

## 2026 Eastern New York Challenge Cup Rule Book



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# **2026 Eastern New York Challenge Cup Rules**

## **1.0 GENERAL**

- 1.1** The Challenge Cup is played as a single elimination competition.
- 1.2** Except as otherwise provided herein, the Cup Competition will be played using FIFA "Laws of the Game", these rules and guidelines, and the Rules and Guidelines of the United States Soccer Federation (USSF).
- 1.3** All games will follow the USYSA concussion protocol.
- 1.4** Notwithstanding any provisions in the following rules & guidelines, the Cup Chairperson and/or Cup Administrator may take any action necessary to ensure the efficient and timely completion of the competitions.
- 1.5** All games will adhere the US Youth Soccer Code of Conduct Policy including but not limited to Section 103; Prohibited Substances which states  
*"US Youth Soccer prohibits the use and possession of illegal drugs, alcohol, or, in the case of minors, tobacco for any and all coaches and participants at any and all sanctioned programs, events, activities and competitions."*

## **2.0 ADMINISTRATION**

### **2.1 CUP CHAIRPERSON**

Mike Segreto – 917-747-4575; [msegreto@enysoccer.com](mailto:msegreto@enysoccer.com)  
Gregg Knight – 516-996-7408

### **2.2 CUP ADMINISTRATOR**

State office – 516-766-0849

### **2.3 CHALLENGE CUP COMMISSIONER**

AGE GROUP	COMMISSIONER	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
BU10 - BU16	John Hayes	914-907-7821	<a href="mailto:jih23roma@gmail.com">jih23roma@gmail.com</a>
GU10 - GU16	John Hayes	914-907-7821	<a href="mailto:jih23roma@gmail.com">jih23roma@gmail.com</a>

- 2.3.1 Administrators/Commissioners shall not be telephoned before 8:00 AM or after 9:00 PM. If a call is received prior to 8:00 AM or after 9:00 PM, the caller will be fined \$25.00 per call.

### **2.4 CUP REFEREE COORDINATOR & STATE YOUTH REFEREE ADMINISTRATOR**

Cheryl Aronson – [syra@enysreferee.org](mailto:syra@enysreferee.org)

### **2.5 APPEALS COMMITTEE**

ENYYSA Appeals Chairperson – Mike Finnegan – [mnfinn37@hotmail.com](mailto:mnfinn37@hotmail.com)

## **3.0 ENTRY**

### **2.1 ENTRY FEE**

- 2.1.1 The entry fee for the Eastern New York Challenge Cup is:
- Sept. – Oct. 31 \$250 per team
  - Nov. 1, 2025 – Jan. 15, 2026 \$300 per team

- Entry fees must be paid in full at the time of acceptance into the tournament. If payment is not received in full at that time, any discounted rate will be forfeited.
- 2.1.2 After the cup draw (see official cup calendar at [www.enysoccer.com](http://www.enysoccer.com)), entry fees will not be refunded. Any requests for a refund prior to the Challenge Cup draw must be made in writing to the ENYYSA office via email ([diana@enysoccer.com](mailto:diana@enysoccer.com)). All refund requests are subject to the approval of the State Cup Chairperson. Teams and or clubs may be subject to posting a \$500 performance bond as result of prior years' forfeits or infractions. The determination of the bond is at the discretion of the State Cup Chairperson.

### **3.2 CLOSING DATES FOR ENTRY FORMS**

- 3.2.1 All registrations must be entered using the online system no later than Jan. 15, 2026 for U10 - U16 age groups.
- 3.2.2 Teams will be accepted on a first come/first served basis.
- 3.2.3 The Eastern New York Cup Committee ("Cup Committee") has the discretion to:
- limit the number of teams accepted for any group based on group composition considerations
  - not to hold a competition for a specific age group if fewer than 8 teams register
- 3.2.4 Any team not accepted will have its registration fee fully refunded.

### **3.3 CUP DRAW DATE**

- 3.3.1 The date(s) for the Cup Draws are published on the official cup calendar at [www.enysoccer.com](http://www.enysoccer.com)
- 3.3.2 Teams are considered full participants of the competition at the time of the Cup Draw.
- 3.3.3 If any team withdraws or is disqualified after the initial cup draw, the Cup Chairperson, at his discretion, may order a cup redraw.

