



LCS FOUNDER'S CUP

Rules of Play

Tournament Headquarters: 2334 E. Pythian Drive Springfield, Missouri 65802

Tournament Director:

Mr. Kelly R. Ross; Executive Director; Lake Country Soccer, Inc.

Laws of the Game: The tournament shall be played in accordance with FIFA's Laws of the Game as observed by USSF, and as modified by US Youth Soccer and Missouri Youth Soccer.

Eligibility:

- The tournament is open to all properly registered teams which are affiliated with US Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer.
 - All players must be registered with a US Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer affiliate organization and have official player passes, which have been issued by an authorized affiliate of US Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer which include each player's photo, signature and is laminated.
 - Players at each age group must be within the respective age group cut-offs as published by US Youth Soccer; (*** EXCEPTION *** - Any player who is (a) in the 8th grade, (b) who is required to play Under U15 due to their legal age, (c) MUST be registered with a USSF affiliated organization and/or team (must show proof); may play on a Under-14 team in the Lake Country Soccer Tournament as a guest player with proper paperwork. Coach must have proof player is currently in 8th grade for the 2010-11 school year. Proof of 8th grade status shall be a signed letter by the player's school administrator (i.e. principal or registrar) on school letterhead. No additional exceptions will be granted under this circumstance.)
 - Teams shall be permitted an "unlimited" use of guest players subject to the maximum roster allowances by age division.
 - A player may only play for ONE team per age group/division in this tournament event.
- A) **REGISTRATION** – all participating teams MUST be currently registered with a US Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer affiliate organization.
- B) **TEAM COMPOSITION** – all players participating in this tournament MUST be listed on the team roster; or listed on "guest player" paperwork which has been approved by the team's state association or US Soccer affiliate. Team rosters must be issued by an authorized affiliate of US Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer.
- C) **REQUIRED FORMS** – All participating teams MUST present to the tournament, at check-in or before a team's first scheduled game, the following:
- (1) CURRENT APPROVED ROSTER
 - (2) NOTARIZED MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS (required)
 - (3) PLAYER PASSES
 - (4) APPROVED APPLICATION FOR TRAVEL or TRAVEL NOTIFICATION for non-Missouri based teams
 - (5) VALID PROOF OF AGE (**COPIES OF BIRTH CERTIFICATES FOR US CLUB SOCCER affiliated teams**)

Substitution: Unlimited substitutions may occur subject to current FIFA's Laws of the Game and in accordance with USSF / US Youth Soccer Modifications.



Any player sent off (being issued a red card) shall not participate in the remainder of the game in which the player was ordered from the field and is not eligible to participate in the team's next scheduled game. No ejected player shall be replaced on the field. All ejections MUST be reported to the tournament director on the game report. Each ejected player SHALL result in a one (1) point deduction to the player's team. A red card is a minimum (1) one game suspension. The tournament director reserves the right to assess a more severe suspension subject to the severity of the offense.

Game Reports / Referees: All game reports shall be returned to the tournament headquarters or designated location or collected by a field marshal. Each game report shall be signed by the referee and by a representative of the winning team. The referee shall complete a supplemental report on all team personnel dismissals.

Protests: Referee's decisions regarding facts of play are not open to protest. Concerns/protests regarding player eligibility must be submitted in writing to the tournament director in a timely/reasonable manner. Protests regarding the tournament rules of play MUST be presented in writing to the tournament director prior to the start of the game, in question. Protests lodged after the completion of any match in question will not be addressed by the tournament, unless a gross violation of the rules of play can be substantiated and verified.

Player / Coach / spectator dismissals: Players, Coaches and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in a positive manner at all times, while participating in this event. Ejected players and coaches will be disqualified from participating in the team's next scheduled game. Ejected team personnel will not be permitted in the bench areas while under suspension. Spectators dismissed from the game shall be confined to their personal vehicles for the duration of the match they were dismissed from and for the next scheduled game. Each ejected person (coach or spectator) MAY result in a one (1) point deduction charged to the team judged to be at fault, to be determined by sole discretion of the TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR.

Cancellation: Should the tournament be canceled for any reason prior to the start of the event, each team shall be entitled to a refund of entry fees, minus fixed costs for referee assignor fees, team awards, printing costs, etc. Should the tournament be canceled in part due to conditions beyond the control of Lake Country Soccer and/or the Springfield/Greene County Park Board after the event has begun, no team shall be entitled to a full refund. The Tournament Reserves the right to prorate refunds, if any, at its sole discretion.

Length of Games: Duration of games may be changed by the Tournament Director; the half time interval shall be five (5) minutes. In the event of inclement weather, the Tournament Director shall have the authority to change the format as follows: (1) relocate and/or reschedule any game(s). (2) To reduce by up to 50% the schedule duration of any game(s). (3) To cancel any game in the preliminary rounds which have no bearing on deciding group winners. (4) To modify rules for tie breakers in case all games are not played in full due to inclement weather; or (5) to invoke any other means of determining a winner if/when necessary as outlined in FIFA's Laws of the Game.

