



## USASA NATIONAL CUP POLICIES

### PART I - GENERAL

#### 101 GENERAL

1. Terms not specifically defined in these policies have the meaning ascribed to them in the Bylaws of the United States Adult Soccer Association (“USASA”).
2. USASA has established, and annually organizes, the following National Cups competition for men and women:
  - (a) US National Women’s Amateur Cup
  - (b) US National Men’s Amateur Cup
3. USASA may establish and organize additional National Cups competitions.
4. For any competition to be considered a National Cup that competition must be a competition among 16 teams with at least two teams from each USASA Region.
5. Any team participating in the National Cups must be registered through the USASA registration system or such other system as may be prescribed by the National Cups Committee, and have paid the current entry fee, prior to its first match.
6. USASA shall designate one USASA staff member identified as the National Cups Administrator. All correspondence to the National Office concerning the National Cups shall be addressed to the Attention of the National Cups Administrator.
7. The National Cups Administrator shall be responsible for scheduling all games of the National Cups, the format of which shall be a single elimination bracketed tournament with initial match pairings randomly drawn. Initial drawings may be conducted in multiple batches, each batch populated on a geographic basis. The brackets shall be drawn such that one semi-finalist is drawn from each of the four USASA regions.
8. The regional rounds of the competition shall be administered by the National Cups Commissioner. The National Cups Commissioner may delegate to a Region the administration and management of all or part of the regional round.
9. The format and any format-specific variances to the National Cups Policies must be proposed in writing and approved by the National Cups Commissioner and the National Cups Committee.
10. A State Association may, with approval of the National Cups Administrator in consultation with the National Cups Committee, run a qualifying event to determine which team or teams from that State Association advance to the regional rounds of the National Cups. In such case, the format and any format specific variances to the



National Cups Policies must be approved by National Cups Administrator in consultation with the National Cups Committee. For the avoidance of doubt, such an event is considered part of the National Cups.

11. Any competition organized, managed, or scheduled by a State Association, a Region, a USASA League, or USASA its staff, officers, or committees, in which advancement to further rounds of any of the National Cups is determined, as well as the Finals (and Third Place match, if any) of any of the National Cups, shall be considered part of the National Cups.

## **102 AWARDS**

Awards presented shall be the property of the recipient(s). National trophies are the property of USASA and shall be retained at the USASA national office and displayed as determined by the National Board of Directors (“NBOD”) or the USASA National Council.

## **103 NOTICES**

All notices required to be given under these policies shall be addressed to the person so designated with a copy to the National Cups Commissioner and National Cups Administrator.

## **104 MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR**

Any matters not provided for by this policy shall be determined by the National Cups Administrator in consultation with the National Cups Committee.

## **105 AMENDMENTS**

These policies may only be amended by majority vote of the USASA NBOD or the USASA National Council.

# **PART II - ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRIES**

## **201 TEAM ELIGIBILITY**

1. To be eligible to participate in a National Cups competition, a team must be:
  - (a) registered as a team of a state association, a state association sanctioned league, a USASA League, or a USASA Affiliate; and playing as a team in a regular USASA sanctioned league competition of at least four teams unless there is no open “11 v. 11” league in its home state association with four teams within an 80 mile radius of that team; or
  - (b) participate in a National Cups Qualifying



Tournament or other such competition of an Organization Member that includes a minimum of 4 teams in a group format and each team plays a minimum of three matches or an elimination format that includes a minimum of eight teams.

2. A team which has been disqualified from any level of National Cups competition during the prior year's competition shall not be allowed to participate in the current year's competition. At the time of disqualification, the National Cups Committee shall determine whether all the members of the disqualified team, or which members, are disqualified from participating during the current year.
3. A team using disqualified individuals shall be disqualified.