### **3.4 ENYYSA CUP ROSTER DUE DATES**

- 3.4.1 Cup Rosters will be cloned using the competition's online registration system (GotSport).
- 3.4.2 ***Each Team is responsible for the entry, accuracy and completeness of its team roster in accordance with the below dates***
- **U10-U16 age groups;** rosters freeze on February 18, 2026 at 3:00 PM for boys; Feb. 25, 2026 at 3:00 PM for girls

## **4.0 TEAM ELIGIBILITY**

### **4.1 TEAMS INELIGIBLE TO COMPETE**

- 4.1.1 League Select and Tournament teams are not eligible to enter the Challenge Cup.
- 4.1.2 Teams that are currently participating or have in the last year participated in a National, US Youth Soccer Conferences managed by USYS League Championship Division and **EDP divisions 2** and higher are **not** eligible to enter the Challenge Cup **with the exception of the U10 and U11 age groups.**

## 4.2 TEAM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS/QUALIFICATIONS

- 4.2.1 For U12 and up, all teams playing in ENY Member Leagues Division 1 and below are eligible.  
For U12 and up, all teams playing in the EDP league, Division 3 and below are eligible.  
For U10 and U11 teams **ONLY** – two tiers of play; must have minimum of 8 teams per division
- PREMIER or PLATINUM DIVISION - EDP Div. 1&2, premier, etc.
  - GOLD DIVISION – Division 1 and below that play in their respective leagues; EDP Div. 3 and below
- 4.2.2 Teams must be in good standing and meet all eligibility requirements.
- 4.2.3 Teams must be comprised of properly USYS registered youth in all age groups.
- 4.2.4 Each team must play in a qualifying league. This can include but is not limited to other leagues' play.
- 4.2.5 New teams may enter the Challenge Cup provided that current or proposed tier (i.e. Fall or Spring) meets the guidelines in 4.1 and 4.2. A team is considered a new team only when fewer than 50% players were rostered to the previous year's team.
- 4.2.6 Any team disqualified for entering the Challenge Cup for which that team was ineligible shall be fined \$400 for each round it competed in.
- 4.2.7 Teams and players may **enter only one** of the ENYISA State Cup competitions (Challenge Cup and ENY State Cup)

## 5.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

### 5.1 A player must be properly registered and rostered in accordance with the rules of US Youth Soccer and the State Association.

*(a) Any youth player wishing to play on a team of a member of a State Association other than the State Association where the player is registered, will receive a written release from the State Association where the player is registered.*

### 5.2 AGE RULES

- 5.1.1 A team may have on its team roster only players of the following age groups for the seasonal year in which the team is participating:

Age	DOB
U10	Born in calendar year 2016 & later
U11	Born in calendar year 2015 & later
U12	Born in calendar year 2014 & later
U13	Born in calendar year 2013 & later
U14	Born in calendar year 2012 & later
U15	Born in calendar year 2011 & later
U16	Born in calendar year 2010 & later

- 5.1.2 There is no prohibition of a team playing in a younger age division than its league age division. However, only players of the appropriate cup age are eligible to participate and to be entered on the approved cup roster and must be on their Club's Team Roster.
- 5.1.3 For teams competing in the Under 10 to Under 15 age groups, each player on the team must be

- (a) of the age of the age group competition in which the team is participating, or
  - (b) of the age in either of the next 2 younger age groups of that age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year.
- 5.1.4 For teams competing in the Under 16 and above age groups, each player on the team must
  - (a) of the age of the age group competition in which the team is participating, or
  - (b) of the age of any younger age group, through the Under 14 age group, of that age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year.
- 5.1.5 Players registered to a club may be rostered on a Challenge Cup Roster other than the one on which they play in league competition; this is classified as a "Club Pass". The limit for the number of "club pass" players on a team in the ENYYSA Challenge Cup is five (5) and they must be listed on the Challenge Cup roster by the freeze date (see 3.4.2).
- 5.1.6 Players registered in this competition are Cup tied to that team and age bracket. A player CANNOT play on two (2) or more teams or in two (2) or more ENY state cup competitions.
- 5.1.7 Players who are registered and rostered on two different teams can only play for one of those teams throughout all levels of the competition and must declare for which team they will be playing prior to the date that rosters are frozen.

## **5.2 INELIGIBLE PLAYER**

Any team that fields an ineligible player, such as, a player who is overage or a player not registered in the club prior to the roster freeze date, a player serving a red card suspension, shall forfeit the game(s) in which that player takes part. In addition, the team, its club, and/or its adult supervisor(s) may be fined and or suspended.

### *US Youth Soccer Policy on the National Championship Series*

*Section 4. A Team shall forfeit each game of the Team in which -*

- (1) an unregistered player was with the Team at the game in a uniform; or*
- (2) a player was improperly entered on the team's roster.*
- (3) the Team no longer has a recognized Team official as required by Rule 241, sections 1 and 2, on the Team bench.*

## **5.3 APPROVED ROSTERS**

- 5.3.1 All players must be registered and listed with the club prior to the Challenge Cup Roster freeze date.
- 5.3.2 There is no limitation to the number of registered adults on a Cup Roster, but only four (4) may be on the team bench during the game. All rostered adults must be Risk Management cleared. Additionally, only Trainers with an ENYYSA Trainer Pass are allowed on the team bench during games.
- 5.3.3 If a match is terminated before reaching its conclusion, the rosters used when the match first started must be the same identical rosters used when the match is rescheduled or continued to its conclusion on a later date.

