



## 2017 MASSACHUSETTS OPEN CUP POLICIES & PROCEDURES

### 1. ALL OPEN CUP GAMES WILL BE PLAYED DURING THE SPRING SEASON

**Dates and deadlines for the 12-U (9v9) to 18-U to play matches.**

- A. Semi Finals—May 20<sup>th</sup> or May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Fields at Progin Park, Lancaster, MA.
- B. Finals—June 4<sup>th</sup> at the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Fields at Progin Park, Lancaster, MA.

### 2. OPEN CUP ROSTERS

- A. **Your roster for Open Cup is your Official League/Town Roster.** This roster **must** be stamped/signed by both your **League Registrar** and your **Club/Town Registrar** (typed signature is fine).  
**No club pass or quest players are allowed.**
- B. Please email your roster to **Terri Filippetti** at the Mass Youth Soccer Office no later than May 5<sup>th</sup>  
*Note subject as:* Open Cup Roster (include age and gender) [tfilippetti@mayouthsoccer.org](mailto:tfilippetti@mayouthsoccer.org)
- C. If changes are made to your roster after you have submitted it to MYSA, it is the responsibility of the team to email Terri a copy of the Official/signed/stamped REVISED roster.

### 3. AT ALL OPEN CUP MATCHES, TEAMS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING:

- A. Copy of Official signed spring league roster for the referee. All shirt numbers must be on the roster. Hand-written added/corrected shirt numbers are fine.
- B. Laminated player pass cards for each player on roster
- C. Adult pass cards for each adult on sideline – Maximum 4 adults per team
- D. Copy of the 2017 Open Cup Policies and Procedures
- F. Medical release for all players (club/town forms are fine and they need not be notarized)

### 4. PROCEDURE AT THE FIELD

Referees will collect a copy of the Cup Roster from each team and will check pass cards before the match begins. *Open Cup teams do not exchange rosters.*

**NO PLAYER WILL BE PERMITTED TO PLAY WITHOUT A LAMINATED PLAYER PASS CARD!**

**All teams must hand the referee a copy of their **Game Roster** prior to all matches (referee check-in).**

The 12-U(9v9) *Team/Game Roster* (maximum of 16 players).

The 13-U to 18-U *Team Roster* may have up to a maximum of 22 players but the **Game Roster** is limited to a maximum of 18 players (taken from the 22 player *Team Roster*). The Cup Game Roster is created by simply crossing-out the “in-active” players on the *Team Roster*. The players not participating in the game may be on the bench but they may not be in uniform.

**Payment of Referees:**

Referees fees for the Open Cup semi-final and final matches will be paid by Massachusetts Youth Soccer

**5. GRACE PERIOD**

Teams not ready to play at the scheduled start time of any match shall be granted a fifteen (15) minutes grace period unless otherwise specified beforehand. A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes an eligible team. If either or both teams are not on the field of play within the 15 minute grace period, the referee will contact the referee assignor or the Cup Director for instructions. The Cup Director will review the circumstances surrounding the failure of a team to appear and may, at the Cup Director’s sole discretion:

1. Order the game to be played at another time and place of the Cup Director’s choosing
2. Award a forfeit to the other team if only one eligible team has failed to appear.

**Please Note: Only the Cup Director may decide that a forfeit will be awarded to a team. The decision of the Cup Director in this matter is final and not subject to appeal.**

**6. GAME BALLS**

The home team will furnish the game ball. The referee will determine if the ball is suitable for use. If the home team does not have a suitable game ball, which is the sole discretion of the referee, the visiting team may furnish the ball. 12-U: Size 4      13-U to 18-U: Size 5

**7. HOME TEAM – VISITING TEAM**

The home team shall be the higher seed (1 is the highest seed) for all Open Cup, regardless of where the match is played. The visiting team shall have the choice of jersey colors. If in the opinion of the referee there is a color conflict, the home team shall change jerseys or wear pinnies.

**8. TEAM BENCHES - SIDELINES**

Teams and team officials (maximum of four (4) per team) will be on the same sideline – all must have a valid passcard. Parents and spectators will be on the opposite sideline (assuming the grounds permit this arrangement). Players, managers, coaches and fans are expected to conduct themselves within the letter and spirit of the “Laws of the Game.” Coaches and Managers will be responsible for the behavior of their fans. Coaching from the opposite sideline is prohibited. Displays of temper, dissent, by word or action against opponents or referees are cause for ejection from the match and/or premises and/or suspension from the tournament.

## 9. PLAYER EQUIPMENT

The following will not be permitted: Boxer shorts, Jams

SHIN GUARDS ARE MANDATORY: socks/stockings pulled up covering the shin guards.

All field players must have numbers on the back of their jerseys No duplicate numbers will be permitted. The numbers must match the numbers on the roster (pen changes of a player's number will be permitted on the roster).

## 10. PLAYING RULES

Games will be played under the rules of F.I.F.A, U.S.Y.S.A., and Mass Youth Soccer except as modified herein:

### A. Field of Play:

The field of play shall be as is, except that the field shall be longer than it is wide.

### B. Substitutions

Law II - Substitutions: Substitutions shall be unlimited:

- Prior to a throw-in (team in possession only)
- Prior to a goal kick by either team
- After a goal is scored
- After an injury when the referee stops play
- At start of second half

### C. Duration of Game (Law VIII)

#### 1. Time Allotment / Age Groups

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Game Time</u>	<u>Overtime</u>
18-U	2 x 45	2 x 15
17-U	2 x 45	2 x 15
16-U	2 x 40	2 x 15
15-U	2 x 40	2 x 15
14-U	2 x 35	2 x 10
13-U	2 x 35	2 x 10
12-U(9v9)	2 x 30	2 x 10

2. **Overtime.** In overtime, both halves will be played to completion. Overtime periods will be played to the full time limit. If the score is still tied, then teams will proceed immediately to kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with FIFA rules.

