Policy](#)
- [Goal Safety](#)

### **Progrin Park Photography and Videography Policy**

Handheld cameras, video cameras, and camera phones used by common spectators (amateur family and friends) are welcome at all Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association sanctioned, approved and managed events.

**Amateur** shoots are subject to the following:

- Photographs and videos are for personal use only and may not be sold.
- Natural light only; no flash or other supplemental light.
- Tripods, monopods, handheld microphones, and other external equipment are permitted with the following stipulations:
  - Equipment must be under the user's control at all times and when not in use, dismantled and out of harm's way
  - No camera may extend more than 1 foot higher than the user's natural unassisted head height, except if a Spectator Photography and Videography Indemnification Agreement is signed.
  - No use of drones or any other remote photography/videography equipment.
- A safe distance must be maintained from all players, referees, and the field of play.
- Shoots may only be taken from the spectator side of the field.

- **Must sign a Spectator Photography and Videography Indemnification Agreement if using camera extension equipment above 1 foot higher than the user's natural unassisted head height.**

**Professional** shoots (photo and videography) must provide Mass Youth Soccer with the following:

- Approval from field licensee (if not a Mass Youth Soccer event)
- Signed Indemnification Agreement with Mass Youth Soccer
- Certificate of Insurance listing Mass Youth Soccer as an Additional Insured (amounts of coverage and requirements are contained in the aforementioned Indemnification Agreement.)

**Professional** shoots are subject to the following:

- Natural light only; no flash or other supplemental light.
- Tripods, monopods, handheld microphones, and other external equipment are permitted with the following stipulations:
  - Equipment must be under the user's control at all times and when not in use, dismantled and out of harm's way
  - Equipment extending beyond 1 foot over the user's user's natural unassisted head height must be securely anchored.
- No use of drones or any other remote photography/videography equipment.
- A safe distance must be maintained from all players, referees, and the field of play.
- Shoots should only be taken from the spectator side of the field. Any other locations may be used only with prior approval of the on-site facility manager.

## **PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING PHOTO/VIDEO/AUDIO RECORDING**

Take notice. When you enter a Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association event or facility, you will be entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur.

By entering the event or facility premises, you and anyone accompanying you under your care agree to consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for news, webcasts, promotional purposes, telecasts, advertising, inclusion on web sites, or any other purpose by Mass Youth Soccer and its affiliates and representatives. You release Mass Youth Soccer, its officers and employees, its successors, assigns, licensees, and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, or publication of interviews, photographs, images, video and/or sound recordings.

By entering the event or facility premises, you and anyone accompanying you under your care waive all rights you may have to any claims for payment of royalties in

connection with any exhibition, streaming, webcasting, televising, or other publication of these materials, regardless of the purpose or sponsoring of such exhibiting, broadcasting, webcasting, or other publication irrespective of whether a fee for admission or sponsorship is charged. You also waive any right to inspect or approve any photo, video, or audio recording taken by Mass Youth Soccer or the person or entity designated to do so by Mass Youth Soccer.

You and anyone accompanying you under your care have been fully informed of your consent, waiver of liability, and release before entering the event or facility.

**Additional Rules specific to our synthetic turf fields prohibit:**

1. The use of chewing gum;
2. The consumption of sunflower seeds or shelled nuts;
3. The consumption of any food or drink other than water;
4. The use or possession of glass containers of any kind;
5. The use of roller blades, skateboards or bicycles;
6. The use of metal cleats or spikes, or plastic cleats longer than ¼”;
7. The use or erection of any tent, tarp, structure or object which will or may foreseeably cause the penetration of the synthetic surface

Decisions made throughout the tournament, excluding referee decisions on the field, may be taken up for reconsideration by the Tournament Committee.