## **5.4 ROSTER MAXIMUMS AND DUE DATES**

- 5.4.1 ***A team's maximum roster size must adhere to its League guidelines. However, the maximum number of players that may dress for any game is as stated in the chart***

**below.** Players that are listed on the ENYYSA Challenge Cup Roster but not on the game roster may be on the team bench but they may not be in uniform.

Age Group	Maximum Number of Players
U10 -U16	18

## 6.0 SCHEDULE

### 6.1 DATES OF PLAY

- 6.1.1 Please refer to the official Challenge Cup Calendar posted on the ENY Website for a complete list of the dates of play. Teams should anticipate playing Challenge Cup games on these dates.
- 6.1.2 Any game, except the finals, can be played before the scheduled date, ***provided that both coaches agree to the date, time, and location***, and written approval from the Challenge Cup Commissioner, State Cup Administrator, or State Cup Chair is received.
- 6.1.3 Teams should be cognizant of any conflicts they may have with other tournaments and must reschedule their Challenge Cup game to be played on a date earlier than the scheduled date, provided that both coaches agree to the date, time, and location.

### 6.2 SCHEDULING A GAME

- 6.2.1 Challenge Cup games take precedence over all games.
- 6.2.2 No game may be scheduled to be played on a date after the weekend of the scheduled round.
- 6.2.3 The Home team is the team that is listed on the top line of the bracket pairing, unless that team was the Home team in its preceding Cup game and the team on the bottom line of the bracket pairing was the Visiting team in its preceding Cup game. In this case, the team listed on the bottom line of the bracket pairing will be the Home team.
- 6.2.4 Any team with a scheduled bye that did not play in that round maintains its Home Team advantage.
- 6.2.5 With the exception of the Finals, all games shall start play at or after 9:00 AM or at or before 9:00 PM. Teams traveling in excess of 100 miles are not expected to start play before 11:00 or after 6:00 PM on Saturdays. On Sundays, games are not expected to play before 11:00 AM or after 5:00PM Teams may agree to play earlier or later, but both teams must advise the Challenge Cup Commissioner that they agreed to the time.
- 6.2.6 The home team determines the kick off time (subject to travel distance restrictions in 6.2.2 above) and whether the game will be played on Saturday or Sunday of the specified weekend. This must be established in accordance with the scheduling calendar and scheduled by 5:00 PM of the first business day after the date of any canceled game or games and confirmed with the appropriate Challenge Cup Commissioner. Failure to comply will result in the potential loss of home field and/or fine at the discretion of the Cup Chairman or Cup Administrator.
- 6.2.7 The home team ***does not require the away team's agreement or approval of day***



***or kickoff time selected for the game, provided that it is on the published weekend of play and conforms to the kickoff time restrictions in 6.2.5.***

- 6.2.8 The home team is responsible for entering the game details into the competition's online scheduling system (GotSoccer).
- 6.2.9 In the event the home team is unable to provide a field for a scheduled match in accordance with scheduling calendar, the Cup Administrator or Chairperson may decide to reschedule the match either:
- On the home team's field on an alternate, available date (including weekdays) The team originally designated as the home team will remain with the status of "home team" when scheduling the next round.
  - On the opposing team's field. The team originally designated as the "away team" will become the "home team" when scheduling the next round.
  - At a neutral site. The team originally designated as the home team will remain with the status of "home team" when scheduling the next round.
- 6.2.10 All Semifinal games are to be completed by the dates listed on the calendar posted to the ENYYSA website. Teams can agree to play on a date earlier than the published Semifinal round weekend (including weekdays), provided that both coaches agree to the date, time, and location, and written approval from the Challenge Cup Commissioner, State Cup Administrator, or State Cup Chair is received.
- 6.2.11 Once a game has been scheduled in the State Cup Scheduling System, ENYYSA will provide the game details to the appropriate Referee Assignor for the assignment of a referee crew. There can be no change in game date, time or location without the approval of the Challenge Cup Commissioner / Cup Administrator and confirmation by the appropriate Referee Assignor.
- 6.2.12 The game details in the State Cup scheduling system are the **only** official details for a game.
- 6.2.13 Both teams should exchange the coaches' and team managers' cell phone numbers, so the home team can immediately inform the visiting team of a field closure.
- 6.2.14 ENYYSA will schedule and provide fields for the Final games.

### **6.3     ***RESCHEDULING A GAME*****

If a game is canceled for any reason and needs to be rescheduled, the home team must reschedule it by 5:00 PM of the next business day after the date of the canceled game. The Home team must contact its opponent and the Challenge Cup Commissioner no later than 8:00 PM with the game details. Failure to comply will result in a one hundred dollar (\$100) fine and potential loss of the home field at the discretion of the Cup Chairperson.

## 7.0 ROUNDS OF PLAY

### 7.1 GAME DURATION

Each game will consist of two equal halves of play as follows:

Age	Game
U17	2 x 45 min.
U15 & U16	2 x 40 min.
U13 & U14	2 x 35 min.
U11 & U12	2 x 30 min.
U10	2 x 25 min.