3. **Unfinished Games.** For all Open Cup matches, unfinished games due to any cause shall be replayed in their entirety if neither team is at fault and play has not begun in the second half. If play is stopped during the second half and play cannot be resumed and if neither team is at fault, the Cup Director may deem the game complete. However, if play is stopped at any time due to one of the teams being adjudged to be at fault, it shall be at the discretion of the Cup Director whether the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit. Any match, which has to be replayed, must be completed (assuming there is time) before the Final Cut-Off date by which all matches in that specific round must be completed. If not, both teams shall forfeit. If only kicks from the penalty mark need to be taken in order to determine a winner of the match, those kicks may be taken within 7 days of the match, as long as the final cut-off date has not passed.

## 11. YELLOW / RED CARD & EJECTIONS

### A. Players Receiving Red Card.

Any player receiving a red card during the Open Cup Competition will not be permitted to play in the next Cup game competition. The Cup Director shall have, in his/her sole discretion, the right to increase the suspension if the facts so warrant. A player sent-off during his/her match may remain on the bench throughout the match. If the coach chooses to keep the ejected player on the team's bench, the coach assumes responsibility for that player. If the sent-off player does not behave, the coach will be ejected and must leave the field immediately with the sent-off player.

### B. Team Officials Ejected From Game.

Any team official who is asked to leave a match by the referee during the Massachusetts Open Cup Competition shall be suspended for the next Cup match. The Cup Director shall have, in his/her sole discretion, the right to increase the suspension games if the facts so warrant. If a team official is suspended twice during the Cup competition, the Cup Director will determine what disciplinary action to take.

**Please Note: If a suspended team official shows up at the game site and/or attempts in any way to officially participate in the game or makes any effort to coach or instruct the team, his or her team will automatically forfeit the game.**

### C. Suspensions.

Red card suspensions and team official suspensions shall be served for that team's next scheduled Cup match or matches in consecutive order. If the team is eliminated from competition, the suspensions shall carry forward for that individual to the next Open Cup/State Cup year and shall be served accordingly.

**Please Note: Referees should not take the passcard for any player or coach who is ejected.**

## 12. EXTERNAL CONDITIONS, WEATHER, ETC (QUARTER-FINALS, SEMI-FINAL AND FINAL TOURNAMENT MATCHES)

In the event of unusual conditions, which necessitate rescheduling, suspension, or cancellation of games, the State Cup Director shall have absolute authority to make changes to best serve the interests of the tournament as a whole. When matches are played at Progin Park and play must be suspended, a single AIR HORN blast will sound indicating suspension of play.

**Please Note: All players, coaches, and spectators are to leave the field area and go to their car.**

When play is to be resumed, there will be two AIR HORN blasts (immediate and consecutive).

## 13. GAMES PLAYED AT MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH SOCCER FIELDS AT PROGIN PARK IN LANCASTER, MA

**NO DOGS OR PETS ALLOWED AT ANY TIME ANYWHERE ON THE MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH SOCCER COMPLEX**

**NO SMOKING ALLOWED ON ALL MASS YOUTH PREMISES**

**NO FOOD, CHEWING GUM, OR GLASS CONTAINERS ALLOWED ON THE TURF FIELDS**

**NO DRONES ARE PERMITTED ON THE MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH SOCCER COMPLEX**

#### **14. PROTEST PROCEDURE**

- A.** All protests must be in writing and filed together with the fee of \$300 in Cash, money order, Club check or cashier's check. No personal checks will be accepted. If a protest is successful, one-half (½) of the protest fee will be returned.
- B.** For all self-scheduled matches, the protest must be filed with (postmarked [with evidence of mailing] or accepted by) the Cup Director within 24 hours of the game in question. Written disposition of the protest will be given within 3 days of receipt of the protest.
- C.** Protests must be filed with:  
*Terri Filippetti*  
*21 Winslow Street*  
*Shrewsbury, MA 01545*
- D.** No protest will result in the replay of a match under any circumstances.
- E.** Judgment decisions of the referee are not subject to protest.
- F.** No protest will be entertained relating to the grounds, goalposts, bars or other appurtenances of the game if the referee has approved them.
- G.** A plea of ignorance of the rules and regulations of the Massachusetts Open Cup is not sufficient grounds for protest.
- H.** Any Protest decision rendered in accordance with this provision may be appealed to Massachusetts Youth Soccer, within ten (10) days of the date the protest decision is rendered. Any appeal must follow the appeal procedures outlined in the Mass Youth Soccer Constitution, Bylaws or Policies and Procedures.

No party to an appeal or protest may invoke the aid of the Courts of any State or of the United States without first exhausting all-available remedies within USSF.

#### **15. FORFEITURE FEE**

The fee for forfeiting any Open Cup game is \$200. All forfeiture fees must be paid within 48 hour of the forfeit. Failure to pay the forfeiture fee will result in both the Team and Club being placed in bad standing. Any and all matches played by a team or a club while in bad standing will result in forfeiture of those matches as well. All forfeiture fees must be paid directly to Massachusetts Youth Soccer or the Cup Director.

#### **16. GENERAL**

Any matters not specifically covered herein are referred to the Cup Director for decision and action, as he/she deems appropriate. The decision of the Cup Director shall be final.

*Terri Filippetti*

Director, Massachusetts Open Cup

[tfilippetti@mayouthsoccer.org](mailto:tfilippetti@mayouthsoccer.org)