The tournament will make every reasonable effort to play games, but not at the expense of damaging fields beyond repair or if field conditions pose a safety risk to the players.

Point System: The following point system shall be used to determine winners within each division throughout preliminary games.

- 6 points for a win
- 3 points for a tie
- 0 points for a loss
- 8 points for a forfeit win (the team which forfeited, 0 points)
- 1 point for each goal up to a maximum of 3
- 1 point awarded for a shut-out victory
- In a 0-0 tie, each team will receive 4 points (3 pts for the tie plus 1 point for the shut-out)
- Deduction of one (1) point for each red card to a player (and possibly coach or spectator) assessed against the offending team(s).



Wild Card teams, Tie breakers & Overtime Mercy rules and length of game times!

WILD CARD teams: In those divisions where a possibility of a wild card exists (usually 7 team and 9 team divisions): The Winner of "A" group plays the Winner of "C" group. The Winner of "B" group plays the "Wildcard"; unless the "Wildcard" comes out of the "C" group, then the Winner of "A" group plays the "Wildcard"; and the Winner of "B" group plays the Winner of "C" group.

Tie Breakers and Overtime Rules: In the event of teams being tied in the preliminary round standings, the following procedure shall be used to determine the group winner;

1. Head-to-Head; winner of game played between the two tied teams
2. Goals for vs. goals against during preliminary rounds, net up to 3 goals per game (only positive goals are counted) I.E.
 - Game 1 score: 5-2 (positive goals = 3)
 - Game 2 score: 6-1 (positive goals = 3)
 - Game 3 score: 5-4 (positive goals = 1)
3. Fewest total goals allowed in all preliminary games
4. Most shutouts recorded
5. Kicks from the mark (penalty kicks) between tied teams

In the event of a tie at the end of regulation play in a Semi-final or final game, the following procedure shall be used: Two (2) complete overtime periods of five (5) minutes shall be played. If still tied, kicks from the mark shall be used to determine a winner. NO GOLDEN GOAL!

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Preliminary game lengths:

U-9 thru	U-12 8v8:	25' minute halves
U11 thru	U-12 11v11	25' minute halves
U-13 thru	U-14: 11v11	30' minute halves
U-15 thru	U-16: 11v11	35' minute halves
U-17 thru	u-19: 11v11	40' minute halves

SEMIS and FINALS are the same length

MERCY RULE: All age groups will have this in effect:

Any game that reaches an **8** goal differential will be considered complete regardless of the amount of time remaining. Teams may continue to use the field, however, the referees will STOP the game once a team reaches an **8** goal lead.

The referees will depart from the field. We understand teams on either end of such a score have paid a fair price to play in this event, however, the philosophy of Lake Country Soccer is that no team or player on either side of an eight goal differential positively benefits from the experience in a tournament event.



Any team found to be guilty of violating any rule of play; with special regard to player eligibility, will be disqualified from the tournament and results stricken from the record. No portion of entry fee, refund or reimbursement will be given under this circumstance. Further, a formal notice shall be mailed to the team's home state association or affiliate organization where applicable.

TEAM PLACEMENT AWARDS & AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONIES:

Immediately at the conclusion of the championship games OR where 1st & 2nd place winners are determined based on points accumulation, teams are requested to congregate on the Coca-Cola field of our indoor facility for the awards presentation ceremony. Teams are asked to assemble as quickly as possible immediately following the conclusion of their game. We ask for patience during this activity as, at times, we have several teams to present to and do photos.

After receipt of trophies (team and individual) each team will have an official photograph taken by Show-Me Photography, Lake Country Soccer's official sport photography group.

In some instances, teams request to pick up their trophies to depart Springfield given drive time back home, which we are more than happy to honor such a request.

TEAM BENCH AREAS | Help Keep Lake Country Soccer fields CLEAN!

All teams are requested to clean up their bench areas following each played game. We provide a sufficient number of trash cans throughout the complex. Pre-wrap, electrical tape, athletic tape and beverage containers among other debris should be disposed of in any available trash can following each played game. All teams are expected to clean up after their game and to help us keep our complex clean. Your cooperation in advance is greatly appreciated.

DOGS on the grounds!

Springfield city ordinance requires all dogs to be on leashes during soccer games. Although Lake Country Soccer discourages dogs from being brought onto the grounds, all pets **MUST** be leashed. Additionally, pet owners are **REQUIRED** to "pick up" after their dogs. We do **NOT** provide "baggies" for any canine deposits. Dogs are **NOT** permitted inside the Cooper Soccer Stadium (Cooper # 1).

ALCOHOL & TOBACCO!

Springfield city ordinance expressly prohibits the possession of and consumption of alcoholic beverages anywhere on park property. Lake Country Soccer is a facility of the Springfield/Greene County Parks & Recreation Department. Violators are subject to dismissal from the property and confiscation of prohibited beverages.

Smokers are asked not to **LIGHT UP** or chew while on the sidelines of any youth soccer game. Such behavior sets a bad example for our youth and is actively monitored during all games. Please don't be offended if a parent spectator (or any other person) is asked to put out a cigarette or cigar if witnessed by any tournament staff member or volunteer.