### 7.2 SINGLE ELIMINATION

7.2.1 All matches are a single elimination tournament and must be played to a decision. If a game is tied at the end of regulation, the game will proceed directly to Penalty Kicks, with no Extra Time played

7.2.3 The winner will be determined by FIFA Kicks Taken from the Penalty Mark as detailed in section 7.3.

7.2.3 With the exception of teams that begin play in the Fall, Quarterfinal and Semifinal games shall be scheduled by 5:00 PM of the first business day after the prior round's scores are posted.

7.2.4 Semifinal games shall be scheduled as per 6.2.11.

7.2.5 Any age group that finishes its Quarterfinal round more than two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled Semifinal round date are encouraged to play the Semifinal game earlier than the scheduled Semifinal round date.

7.2.6 Only the Finals are arranged by ENYYSA at a site to be determined by the Cup Committee. Once the game times are released for the Finals they shall not be changed without the consent of both teams, the SYRA and the Cup Chairperson notwithstanding circumstances beyond the control of ENYYSA (e.g., weather).

7.2.7 All referee fees at the finals will be paid for by ENYYSA.

7.2.8 For the Finals matches, digital passes will NOT be accepted; teams must possess USYS certified player's passes that are laminated. Players who do not possess a laminated pass will not be permitted to play

7.2.9 ***Both finalists shall present their players and coaches to the awards ceremony immediately following the completion of the game or they shall forfeit their awards and be subject to a five hundred (\$500) fine.***

### 7.3 TIE BREAKERS - Penalty (penalty shoot-out)

7.3.1 Only players on the field of play are eligible to participate.

7.3.2 Before penalties (penalty shoot-out) start unless there are other considerations (e.g. ground conditions, safety etc.), the referee tosses a coin to decide the goal at which the kicks will be taken, which may only be changed for safety reasons or if the goal or playing surface becomes unusable.

7.3.3 The Referee shall toss a coin a second time, and the team whose captain wins the toss shall decide whether to take the first or second kick.

7.3.4 Both teams shall take five (5) kicks.

- 7.3.5 The kicks shall be taken alternately.
- 7.3.6 If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could, even if it were to complete its five (5) kicks, the taking of kicks shall cease.
- 7.3.7 If no winner is determined, after 5 penalty kicks, each team will continue to take penalty kicks, alternately (each must complete the round), until a winner is determined.
- 7.3.8 No player may take another turn until all eligible players, including the goalkeepers, have taken their turn.

## 8.0 GAME DAY

### 8.1 PRE GAME

#### COMPLIANCE WITH THE NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW (PHL)

#### SECTION 3000-F REGARDING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDs) RELATED REQUIREMENTS IS MANDATORY!

ENYYSA State Cup Competition is requiring all clubs/teams playing in ENYYSA Challenge Cup to comply with New York State Public Health Law (PHL) Section 3000-F. Each time a club/team hosts a game, it must be able to demonstrate compliance. This requirement is not optional.

- 8.1.1 It is the Home Team's responsibility to ensure that the assigned referee has contacted the Home Team to confirm the game details (i.e., field location and directions, kick off time). If Home Team has not been contacted by the assigned referee by the Thursday before date of a weekend game (or three (3) days before the date of a weekday game), the Home Team must contact and advise its Challenge Cup Commissioner and/or the ENY office immediately.
- 8.1.2 If the home team did not confirm referee coverage and the away team travels to the game that is canceled for no referee coverage, home field will be awarded to the away team for any replay of such game. The game must be rescheduled within 24 hours of the canceled game.
- 8.1.3 Home team will be listed first on all schedules and will wear light colors. The away team will wear dark colors. Should a conflict arise with uniform colors, the home team shall change to an alternate uniform. **All teams must have alternate color uniform available at the field to change upon request if necessary.** Before the start of the game teams are to print and bring:
  1. 2 copies of the **Match Card (with Photos)** printed from the online registration system within 48hrs of the scheduled game time
  - OR--
  2. 2 copies of the **stamped ENY State / Challenge Cup roster** (received via email) AND 2 copies of the **Match Card (standard)** printed from the registration system within 48hrs of the scheduled game time. Players not properly listed and certified on a game card and/or approved are ineligible to play.
- 8.1.4 For the Championship matches, digital passes will **NOT** be accepted; teams must possess USYS certified player's passes that are laminated. Players who do not possess a laminated pass will not be permitted to play. Only coaches, players & personnel with approved League/State passes may be on the team's side of [the field](#). Players that are listed on the ENYYSA State Cup Roster but not on the game roster may be on the team bench NOT in uniform **Additionally, only Trainers with an ENYYSA Trainer Pass are allowed on the team bench during games.** Only four (4) registered adults may be on the team bench during the game. All other personnel and

fans must remain with spectators on the sideline opposite the teams. Both Home and Away teams will share opposite halves of the same side of the field.

