

WCSSF End-of-the Season Tournaments

FYI's for Teams & Coaches

Player Cards & Rosters:

- Tourney Check-ins are complete and your player cards should have special colored ties.
- Please present these player cards to the referees at each of your games during the tournament. Have your roster handy, just in case the referee asks for it, though.
- ONLY players that have player cards in the bound player cards will be allowed to play. The WCSSF does not allow GUEST players.
- ONLY adults with player passes in the bound player cards will be allowed on the players' side of the field. All other adults and family members will be asked to stay on the spectator's side of the field.
- There is an exception to the above rule: a WCSSF Board Member or Host Coordinator may be observing the game. However, they will be at the referee bench and should not be coaching either team.)
- FYI: Do not throw your player cards away at the end of the season, before checking with your RecPlus Coordinator. The cards are either re-used next season or need to be mailed back to Indiana Soccer.

Game Reminders:

- The higher seed is the Home Team. The Home Team MUST provide 3 game balls and must either change jerseys or wear pinnies if the colors match.
- Beginning in January 2017, the teams are **NOT** required to follow Equal Strength Rule during the tournament. Therefore, one team may play with the full number of players allowed on the field (12U- 9; 15U- 11; High School, Fall - 7; High School, Spring Only - 11) while the other teams plays down.
- Players on a team MUST wear the same color shirts with unique numbers, the same color shorts, and the same color socks. The player MUST wear shin guards, and players with eye glasses MUST use safety straps.

Tournament Procedures:

- The tournament is a single-elimination tournament: if you win, you play again; if you lose, you are done for the season.
- All the rules and regulations for the season will apply during the tourney with the exception of the 4-Goal Guideline and the Equal Strength Rule.
 1. The WCSSF is a recreational soccer league. Player development and enjoyment of the game are the primary goals of the league. Every effort should be made by coaches to ensure that players participate in at least 50 percent of the game.
 2. Players MUST wear the same color shirts with a unique number on the back, same color shorts, and the same color socks. All players MUST wear shin guards. Players with eye glasses must wear safety straps.
- The Home Team is the team with the higher seed. The Home Team needs to provide 3 game balls, and be the one to change jerseys or wear pinnies if the colors between the teams are similar.
- During the tourney, a winner must be chosen for each game, therefore no game can end in a tie. If the game is tied after regular play has ended, the game will go directly into "Kicks from the Mark."
 1. After a two-minute break, the Kicks from the Mark will begin immediately according to FIFA rules. The referee will be responsible for conducting the Kicks from the Mark according to the FIFA rules stated below.
 - The referee will conduct another coin flip to determine which team starts. The players alternate between both teams until all five players have completed the penalty kick.
 - Each team selects 5 players to participate in the Kicks from the Mark.
 - Players MUST remain on the field, no substitutions are allowed at this time. Only the players on the field when the overtime ended, including the goalie, may participate in the penalty kick shootout.
 - Either the current goalie or a player from the field may be the goalie for the penalty kick shootout.
 - Coaches are NOT allowed on the field, but must remain at their bench or in the coach's area. The players not on the field MUST remain on the bench.
 - Teams must be of equal number of players on the field when the penalty kicks start.
 2. If the score is still tied at the end of the Kicks from the Mark, the Kicks from the Mark will proceed in **single pairs**, alternating in the same order as the penalty kick shootout. At this point, kicks from the mark are stopped and one team is declared the winner if that team has scored in its pair but the other team has not. **(Please be aware, although the Kicks from the Mark will proceed in single pairs, the referees will call for 5 players to participate in order to keep the flow moving.)**
 3. All players on the field must participate before a team can use players from the bench.

4. After all the players on the field have had a turn, the coach will select a player from the bench until each has kicked with each team using equal number of players (i.e.- team 1- has 7 players on bench, Team 2 – has 4 players on bench: 4 players from each bench will take kicks before players take a second kick.)

Fields:

- Please wait on the spectators side of the field if a game is still going on. As soon as the game is complete, you may move over to the players side.
- Please do not practice behind the goal areas, as this may be distracting for the teams on the field.
- Please be considerate of the fields and clean up your bench area as you leave.

Bad Weather or Delays:

- In case of bad weather, each host site will have their own guidelines.
- However, some basic weather
 1. Thunder under! If you hear thunder then everyone needs to be under cover. Lightning flashes are also cause to pause play and take cover.
 2. There must be 30 minutes between claps of thunder or lightning before play can resume.
 3. If the temperature is above 80 degrees then an additional breaks will be given during each half of play. During the water break, the referee will stop the time.
 4. If the temperature with the wind chill is lower than 35 degrees then games will not be played until the temperature is above 35 degrees with the wind chill.
 5. If there is any delay then the Host Coordinator needs to notify the WCSSF coordinator immediately.
 6. Game updates will be posted on Facebook as they are turned in to WCSSF.
- You may bring a canopy to the field for your team/bench.
- If there is a big delay between games, the Host Coordinator or the WCSSF Board Member at the field will try to contact the teams affected. If possible, the WCSSF will post delays on Facebook as well.

Sportsmanship Reminder:

- The WCSSF is expecting every team and coach to exhibit excellent sportsmanship throughout the entire weekend.
- The WCSSF's Zero Tolerance Policy will be in effect for the tournament.
 1. Physical and sexual abuse, including, but not limited to, striking, hitting, kicking, biting, indecent or wanton gesturing, lewd remarks, indecent exposure, unwanted physical contact, any form of sexual contact or inappropriate touching, are starkly prohibited within our organization.
 2. Emotional abuse or verbal abuse is also prohibited. These include, but are not limited to such forms of abuse as profanity, yelling, insulting, threatening, mocking, demeaning behavior, or making abusive statements in regard to a person's race, gender, religion, nationality, ethnicity, sex or age.
- Coaches, please watch the way to speak to the referees during a game. It is not appropriate to yell or argue with the referee during the game, and it will NOT be tolerated. The decisions of the referee are final -- whether they are right or wrong.

Game Protests:

- **Game protests based upon the officiating of the game will NOT be considered because the referee's decisions are final.** Only game protests based upon procedural aspects of the game will be considered.
- The Host Coordinator or the WCSSF Board member at the field **MUST** be notified within 30 minutes after the completion of the game that a game protest is being sought.
- The coach then has an additional 15 minutes to submit the official request in writing along with the game protest fee of \$50.
- The Host Coordinator or the WCSSF Board member will initially contact a club representative (i.e.- Rec Plus Coordinator) to confirm that the game protest is allowed by the coach's club. Once approved, the Host Coordinator or the WCSSF Board Member at the field will contact the opposing coach or team to inform them that the game is under protest.
- The Host Coordinator or the WCSSF Board member will contact the Executive Committee of the board and if necessary arrange for the WCSSF Board to meet with both coaches.
- The appropriate action depending on the situation will be decided upon by the WCSSF Board. The decision of the WCSSF Board will be considered final and no further protests will be allowed.