## **202 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

1. Each player of a team competing in a National Cups competition must meet the eligibility criteria related to age or gender and be properly registered with that team at least ten days prior to any game in the competition in which the player may participate. Proper registration includes being registered with USASA either directly or through a State Association, USASA League, or USASA Affiliate.
2. Players competing in the Amateur Cups must have amateur status as defined by the Federation. In any other National Cups, players of professional status are permitted to participate. A player registered as a professional may not re-register as an amateur until at least 30 days after their last match as a professional.
3. A player may not participate for more than one team in the same competition. "Participate" in this section means that the player has been included in a team's Player Pool at any time during the competition.
4. A player under suspension is not eligible to participate in any National Cups competition, until the suspension has been served.

## **203 PLAYER POOL**

1. A Player Pool of no more than 30 players for any team shall be entered into the USASA Registration System no less than 14 calendar days ("days") prior to that team's first match in the National Cups. The National Cup competition shall be described as the Regional, or National rounds of the competition.
2. A team's Player Pool may be changed during the National Cups competition but not less than fourteen (14) days before any match.
3. Every team playing in any round of the National Cups shall have access to its opponents Player Pool once submitted.



4. Failure to timely submit a Player Pool may result in a fine of \$100 per day for the first five days beyond the 14-day deadline, after which a team will be disqualified.
5. When the team player pool reaches a maximum of 30 players it is frozen. A team can add up to the maximum of 30 players anytime during the competition provided they are following the 14-day advance notice. If a team advances to the National Cup final weekend and they have reached a maximum of 30 players, that team can swap out a maximum of 5 new players. The swapping of players must happen at least 14 days prior to the first game in the final weekend

## **204 ENTRIES**

1. An entry fee of \$ 50.00 shall be paid to USASA for each team entering qualifying rounds of the National Cups competitions whether that is the State Rounds or other USASA qualifying round. Only money orders, cashiers or certified checks, state association, USASA League or USASA Affiliate checks, or electronic funds transfer will be acceptable for payment.
2. An entry fee of \$100.00 shall be paid to USASA for each team when progressing to the regional rounds of the National Cups competitions. Only money orders, cashiers or certified checks, state association, USASA League or USASA Affiliate checks, or electronic funds transfer will be acceptable for payment.
3. An entry fee of \$150.00 shall be paid to USASA for each team entering the competition in the regional rounds of the National Cups competitions. Only money orders, cashiers or certified checks, state association, USASA League or USASA Affiliate checks, or electronic funds transfer will be acceptable for payment.
4. A state association, USASA League, and Region may assess additional fees to cover their expenses.

## **205 ENTRY DEADLINES**

1. In consultation with the NBOD, the National Cups Administrator shall establish an entry deadline.



2. The Regional Cups Commissioner in consultation with the Regional Director and National Cups Administrator, may establish an entry deadline for the regional rounds of each National Cups competition, which date must precede the national deadline.
3. State Cup Commissioners, in consultation with their Regional Cups Commissioner may set an entry deadline for state rounds of competition, which date precedes the regional deadline.

## **PART III - PLAYING REQUIREMENTS**

### **301 NOTICE OF GAMES**

Notification of a team's next game shall be given, by the appropriate Cups Commissioner, or the National Cups Administrator to each team competing in any round of the National Cups competitions and shall be made not less than seven days prior to the scheduled date of the game, except when both teams wave this requirement in writing.

### **302 UNIFORMS**

1. When the referee determines that the uniforms of the two competing teams are so similar as to create possible player identification problems on the field, the home team shall change its uniform. However, if the visiting team is wearing colors other than those submitted on the Official Entry Form, the visiting team shall change.
2. Clearly visible numbers, at least six inches high and sewn, pressed, or silk screened on, must be worn on the back of each player's jersey, including the goalkeeper. Each player on a team must wear a different number. A description of the team's uniforms shall be provided on the "Official Entry Form" and on the Player Pool Form.

### **303 PLAYER IDENTIFICATION**

1. USASA-approved identification, including, but not necessarily limited to, a tamper resistant player pass, a picture roster, comparable electric identification, or a combination of documents and photographic identification that clearly evidence a



player's membership on the team. The appropriate identification shall be presented to the referee before any player is permitted to enter a game and shall be made available to the representative of the opposing team on request.

2. Any player identification shall be verified by the player's state association, USASA League, USASA Affiliate or other organization member, as appropriate.

