



USYS
NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP
SERIES

State Cup – Final 4

Rules, Tie Breakers, and Severe Weather policy

GAME PLAY

Section 1. General

- (1) At all Cup Games players and all team officials must have a State issued Member Pass.
- (2) At all Cup Games the team must have a Certified Roster.
- (3) Each player must have a number on the player's jersey. The number must be affixed to the back of the jersey and must be clearly visible. Each player on the team must wear a number different from the number of every other player on the team. Goalkeepers must also have a number on their jersey.
- (4) Goalkeepers must wear colors that distinguish them from other players and game officials.

Section 2. Playing Rules

The playing rules of **THE US YOUTH SOCCER NYSW Championships Competitions** shall conform to the FIFA "**Laws of the Game**" except as provided by this rule. Except as otherwise provided for in this section, the length of games, overtime play periods, ball size, ball circumference, and ball weight for each age group shall be as follows:

Age Group	Game Length	Size	Circumference	Weight
Under 19	Two 45' halves	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 18	Two 45' halves	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 17	Two 45' halves	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 16	Two 40' halves	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 15	Two 40' halves	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 14	Two 35' halves	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 13	Two 35' halves	# 5	27-28 in.	14-16 oz.
Under 12	Two 30' halves	# 4	25-26 in.	11-13 oz.

SUBSTITUTIONS

For the National Championships competitions at all levels—

- (1) for the Under 12, 13, and 14 age groups, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed; and
- (2) for all other age groups, a maximum of 7 substitutions for each team shall be allowed in each game during each half of play and during overtime play. After leaving the game during a half of play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game during that same half of play. After leaving the game during overtime play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game.

GRACE PERIOD

A fifteen (15) minute grace period shall be allowed at the start of the game. For all preliminary/playdown round match games, any team not ready to play after the grace period must be reported by the referee to the NYSW Cup Chairperson within 24 hours for appropriate action.

UNFINISHED GAMES

Unfinished games due to any cause shall be replayed providing neither team is at fault and play has not begun in the second half of regulation time. If play is stopped during the second half of regulation time and cannot be resumed, and neither team is at fault, the game will be declared finished and complete. Should play be stopped at any time due to one (1) of the teams being adjudged at fault, whether the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit shall be at the discretion of the NYSW Cup Chairperson and 2 other members of the NYSW Board of Directors.

SCORING SYSTEM

WIN Three (3) Points
TIE One (1) Point
LOSS Zero (0) Points

TIE-BREAKERS

- (1) Head-to-Head
- (2) Most Wins
- (3) Goal Difference (maximum goal difference will be four (4) per game)
- (4) Least Goals Allowed
- (5) FIFA “Kicks from the Penalty Mark” (immediately following the round robin games)

Three-way ties within an age group:

A three-way tie will be decided using the same tie breakers as items 2, 3 and 4 above. If one team can be eliminated before applying item 4, then start over at 1 comparing only the remaining two teams. If FIFA “**Kicks from the Penalty Mark**” have to be taken, there will be a draw by the State Cup Committee. The first team drawn will receive the bye, the next team drawn will be the home team against the remaining team in the first contest of FIFA “**Kicks from the Penalty Mark**”. The winner of the first contest will then compete against the bye team in FIFA “**Kicks from the Penalty Mark**” to determine the winner of the age group. The bye team will be the home team.

FORFEITS

If a team participating in the competition during the Final 4 Weekend forfeits a game, the scoring will be as follows:

- (1) For each forfeited game, the **NON-forfeiting team** shall be awarded:
 - a. Three (3) points for a win
 - b. Goal differential shall be equal to the average goals for game(s) in the same age group allowed by the team that forfeits.
 - c. Zero goals allowed.
- (2) For each forfeited game, the **forfeiting team** shall be awarded:
 - a. Zero points for the loss.
 - b. Zero goals for
 - c. Four (4) goals allowed

SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS POLICY

Recognize the threat: The SUNY Cortland Advance Weather Technology (AWT) system will be employed as the primary method for evaluating lightning threats for all fields throughout the competition.

Warn participants and spectators: A State Cup committee designate will announce that play will be suspended and that everyone should immediately seek proper shelter. The announcement will be made **via a public address system**. In the absence of a public address system, the committee designate will sound **3 long blasts** of an air horn to signal that play should be suspended and that everyone should immediately seek proper shelter.

Proper shelter is defined as the nearest public building or in the absence of such a structure then a vehicle with a solid metal top. If there is no proper shelter, **avoid** the most dangerous locations: Higher elevations; wide open areas, including fields; tall, isolated objects, such as trees, poles, or light posts; unprotected open buildings; rain shelters; bus stops; metal fences and metal bleachers.

The Stadium Concourse at SUNY Cortland does NOT constitute proper shelter and must be evacuated completely.

Resuming Play: The contest will be suspended until the AWT has indicated the threat of lightning no longer exists within a 10-mile radius of the field. Resumption of play will be announced by the State Cup committee designate. The announcement will be **via public address system**. In the absence of a public address system, a sound of **1 long blast** of an air horn will be used to signal the resumption of play.

Other types of severe weather: For all other types of severe storms, such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and hail, obey local rules and heed warnings. Clear the field and seek proper shelter immediately – see above. Remember, according to standard weather warning terminology a "*warning*" represents a more immediately likely occurrence than a "*watch*."

**NO SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY GUIDELINES WILL GIVE 100% GUARANTEED SAFETY,
BUT THESE STEPS WILL HELP TO MINIMIZE YOUR EXPOSURE.**