



REGION I CHAMPIONSHIPS

April 14, 2009 – **UPDATED on June 23rd**

TO: Region I State Champions and Wildcard Teams

On behalf of the US Youth Soccer Region I Championships Committee, I would like to extend our congratulations to all teams who will be participating in the 2009 US Youth Soccer Region I Championships. This most prestigious event will be a measure of accomplishment you will always cherish and remember.

Tournament Procedures, Competition Format and Rules, approved by the Region I State Associations. It is the responsibility of each team official to download the rules from the Region I website and to **Read them very carefully**. All teams must adhere to these procedures, format and rules.

Reminder #1: Be sure to read the Rules of Play – Substitutions.

Reminder #2: Be sure to read Rule F.3 – Grace Period.

Reminder #3: Be sure to read F-11 Competition Format for U16 & Older Age Groups

Reminder #4: Be sure to read G-1 and G-6 Team and Player Breach of Rules

ONLINE Team Information/Media/Code of Conduct and Player Profile Forms – ALL TEAMS:

Instructions on how to access and complete the aforementioned online forms can be found on the Region I website. **JUNE 4th** is the deadline date that **ALL** online tasks **MUST** be completed by **ALL** teams except for those teams that do not complete their cup on or before May 31st. Teams completing cup after May 31st will have forty-eight (**48**) hours to complete the online task.

US Youth Soccer State Champion Patches: All State Champions **MUST** sew the US Youth Soccer State Champion patch on the right sleeve of their primary game jersey. The US Youth State Champion patches have been sent to each State Office by the National Office Staff and you will be receiving them most likely at your NSA State Cup Awards Ceremony. The wildcard teams do not receive these patches, as they are not the State Champions. **Suggestion:** do not hand these patches out at the awards ceremony. Do it when you can hand them out with instructions as to the placement of the patch etc. or get one person to sew on patches for all players.

Schedule: The schedule/draw will be released on the Region I website on Thursday, June 18th. If State Associations have not completed their Cup Competition in all or certain age groups and they have a wildcard, the schedule/draw will not be released until those State Cup Competitions have been completed. In addition, the draw and schedules will not be released if all teams have not adhered to completing the Online Team requirements.

The Championships Committee conducted the blind draw for the groupings during the US Youth Soccer Workshop in San Jose on March 6th. The scheduling format is the same as it has been in the past, based on the luck of the draw for the groupings. The Schedule of preliminary games has been completed and **will not** be changed under any circumstances for coaches who coach two (2) teams per the decision of the Region I State Associations. It is the **Policy** of the Regional Cup competition that once the draw has been conducted and a drop occurs, the replacement takes the slot vacated by the state that withdrew.

Mandatory Team Official Registration, Thursday, July 2nd: Registration will be held at the HQ Hotel the Pullman Plaza Hotel and will begin at 9:00am and **close promptly at 1:00pm**.

The coach, team manager or their designee **MUST** report to Registration. Only players who were unable to sign the Blue Roster at the State Cup Final due to illness, injury, etc. are required to come to registration. Said player **MUST** come with their US Youth Soccer Member Pass so they can sign the Blue Roster.

What MUST Team Officials Bring to Registration

1. **Member Passes:** MUST be in Alphabetical Order! Passes for the U-14 through U-19 teams must be laminated, as these are the age groups that have a National Competition.

2. **State Team Official Passes:** Team Official identification passes for the team bench (maximum four (4) per team) will only be issued to those individuals who have State Team Official Passes (duly authorized by their State Association). The Region I Championships Committee will issue the identification passes at Registration. **Reminder** - National Championships Rule 221 – Section 4(3): A team shall forfeit each game of the team in which the team no longer has a recognized team official as required by Rule 241, Sections 1, 2 and 4 on the team bench. If any Team Official does not have a State Team Official Pass please contact your State Association **immediately**. Only your State Association can process the State Team Official Pass. **No** State Team Official Pass (duly authorized by State Association) **No** Team Bench Pass.

3. **Medical Release Forms (ALL Age Groups – One for each player on team)**

MANDATORY Team Officials Meeting, Thursday, July 2nd: A Team Official from each team **must** attend one (1) of the three Team Official meetings at the HQ Hotel the Pullman Plaza. **Times:** 10:00am, 11:15am and 12:30pm. Questions that can be answered by either reading this letter or the Tournament Procedures, Competition Format and Rules will not be entertained.

MANDATORY Opening Ceremonies, Thursday, July 2nd: This event is mandatory for the U-18 and younger age groups both boys and girls and is Optional for the U-19 age group. It will be held in the Joan C. Edwards Stadium at Marshall University in Huntington. Concessions will be sold in the Stadium. **OUTSIDE FOOD AND BEVERAGES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE STADIUM.**

Report Time inside the Stadium is 3:00pm and **Event Start Time** is 3:40pm with all players, team officials, referees and assessors in their assigned seats. When it is time for all teams to march onto the field the Host State Association West Virginia will march in first followed by Virginia, Vermont, Soccer Rhode Island, PA West, New York West, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, Eastern Pennsylvania, Eastern New York, Delaware and Connecticut. **Premier League** teams will march with their State Association. Referees and Assessors will follow Connecticut All teams **Must** be uniformly dressed.