8.1.5 Players with visible hard casts are not permitted to play.

8.1.6 Only coaches, players & personnel with approved League/State passes may be on the team's side of the field. Players that are listed on the ENYYSA State Cup Roster but not on the game roster may be on the team bench NOT in uniform.

**Additionally, only Trainers with an ENYYSA Issued Trainer Pass are allowed on the team bench during games.** All other personnel and fans must remain with spectators on the sideline opposite the teams. Both Home and Away teams will share opposite halves of the same side of the field.

8.1.7 At the ENY Championship Cup games, a player or team official at a game site to participate in a game of the competitions may only have on the outer wear of the player or team official a name, logo, or other identifying mark of a youth soccer organization that is an affiliate of US Youth Soccer. A name, logo, or other identifying mark of any other youth soccer organization must be removed, replaced, or covered before the player or team official may continue to remain at the game site for the game. Teams that do not comply, may be subjected to a \$500.00 fine.

8.1.8 **Both Coaches MUST have access to the Challenge Cup Rule rulebook at each game.**

## **8.2 REFEREES**

8.2.1 A three-man certified referee system shall be used for all age groups in all Challenge Cup games whenever available. **Minor referees are not permitted to communicate directly with coaches.**

8.2.2 The Referee shall have the power from the time he/she enters the field of play and until he/she departs from it to deal with any person(s) guilty of violent conduct, unsportsmanlike conduct, or using threatening or abusive language. The Referee shall forward the name(s) of any offender(s) within two (2) day thereafter to the Cup Chairman for action.

8.2.3 Except for the Cup Finals, each team is responsible for half of the Referee and Assistant Referee fees shown below. ENYYSA will pay the Referee fees for the Cup Final games.

8.2.4 Cup Referee Fees:

Age	Referee	Asst. Referee (Each)
U15 & U16	\$110	\$55
U13 & U14	\$90	\$45
U11 & U12	\$80	\$40
U10	\$70	\$35

8.2.5 The assigned Referees and Assistant Referees are to be paid **on the field before the game.** A team that fails to pay its half of the referee fees will be fined \$250. If the fees for the game officials are erroneously or deliberately not paid on the field, the team will be assessed a \$250.00 fine in addition to being responsible for the referee fees. Referees are Subcontractors, as such; records of payment to game officials and any IRS reporting associated with these payments are the responsibility of the payee.

8.2.6 Any team which fails to appear at the scheduled game date, time and/or place, shall pay the entire Referee and Assistant Referee Fees in full.

- 8.2.7 Each Team shall supply one club linesman, when needed.

### **8.3 NO SHOW OF REFEREE**

- 8.3.1 For the U15 and older age groups, if the Cup Assigned Referee fails to put in an appearance ***(after the end of the grace period stated below in 8.4), the game must be rescheduled (see 6.3.).***
- 8.3.2 For the U14 and younger age groups, if the Cup Assigned Referee fails to put in an appearance (after the end of the grace period stated below in 8.5.2), and another certified referee is not available in a reasonable time frame, the opposing teams' coaches, or in their absence, the team managers, should agree to one mutually acceptable replacement Referee for the game. The game can then be played but no protests will be allowed concerning that referee, his/her judgment calls made during that game. Once the game has started without the assigned Referee, the mutually agreed upon Referee must complete the entire match.
- 8.3.3 If the teams cannot reach an agreement on a replacement Referee, the game shall be rescheduled (see 6.3).

### **8.4 UNPLAYABLE FIELD**

- 8.4.3 If a Referee determines that the playing field is unplayable (except because of weather conditions) and there is no alternate field immediately available, the home team pays the Referees' fees in full and reports circumstances to the challenge cup commissioner.
- 8.4.4 If a referee determines a field is unplayable because of weather conditions, the home team shall pay the referee \$25.00, plus tolls, where applicable, as a travel expense fee. The game must be rescheduled as per 6.3.

### **8.5 GRACE PERIODS**

- 8.5.3 A fifteen (15) minute grace period shall be allowed for teams without the minimum number of players to start match. A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a team; five (5) for U10 and six (6) for U11-12.
- 8.5.4 Any team not on the field ready to play by the time grace period expires will be declared in forfeit for that match and must be reported by the Referee to the Cup Committee Chairman and ENYSA Office, in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours of the scheduled game. The offending team, if found to be at fault by the Cup Committee, shall forfeit that game and be fined in accordance with the rules set forth for this competition. Additionally, the forfeiting team will be responsible for 100% of referee and associated assigning fees.
- 8.5.5 Referees are sometimes delayed while in-route to a game. If the referee has not contacted the teams, they are required to give the referee a minimum 30-minute grace period past the scheduled start time of the match. When a referee has contacted the teams about a delay in- route they are required to give the referee a minimum 60-minute grace period and should, if at all possible, play the match with the assigned referee upon his/her arrival.