### **304 PLAYING RULES**

1. In all rounds played in the National Cup competitions, the playing rules are the FIFA Laws of the Game in effect at the time of the deadline of entry, with the following exceptions:
  - (a) The length of the field may not be more than 120 yards nor less than 100 yards, and the width of the field may not be more than 80 yards nor less than 60 yards.
  - (b) Goal nets must be used. The field shall be marked in accordance with the plan in "The Laws of the Game ". A flag on a post not less than five feet high and having a non-pointed top shall be placed at each corner.
  - (c) A maximum of seven substitutions shall be allowed in each men's game, and women's teams are permitted unlimited substitutions at any stoppage of play, unless modified by the regional council for regional rounds of competition or by the national state association, USASA League, or USASA Affiliate for their respective rounds of competition. Substitutions are at the discretion of the referee
  - (d) In any men's National Cups competition, a player who has been replaced by a substitute may not re-enter the game at any time. In any women's National Cups competition, a player who has been replaced by a substitute may reenter the game without restriction.
  - (e) Regional rounds of competition may be organized in a manner agreed to at a regional council meeting. This may include round robin brackets, double elimination, or single elimination, but may not be played contrary to the FIFA Laws of the game and the exceptions provided herein.
  - (f) A region may, at its discretion, allow direct entry to the Regional Rounds of competition without teams having to advance through a State Round of competition.
  - (g) A region may, at its discretion, allow its Regional Rounds of competition to be run by the National Cups Administrator, in which case the National Cups Administrator



will assume the duties of the respective Regional Cups Commissioner provided for in Section 502.

- (h) Depending upon the competition format chosen and approved by the regional council, a tie may be allowed to stand. In games in which a winner must be determined, but the score is tied at the end of the second half, there will be two overtime periods of 15 minutes each. If the game remains tied at the end of the two overtime periods, the winner will then be determined by kicks from the penalty mark as prescribed by FIFA. For regional Rounds of competition, the Regional Cups Commissioner may, with formal approval of the National Cups Administrator, forego overtime periods and allow a tied game to proceed directly to kicks from the penalty mark as prescribed by FIFA. In all national rounds of competitions in which the score of any game is tied at the end of the second half, there will be two overtime periods of 15 minutes each. If the game remains tied at the end of the two overtime periods, the winner will then be determined by kicks from the penalty mark as prescribed by FIFA.
- (i) If a game is prematurely terminated as a result of a cause or causes for which neither team is responsible:
- (1) If at least 75 minutes or more have been played, the result at the time of termination shall stand, unless a tie exists at that time in which case the remainder of the game will be played at the earliest possible opportunity.
  - (2) If less than 75 minutes have been played at the time of termination the remainder of the game will be played at the earliest possible opportunity.
  - (3) However, if the non-completion of a game results from misconduct clearly traceable to one of the competing teams, its management, or its followers, the Cups Commissioner for that level of play shall decide on the disposition of the game.
  - (4) If a game is not completed because one of the teams is unable to field at least seven players, the score will stand as it is at the moment of termination or abandonment. If the team responsible for abandonment has more goals than the opposing team, or the game is tied, the opposing team will be awarded a forfeit victory.
  - (5) If the team awarded the forfeit has scored fewer than three goals, it shall be awarded the forfeit victory of three goals.
  - (6) The decision of the Cups Commissioner is final.



2. Each team will be allowed to select not more than 20 (twenty) players from its player pool to participate in any game. Prior to the start of the game, each team will provide the referee and the other team a game roster designating not more than 11 starting players and the other players from the player pool list as the 20 (twenty) players from which substitutions may be made.

### **305 GAME OFFICIALS**

1. Only officials registered with, or sanctioned by, the Federation shall be eligible to be appointed as referees and assistant referees for games in any of the National Cups competitions.
2. Neither a member of the USASA Referee Committee nor a member of the National Cups Committee may be a game official. Individuals who are, or have been, a member of one of two competing teams during the past two years may not officiate a game between the two teams, unless both teams waive this prohibition in writing.
3. In all regional rounds of competitions, the referee fee shall be set by the Regional Cups Commissioner.