If a team (U-18 & Younger) fails to attend the **Opening Ceremonies** they will be **fined \$500.00** and, in addition, will be ineligible for the Team Fair Play Award in their age group. The fine, must be made payable to Region I, **MUST** be paid by the team's State Association, to the Region I Championships Chairman, within thirty (30) days of completion of the Region I Championships.

US Youth Soccer and Sponsor Banners: At the Tournament Headquarters Hotel, Pullman Plaza Hotel, the Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex, YMCA Kennedy Center Scott Orthopedic Soccer Complex and Marshals University there will be many US Youth Soccer and Sponsor Banners displayed on fences, buildings etc. These Banners **are not** for the taking and are to remain in place throughout the Region I Championships. Any participant caught taking these Banners **may be suspended** from participating in the 2009 Region I Championships. Please make sure your players are informed not to take the banners.

Travel Times to Events during the Region I Championships: When you are traveling to all the events at the 2009 Region I Championships it is very important you allow yourself enough travel time for any unexpected travel problems etc. Remember the Region I Championships are held during a very popular holiday week and will already be swarming with tourist traffic so all roads will be hectic to say the least, especially in and out of the complexes. **Read Carefully** the Grace Period Section in the Tournament Procedures, Competition Format and Rules.

Practice Fields: Practice **will not** be allowed at the Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex and the Scott Orthopedic Soccer Complex at the YMCA Kennedy Center. The Host Committee is working on getting practice fields and once practice fields are secured the information will go on the website.

Preliminary Games, July 3rd, 4th and 5th: The Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex will be the site for the U-12 (11v11) Boys and Girls, U-13, U-14, U-15, U-16 and U-17 age groups both Boys and Girls and U-18 Boys. The Scott Orthopedic Soccer Complex at the YMCA Kennedy Center will be the site for the U-12 (8v8), Boys and Girls, U-18 Girls and the U-19 Boys and Girls.

Semi-Finals: All age group Semi-Finals will be held on Monday, July 6th at the Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex. The Semi-Final schedule will be forthcoming on the Region I Website. Following each Semi-Final game there will be the presentation of the bronze medals to those teams not advancing to the Championship games on Tuesday. Teams will go to the appropriate Awards Ceremony Tent.

Finals: All age group Finals will be held Tuesday, July 7th at the Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex. The Final schedule will be forthcoming on the Region I Website. There will be two designated areas for the presentation of the Silver and Gold Medals. One area will be for the Under 12 and 13 age groups and the other area will be for the Under 14 through Under 19 age groups. All teams are required to report for the presentation of the Silver and Gold Medals.

Sign-in for Players and Team Officials: Tuesday, **July 7th** Championships Games at the Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex will be the **Only** games that players and team officials will have to sign-in. Players and team officials in the Championship games **Must** report to the Region I Championships Committee Headquarters Tent. Location of HQ will be so noted on the Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex field map (forthcoming on the Region I Website).

Sign-In Reminder: Do not go to the field without signing in before your Final. Failure to do so will result in your team being escorted to the designated sign-in area so this activity can be completed and then you will be allowed to return to your field. **Read Grace Period Rule.**

MANDATORY Team Pictures U-14–U-19 Regional Champions: Upon completion of the Awards Ceremony each Region I Champion will be required to go to the designated area to have their team picture taken. This is of no expense to the teams. This activity is **Mandatory** as Region I **must** provide the US Youth Soccer National Office uniform pictures of our Region I Champions.

Region I Website (www.region1.com): Scores will be continuously posted to the Region I website throughout the Region I Championships.

DIRECTIONS AND MAPS: Written directions and maps are on the Region I website.

WAVE POOL Party for all players and parents on Friday, July 3rd -6:30-9:30pm - Cost \$20.00 – See website click on Site Information – then click on Wave Pool Party – FUN for All.

2009 US Youth Soccer National Championships (U14's through U19's): The National Championships will be held at Progin Park, Lancaster, MA, July 20 – July 26, 2009. The Player Luncheon (**Opening Event**) will begin at 11:00am on Tuesday, July 21st. If you are the regional champion in the Under 14 through Under 19 age groups you are advised to arrive in Lancaster on Monday, July 20th. If your team is not present at the Player's Luncheon on Tuesday, July 21st at 11:00am you will not receive the player subsidy sent after the National Championships.

PASSBACK KICKS – The Passback Program, in partnership with Eurosport, and with the support of MLS and WPS Players is an initiative of the U.S. Soccer Foundation to help meet the needs of all communities, regardless of income, gender or location. There will be a Passback Tent at the Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex from July 3rd through to July 7th. Tim McKenna (TSgt1961@yahoo.com) will be in charge of the Passback Tent so if you have any old equipment, uniforms, soccer balls etc. please bring with you to West Virginia. See Passback Program Document on Region I Website for more information,

If you have any questions concerning Regional or National Competition please feel free to give me a call at (703) 273-6396 or you can email me at adeled@cox.net. Good Luck to all and see you in West Virginia

Sincerely,

Adele Dolansky, - Region I Championships Chair

ADDRESSES

Pullman Plaza Hotel (Phone: 304-525-1001)
1001 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701

Marshall University
1 John Marshall Drive, Huntington, WV 25755

ADDRESSES

Barboursville City Park Soccer Complex
6099 Booten Creek Road, Barboursville, WV 25504

Scott Orthopedic SC at the YMCA Kennedy Center
5800 Ohio River Road, Huntington, WV 25703