### **8.6 WEATHER**

- 8.6.3 Under adverse weather conditions of cold, players shall be permitted to wear such clothing as to ward off the elements provided their uniforms are worn as the outermost layer visible to the Referee and are deemed safe.
- 8.6.4 Other than the game referee, only State Cup Chairperson, park directors, school officials or club officials (not coach) may close a field due to weather or field conditions. This must be provided in writing to the Cup Administrator and Challenge Cup Commissioner.

## **8.7 GAME CANCELLATIONS**

- 8.7.3 In the event a scheduled match is canceled, both teams must contact and inform the Challenge Cup Commissioner IMMEDIATELY. The Challenge Cup Commissioner will then coordinate rescheduling of the match. A SCHEDULED MATCH IS NOT CONSIDERED CANCELLED UNLESS THE CHALLENGE CUP COMMISSIONER HAS CONFIRMED THE CANCELLATION. Referee Fees shall be Due & Payable should the Referee Assignor not be informed by the State Office of the cancellations with sufficient time to notify the assigned referee
- 8.7.4 In governmental declared states of emergency games may be rescheduled at the discretion of the Cup Chairman or Cup Administrator

## **8.8 TERMINATIONS OF GAMES**

- 8.8.3 Once a referee has jurisdiction of a game, the game may be terminated only by the referee as provided for in the FIFA "Laws of the Game"
- 8.8.4 If a game is terminated before the second half of the game has begun, and the termination is not due to the conduct of one of the teams, the game shall be replayed in its entirety.
- 8.8.5 If a game is terminated after play has begun in the second half of the game, but before the end of the second half and the termination is not due to the conduct of one of the teams, the game may be considered complete, and the score would stand. The reason for the termination shall be reported on fully by the referee. The Cup Chairperson shall render a decision on the termination or replay of the game within 24 hours of receiving the Referee Report. If a match is terminated before reaching its conclusion and the game is tied, the rosters used when the match first started must be the same identical rosters used when the match is rescheduled or continued to its conclusion on a later date with full referee fees applicable to the newly assigned referee crews.
- 8.8.6 If a game is terminated due to non-natural factors, the game may be rescheduled within 24 hours to the visiting teams field.
- 8.8.7 If a game is terminated because of the conduct of one team, the offending team will be deemed to have forfeited the game.
- 8.8.8 If a game is terminated because of the conduct of both teams both teams will be deemed to have forfeited the game.
- 8.8.9 Refer to section 6.3 for rules applying to the rescheduling of the game.

## **8.9 FORFEITS**

- 8.9.3 Any team intending to forfeit must give advance notice of such intention to its Challenge Cup Commissioner no less than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled date of the game to be forfeited. Such notice shall include the reason(s) for the forfeit. The Cup Chairperson shall review each such notice and shall have authority to take such action against the team as is deemed appropriate. Any team failing to give notice of its intention to forfeit shall, at the discretion of the Cup Chairperson, be declared ineligible to enter this competition in the following year.
- 8.9.4 For any match forfeited 48 hours before the scheduled date of play, the team requesting the forfeit will be responsible for paying the assigned referees 100% of the full fees for the forfeited match in addition to the prescribed fines.
- 8.9.5 Any team refusing to play will be declared a forfeit.
- 8.9.6 Forfeits due to team disqualification:
- The last team that a disqualified team played will be awarded a 3-0 win by forfeit

and advance to the next round of play.

- 8.9.7 If any team forfeits a game, that team's club, organization or sponsoring group shall be fined according to the below schedule and that teams club, organization or sponsoring group will be required to post a \$500.00 bond with the following years state cup application that will be forfeited should any team from that club, organization or sponsoring group forfeit a game in the following year's competition.

<b>Round</b>	<b>Fine (per game)</b>
Rounds prior to Quarterfinals	\$400
Quarterfinals	\$1,250
Semi-Finals	\$1,500
Finals	\$2,000

- 8.9.7 Late fees apply to all fines rendered.
- 8.9.8 If the Club, Organization or Sponsoring Group of any team that forfeits does not pay the subscribed fine, all teams of that Club, Organization or Sponsoring Group will be suspended from all future State, Regional and National Youth Competition, and all approvals to Host Tournaments, and/or travel to other tournaments, will be withheld until such time as the Club Organization, or Sponsoring Group is in good standing with Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association.

## **9.0 REPORTING OF RESULTS**

- 9.1 All results must be entered into the Scheduling System (by Smartphone bar code scan, phone call or enter on team account).
- 9.2 Scores must be reported by the winning team for no later than 2 hours after the completion of the match.
- 9.3 Teams failing to report game results may be fined \$50.00.

## **10.0 PLAYING GAME/ TIMES/FIELDS**

### **10.1 SPECIFICATIONS FOR U13 - U16**

- 10.1.1 Ball Size: A size 5 ball is to be used.
- 10.1.2 Field dimensions, goals and number of players on field shall conform to FIFA.
- 10.1.3 The penalty spot shall be 12 yards from the goal.