### **306 PLAYER AND TEAM OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE**

1. Team officials (coaches, assistant coaches, trainers, and others allowed to be in the technical area) are expected to behave in a responsible manner. A team official may be expelled from the field by the referee, in which case the team official must leave the area of the field entirely and no longer participate directly or indirectly in the match. The dismissed team official will also be suspended from participating in the next scheduled match of his/her team in that competition, but the National Cup Committee may increase or add other penalties as the behavior warrants.
2. Players shall be suspended for one game of the same competition if they were sent off the field by the referee for a second caution-able offense.
3. Suspension of an ejected player for all other reasons shall be for a minimum of the two subsequent games in that competition. A copy of each referee and assistant referee report must be promptly sent to the player's state association, USASA League, USASA Affiliate or other organization member that may then take additional disciplinary actions not affecting Cups competition.



4. If any player or team official is participating in more than one National Cups competition during the same weekend is ejected from a match that weekend, that ejected player or dismissed team official will be suspended from the next one [Rule 307(1)] or two [Rule 307(2)] games of that competition.

### **307 TEAM AND PLAYER BREACH OF RULE**

1. The National Cups Committee and the National Cups Administrator have the authority to suspend and/or disqualify and remove from further participation in any National Cups competition, any team, team official, or player of any competing team who has been proven guilty of any breach of the rules of USASA or the Federation.
2. All notices of disqualification or suspension shall be forwarded by electronic mail, certified mail, or overnight delivery to any affected team, except that the minimum of one game or two games suspension under §307 is effective without notice.
3. If there is a dispute (other than one involving referee assault or abuse) arising from a National Cup game under the jurisdiction of USASA in which suspensions or penalties of six months or more are imposed against an individual, an opportunity shall be provided for the individual to appeal any such decision of the National Cups Committee or State Cups Commissioner to the USASA Appeals Committee. The decision of the USASA Appeals Committee shall be final. The procedures for appealing a decision of the National Cups Committee or State Cups Commissioner shall follow the provisions USASA Bylaws.
4. The National Cups Committee has authority to establish a policy for imposing fines for games at the state, regional and national level of National Cups competition.
5. Any team which abandons a game in progress in any regional or national round of competition shall be disqualified and removed from the competition and shall forfeit their bond and entry fee, as well as any awards to which they would otherwise be entitled by completing the game. The National Cup Committee, at its discretion, has the authority to impose additional penalties and suspensions for unsporting behavior.



## 308 PROTESTS

1. Any protest concerning a game played in a state round of competitions shall be referred to the State Cups Commissioner. The commissioner shall decide the protest and that decision may not be appealed. Any protest concerning a game in a regional round of competitions shall be referred to the National Cups Committee through the Regional Cups Commissioner for disposition. The decision of the committee may not be appealed.

1. Should it become necessary, so as not to seriously and adversely impact a competition schedule, that an immediate decision regarding a protest in a regional round of competition is required, the Regional Cups Commissioner shall have the authority to render such a decision without consultation of the National Cups Committee, provided that:

(a) the protest fee has been paid, and

(b) both teams involved have been given the opportunity to present statements, either verbally or in writing, to the Regional Cups Commissioner. In the case of such an expedited decision, the provisions of §308 regarding the format, distribution, and timing of notice and responses shall not apply.

2. The protest must be made in writing and must describe in detail the grounds for the protest.

3. The original, signed protest, five additional copies of the protest, and a protest fee of \$100.00 shall be submitted to the State Cups Commissioner for state rounds of competitions, and the Regional Cups Commissioner for regional rounds of competitions, within three days of the game to which the protest relates. A copy of the protest must be forwarded to the opposing team. The protest and copies shall be submitted to the appropriate cup's commissioner and the opposing team either by electronic mail, receipted hand delivery, or by overnight delivery

4. The protest fee must be sent to the National Cups Administrator, made payable to "USASA," in the form of cashier's check, certified check or money order, or electronic funds transfer.

(a) The opposing team shall have seven days from receipt of the protest to submit to the appropriate cups commissioner its statement regarding the protest, if any. A



copy of the statement shall be submitted to the opposing team either via electronic mail, receipted hand delivery or by overnight delivery.

(b) No protest shall be considered for the alleged use of an ineligible player whose name appears on the player pool form received by protesting team under 203-3, unless prior to the game a written protest, accompanied by the \$100 protest fee, is lodged with the referee and the opposing team for that game.

(c) The protest shall be decided as soon as possible and may require further submission of evidence related to the protest.

5. For a protest related to state rounds of competitions, notice of the State Cups Commissioner's decision shall be sent by overnight delivery, telephone facsimile, or electronic mail to both teams. In addition, the State Cups Commissioner must forward a copy of the decision, and copies of the documentation available in the case, within three days of the decision to the appropriate Regional Cups Commissioner.

6. For protests relating to regional and national rounds of competitions, notice of the National Cups Committee's decision shall be sent by electronic mail or overnight delivery to both teams. In addition, the cups committee must forward to the National Cups Administrator a copy of the decision and accompanying documentation available in the matter within three days of the decision.

7. A protest may be withdrawn in writing after it has been submitted, but withdrawal of a protest shall result in forfeiture of the protest fee.

8. The protest fee shall be returned if the protest is sustained.

### **309 DISQUALIFICATIONS**

1. A team that is found to be ineligible to participate in the National Cups competition or is found to be using an ineligible player at any level of the National Cups competitions shall be disqualified from the competition.

2. A claim of player ineligibility for state rounds of competitions shall be resolved by the State Cups Commissioner. A claim of player ineligibility at regional and/or national rounds of competitions shall be resolved by the National Cups committee in consultation with the appropriate State Cups Commissioner or Commissioners and National Cups Administrator.



3. A team may also be disqualified from the National Cups competitions for failure to comply with the rules of the National Cups competitions, or for other just causes as determined by the National Cups committee.
4. A team intending to forfeit a game in a regional or national round of competition must give written notice of its intention to do so to the representative of the opposing team, which must be received by the opposing team at least seven days before the date of the game. Copies of the notice must also be given to the Regional Cups Commissioner and the forfeiting team's State Cups Commissioner and, for forfeiture at the national rounds of competition, to the National Cups Commissioner and the forfeiting team's Regional Cups Commissioner, and the National Cups Administrator. Timely notice of intention to forfeit under this paragraph does not negate any claims for expenses submitted under 601.
5. A team that forfeits a game at, or is disqualified from, any level of the National Cups competitions may be barred from entering the National Cups competitions in the following year at the discretion of the National Cups committee.
6. If a team is disqualified from regional or national rounds of competition, the National Cups committee, in consultation with the National Cups Administrator, shall have absolute discretion to appropriately adjust the structure or form of the remainder of the competition. If a team is disqualified from state rounds of competition, the State Cups Commissioner shall have the absolute discretion to appropriately adjust the structure or form of the remainder of the state rounds of competition.
7. Any scheduled game that is forfeited will result in a 3:0 score for the opponent.

#### **PART IV - ROUNDS OF THE COMPETITION**

##### **401 STATE, USASA LEAGUE, REGIONAL & NATIONAL ROUNDS**

1. The National Cups competitions may be conducted at the following levels:
  - (a) State Rounds of competition for teams of the state associations, for teams of USASA Leagues and of USASA Affiliates.
  - (b) The Regional Rounds of competition for teams advancing beyond the state rounds.



(c) The National rounds of competition for teams advancing beyond the Regional Rounds.

#### **402 STATE ROUNDS OF COMPETITIONS**

1. A state association may conduct and administer the state rounds of competition for the National Cups.
2. Teams of USASA Affiliates shall be entered into the State Round of Competition in the State Association in which they are domiciled and shall pay any associated State Association Cup charges but no more than any other State Association registered team.
3. Each region shall set the date by which the champions of State Rounds of Competition must be determined.
4. Provided that the advancing team(s) of the State Rounds of competition are determined not later than the scheduled deadline, the State Cups Commissioner for a state association may organize the State Rounds in a manner preferred by the State Association.