### **10.2 SPECIFICATIONS FOR U10, U11 & U12:**

#### **10.2.1 FIELD DIMENSIONS FOR 9V9**

- Length 80 yds. Max.  
70yds. Min.
- Width 55 yds. Max.  
45 yds. Min.
- Goal size – not to exceed 7'x 21'
- Penalty Box 14 yds.x  
36 yds
- Goal Box 5 yds x 16  
yds; minimum
- Penalty Kick Arcs 8  
yds.
- Corner Arcs 1 yd.
- Center Circle 8 yds.

#### **FIELD DIMENSIONS FOR 7V7**

- Length 65 yds. Max.  
55. Min.
- Width 45 yds. Max.  
35 yds. Min.
- Goal size – not to exceed 6.5' X 18.5'
- Penalty Box 12 yds.x  
24 yds
- Goal Box 4 yds x 8  
yds; minimum
- Penalty Kick Arcs 8  
yds.
- Corner Arcs 1 yd.
- Center Circle 8 yds.



- Build out lines should be equidistant between the penalty area and the halfway line

#### 10.2.2 Competition:

- U12 plays 9v9
- U11 plays 9v9
- U10 plays 7v7

#### 10.2.3 Ball Size:

- A size 4 ball is to be used

10.2.4 Field and goal specifications shall conform to U.S. Soccer's best practices, effective Fall, 2016, including the minimum and maximum allowable dimensions.

### 10.3 The Build-Out Line

10.3.1 The build-Out line applies to all 7v7 games during a goal kick or then the goalkeeper has possession of the ball with hands

10.3.2 Build-out line play is governed by USSF rules and guidelines

10.3.3 Opponents may cross the Build-out after the ball is released into play by the goalkeeper

10.3.4 Keeper may pass, throw or roll the ball into play (no punts or drop kicks)

### 10.4 SUBSTITUTIONS

10.4.1 For all age groups participating in the Challenge Cup, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed.

10.4.2 Substitutions may be made only with the consent of the Referee, at any stoppage in play.

10.4.3 A substitute is NOT allowed for a player sent off (ejected) from the field of play by Referee.

10.4.4 A player shall NOT leave the field of play or enter onto it without the consent of the Referee.

## 11.0 PROTESTS

11.1 There will be no protests heard on game length unless discussed with the referee before the kickoff of the match.

### 11.2 Lodging a Protest:

- Must be orally lodged with the match referee and opposing coach before leaving the field.
- Must be noted on the match card.
- Orally lodged with the Age Group Commissioner within one hour of match completion, with written follow-up and a \$250 filing fee within three hours..

11.2.1 Once a decision has been rendered on a protest filed with the State Cup Chairperson there shall be no further discussions or new evidence accepted on the protest. The decision of the Cup Chairman shall be appealable to the ENYYSA Appeals Committee. Protests will not be accepted, entertained or heard via phone calls or personal discussions.

11.2.2 Any protest or subsequent appeal which may result in ruling of a replay of the entire match, or any portion thereof shall be immediately rescheduled. Refer

to section 6.3 for rules applying to the rescheduling of the game.

## **12.0 APPEALS**

### ***12.1 PROCEDURE FOR APPEALS***

- Must be filed in writing with the ENYYSA Appeals Committee within one hour of the decision being communicated.
- The written appeal must be received by ENYYSA no later than two (2) business days following the date and time of the State Cup Chairperson's decision from which the appeal arises, following formal procedures.

### **12.2 Filing Procedures:**

- 12.2.1 Must include details, violated policies, desired resolution, relevant documents, and a \$500 fee (cash, certified check, or e-payment).
- 12.2.2 The ENYYSA Appeals Committee reviews the submission, and their decision is final. If upheld, the fee is refunded; otherwise, it is non-refundable.
- 12.2.3 Appeal must include full particulars of grounds upon which the protest is based on.
- 12.2.4 Appeals, copies and enclosures must be either typewritten or printed legibly so as to be clearly readable.
- 12.2.5 All appeals and enclosures must be delivered to:
- ENYYSA – State Cup  
167 Nassau Blvd  
Garden City South, NY 11530  
Attention: Chairperson of the Appeals Committee
- 12.2.6 Appeals must be received by ENYYSA no later than two (2) business days following the date and time of the Cup Chairperson's decision from which the appeal arises.
- 12.2.7 The Chairperson of the ENYYSA Appeals Committee with which the appeal is lodged, shall immediately upon receipt of each appeal, notify the Cup Chairperson and the team against which the appeal is being made. He/she shall send them both a copy of that appeal and its particulars, and that team will then have the right to defend its case, with or without witnesses.
- 12.2.8 A plea of ignorance to the rules and regulations of this competition is not sufficient grounds for appeals or protests. Violators can expect appropriate action by this Association.
- 12.2.9 If these conditions are not met in full, an appeal will not be considered, and the appeal fee will be forfeited.
- 12.2.10 Appeals will not be accepted, entertained or heard via phone calls or personal discussions.
- 12.2.11 The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on both teams.

## **13.0 VIOLATIONS AND SUSPENSIONS**

- 13.1 A player that has been sent off during a match must remain in the team bench area until the conclusion of the match and must cover their player jersey. A player who is ejected will be suspended from at least the next Cup Game and any additional games determined by the Cup Chairperson. Suspensions beyond one game are appealable and must follow the procedures as outlined in Rule 11.0. However, an appeal will not interrupt the continuance of the cup schedule.
- 13.2 Racial / Spitting / Discriminatory/Derogatory and/or Gross Misconduct Incident – Automatic Suspension - Any official reports from a referee or league official involving a racial, spitting, discriminatory, derogatory or gross misconduct incident will be subject to a minimum suspension as follows: at least a five (5) game suspension for making racist, discriminatory, derogatory or gross misconduct remarks at or about any person; at least a five (5) game suspension for spitting at a person and may be subject to a fine of up to \$1000.
- 13.3 Disciplinary action for a player, who is ejected after being eliminated from cup play, will be referred to the player's league at the discretion of the Cup Chairman.
- 13.4 A list of the names and pass numbers of all ejected players/coaches, along with their passes, and the Referee's Report, will be sent to the State Office, within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the match.
- 13.5 If a Coach or Team Official is dismissed from any game, they must leave the field out of sight and sound of game, which includes the use of technology to contact the team. Coaches who are ejected will be disciplined by the Cup Chairperson.
- 13.6 The Cup Chairperson may, at his/her discretion, levy disciplinary action against a team and/or player for any match related issues, inappropriate behavior or other incidents as noted in the referee's official match report.
- 13.7 ENYYSA enforces all sportsmanship rules for players and coaches. ENYYSA will not tolerate negative statements or actions between opposing players, especially trash-talking, taunting, or baiting opponents including racial, discriminatory, derogatory or gross misconduct comments or slurs. If such comments or actions are heard or seen, or actions of this nature are reported, disciplinary action may be levied at the discretion of the Cup Chairperson. Let each Challenge Cup match reflect mutual respect.

## **14.0 CLUB/PLAYER GUIDE**

### **14.1 CLUB OFFICIALS' GUIDE**

- 14.1.1 Many clubs enter teams in competitions. In so doing, they agree to play by the governing rules and guidelines of that competition, in addition to the FIFA "Laws of the Game".
- 14.1.2 Each club official should understand what is expected of him/her to preserve the name of their club, the competition, and of the game. To avoid any misunderstandings, a copy of these Rules & Guidelines **MUST** be in the possession of the coach and/or club official at all Cup games.
- 14.1.3 Noisemakers such as vuvuzelas, cow bells, whistles, horns, etc. are not allowed at any Challenge Cup competition.
- 14.1.4 Every Club is responsible for the conduct of its coaches, officials and spectators.
- 14.1.5 Every Club hosting a home game is responsible for providing a properly marked field within FIFA "Laws of the Game".
- 14.1.6 Wherever possible, both teams will be stationed on one side of the field and spectators on the opposite side.
- 14.1.7 All State Cup Games take precedence over all games, under the ENYYSA auspices.

### **14.2 PLAYERS' GUIDE**

- 14.2.1 Soccer, to be universally enjoyed, must be played to a standard of conduct.
- 14.2.2 Decisions of match officials are to be accepted without questions, on all points of fact, since they are final and not subject to dispute and/or discussion.
- 14.2.3 Respect should be always shown for all opponents and officials.
- 14.2.4 Fair Play without danger to your opponents, teammates or self.
- 14.2.5 Discipline should be exercised to keep your temper under control in all circumstances.
- 14.2.6 Disputes should be avoided; support the Referee immediately.
- 14.2.7 ENYYSA enforces all sportsmanship rules for players and coaches. ENYYSA will not tolerate negative statements or actions between opposing players, especially trash-talking, taunting, or baiting opponents including racial, discriminatory, derogatory or gross misconduct comments or slurs. If such comments or actions are heard or seen, or actions of this nature are reported, disciplinary action may be levied at the discretion of the Cup Chairperson. Let each State Cup match reflect mutual respect.
- 14.2.8 ENYYSA has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy. This policy applies before, during and after the game at the soccer field and its immediate surrounding areas. Details are available on [www.enysoccer.com](http://www.enysoccer.com)

### **14.3 COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

- 14.3.1** The ENYYSA/NCS State Cup will strictly adhere to all COVID-19 regulations set forth by the State of New York and U.S. Soccer's Play On initiative
- 14.3.2** All teams are expected to strictly adhere to the Game Day Protocols set forth by ENYYSA, local government, clubs and/or organizations.