#### **403 USASA LEAGUE ROUNDS**

1. Each USASA League may conduct its own league rounds of competitions, leading to a team or teams advancing to the Regional Rounds of competition.
2. If a USASA League does not conduct its own competition, individual teams of the league may enter the National Cups competitions through the state association in which they are domiciled.
3. The Regional Cups Commissioners shall set the date by which advancing teams of USASA League rounds of competition must be determined.
4. A USASA League may organize the league rounds of competitions in a manner preferred by the league provided that the champions of the USASA League rounds of competitions are determined not later than the scheduled deadline.

#### **404 REGIONAL ROUNDS OF COMPETITIONS**

1. All advancing teams of State Rounds of competition and USASA League Rounds of competitions shall participate in the Regional Rounds of competitions. If the originally advancing team of a State Association or USASA League is unable or unwilling to



participate in a Regional Rounds of competition, the respective runner-up shall become eligible to advance to that Regional Round of competition.

2. Each advancing team of USASA League rounds of competitions shall be entered in regional rounds of competitions within that region in which the team is domiciled. Any Tier 1 USASA League shall be allowed a minimum of two teams advancing into each Regional Round of competition.

## **405 NATIONAL ROUNDS OF COMPETITION**

1. The national rounds of competitions shall be played at venues approved by the NBOD, on the recommendation of the National Cups Committee. The National Cups Administrator working with the National Cups Committee is responsible for the supervision of those rounds.

## **PART V – COMMISSIONERS**

### **501 NATIONAL CUPS COMMISSIONERS**

1. Immediately following the Annual General Meeting of USASA, the President of USASA shall appoint a National Cups Commissioner who, with the National Cups Administrator shall be responsible for administering the National Cups competitions.

2. Should the National Cup Commissioner, Regional Cup Commissioners, State Cup Commissioners, or any other person to whom any responsibility for administering the National Cups competitions is delegated, including the members of the National Cups Committee, be a player registered with, or an official of a state, league or team entered in the competitions, the commissioner(s) must recuse him/her self from all discussions and decisions concerning the team or organization of which he/she may be affiliated with.

3. The National Cups Commissioner shall report to the President of the USASA. The National Cups Commissioner's specific responsibilities include the following:

(a) consulting with the Regional Directors on the appointment of Regional Cups Commissioners.

(b) establish deadline dates by which entries must be received.

(c) with the National Cups Committee, reject team entries for failure to comply with this policy and requirements.



- (d) coordinate with the Referee Committee the appointment of game officials.
- (e) in consultation with the National Cups Committee, determine player and team suspensions and fines related to breaches of the National Cups policy.
- (f) ensure timely distribution of cup entry forms, promotional materials, and rulebooks to the Regional Cups Commissioners, USASA Leagues, and USASA Affiliates.
- (g) coordinate the selection of game venues for conducting national rounds of competitions.
- (h) coordinate and assist in the processing and determination of protests filed for regional and national rounds of competition.
- (i) support the NBOD in marketing the National Cups program.
- (j) other duties assigned by the President of the USASA.

## **502 REGIONAL CUP COMMISSIONERS**

2. The Regional Director, with the advice of the National Cups Commissioner, shall appoint a Regional Cups Commissioner for each respective region.
3. The Regional Cups Commissioner is responsible for coordinating and administering all games in National Cups competitions in his/her region. The Regional Cups Commissioner's specific responsibilities include the following:
  - (a) consult with the Regional Director to establish deadline dates for the region by which state, and USASA League entries must be received, and notifying the National Cups Commissioner of all dates of regional rounds of competitions.
  - (b) consult with the Regional Director to establish the date by which all state and USASA League rounds of competitions in their region must be completed.
  - (c) coordinate the scheduling of all regional rounds of competitions. (d) resolve all disagreements regarding the sites, dates and times of regional cups competitions in consultation with the National Cups Committee.
  - (e) coordinate with the Regional Referee Administrator for the scheduling and assignment of referees for all regional rounds of competitions.



- (f) provide the Regional Referee Administrator with rule books to distribute to referees assigned to regional rounds of the competitions.
- (g) provide the Regional Referee Administrator with the appropriate game report forms to be completed following all regional rounds of competitions, with directions on submission of the completed reports to the Regional Cups Commissioner.
- (h) periodically report to the National Cups Commissioner the ongoing results of the regional rounds of competitions and immediately report to the National Cups Commissioner and the USASA the final determination of champions of regional rounds in any National Cups competitions.
- (i) administer all suspensions as provided in §306 and §307 for regional rounds of competition.
- (j) recommend to the National Cups Committee, player and team suspensions and fines related to breaches of this policy.
- (k) ensure timely distribution of National Cups entry forms, promotional materials and rule books to the State Cups Commissioners and regional leagues.
- (l) coordinate the processing and decisions of protests filed for regional and national rounds of competitions as provided by §308.
- (m) support the National Cups Commissioner and USASA in marketing of the National Cups program.
- (n) provide advice to the State Cup Commissioners regarding the conduct of the National Cups competitions and rule interpretations.
- (o) other duties assigned by the Regional Director and/or National Cups Commissioner.

### **503 STATE CUP COMMISSIONERS**

1. State Cup Commissioners shall be appointed by the respective State Association. The State Cup Commissioners are responsible for coordinating and administering all games played in the National Cup competitions in their state association. The State Cups Commissioner's specific responsibilities shall include the following:



- (a) consult with the state association to establish deadline dates for the state association by which entries must be received and notifying the Regional Cups Commissioner of all dates of intra-state games.
- (b) distribute entry forms, rule books, player pool forms, cup game report forms and other promotional materials to all leagues and teams registered in the state association, as well as forwarding similar information.
- (c) coordinate the scheduling of all intra-state Cup games, including dates and locations, and recommend to the state association any “closed” time periods required under.
- (d) resolve all disagreements regarding the sites, dates, and times of intra-state Cup games in consultation with the Regional Cups Commissioner.
- (e) coordinate with the State Referee Committee and Assignor for the scheduling and assignment of referees for all state rounds of competition.
- (f) coordinate with the State Referee Committee and Assignor the distribution of rule books to referees assigned to state rounds of competition.
- (g) provide the State Referee Committee and Assignor with the appropriate game report forms to be completed following all state rounds of competitions games, with directions on submission of the completed reports to the State Cup Commissioner.
- (h) periodically report to the Regional Cups Commissioner about the ongoing results of the state rounds of competitions and immediately report to the Regional Cups Commissioner the final determination of champions of state rounds of competitions in all National Cup competitions.
- (i) administer all suspensions as provided in §306 and §307 for state rounds of competition.
- (j) recommend to the National Cups Committee, player or team suspensions and fines related to breaches of the Laws of the Game or of these Cup Policies.
- (k) assist in the processing and decisions of protests filed for state rounds of competitions as provided by §308.
- (l) support the National Cups Commissioner and USASA in marketing the National Cups program.



(m) other duties assigned by the state association and the Regional Cups Commissioner.

## **PART VI – FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **601 TEAM BOND REQUIREMENT**

1. Any team entering or advancing to the Regional Rounds of competition, shall provide to USASA a bond of \$500.00 in the form of a cashiers or certified check made payable to “USASA.” The check or money order shall be sent within seven days of the team’s entering or advancing to the Regional Rounds. Any team withdrawing from, or forfeiting in, the Regional or National Rounds of competition shall forfeit its bond the amount of which shall be considered liquidated damages to cover any expenses incurred by any other team in that competition, the region, or USASA.

2. In lieu of the above identified bond, a State Association, Affiliate, Region, Regional League or National League may provide a written certification that they will provide the bond amount in the event of any forfeit of the bond as described in Section 601.1. Such certification shall be made by the state president, regional director, league president or chief executive, as applicable. All other requirements for the bond shall apply to each certification. The certification shall identify by name the corresponding team(s).