NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE PRESIDENTS CUP SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP (NHPCSC)



RULES AND REGULATIONS MANUAL

**2015**

New Hampshire Presidents Cup Championship (NHPCSC) event is a team competition conducted by the New Hampshire Soccer Association (NHSA). As such, this competition requires that each affiliated league, club and team support the Championship as their first priority.

NHPCSC committee will vote on an affiliated organization to host the NHPCSC event within state boundaries. Any affiliated organization wishing to host the NHPCSC event must adhere to the procedures outlined in the NHPCSC bid package. Should no affiliated organization make such a bid, NHPCSC committee will host the NHPCSC event at a location and time determined by NHPCSC committee.

**A.** **TEAM ENTRY**

1. Any NHSA affiliated team may enter the appropriate age group in the NHPCSC event. All teams must REGISTER ON GOT SOCCER no later than January 25, 2015.
2. The NHPCSC administration fee of $600.00 payable to NHSA shall be submitted with the NHPCSC Entry Form no later than January 25, 2015.
3. Copies of team documentation listed below must be submitted **NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 15, 2015**, for all age levels.

If a team is not registered with an approved league at the time of NHPCSC entry form submission, a letter will need to be written to the NHPCSC committee detailing the plans for formal team Registration or a club registration fee of $275.00 be sent to the state office.

Teams affiliated with the New Hampshire Soccer Association

Must be comprised of 2/3 New Hampshire residents.

If the proper team documentation is not submitted by February **15, 2015**,the team representative will be notified. The team application will be frozen until the proper Documentation is received.

**B. ROSTERS:**

All teams participating in the event will submit the NHPCSC state roster on an approved NHSA electronic program. All teams participating in the NHPCSC event shall adhere to the following criteria:

1. All players shall be listed alphabetically, last name first.
2. Player Names shall match exactly the name on Player Pass and roster.
3. Player Pass numbers shall be unique for each player.
4. Primary and alternate jersey numbers shall be listed properly.
5. League or NHSA approved US Youth Soccer Player passes shall be filled out and **all shall be laminated**. Player Passes must match exactly or the players shall not be permitted to participate in the NHPCSC match. **Non-laminated Player passes shall preclude that player from participating in this event.**

**C. Fines and Penalties:**

1. All teams participating in the NHPCSC event will be required to have a representative at any and all mandatory coaches meeting. Failure by any team to have proper representation at the coaches meeting will be subject to disqualification from the event and loss of administration fees.
2. All teams participating in the NHPCSC event are expected to play and complete all scheduled matches. If a team is not willing to finish a match for any reason (except injury) they will be subject to a fine of not more than $1,000.00.
3. A participating team may withdraw from the NHPCSC without penalty by February 15, 2015; however, the administrative fee shall not be refunded. Any team that withdraws from the NHPCSC event after the February 15, 2015, deadline shall be subject to a fine of not more than $1,000.00 per scheduled match.
4. Any unreasonable forfeit, as determined by the NHPCSC committee, shall subject the team to a fine of not more than $1,000.00.
5. Failure to pay fines will cause the participating team and coach to be placed in **"BAD STANDING"** with the New Hampshire Soccer Association for up to two years. Teams and coaches in "Bad Standing'' shall not be permitted to participate in any NHSA competition. In addition the "Home Club" of said team is ultimately responsible for the fines or sanctions handed down by NHSA. Failure of a team, coach or club to fulfill the punishment will result in the "Home Club" to be placed in **"BAD STANDING"** and subject to sanction for up to two years.

D. **SCHEDULING MATCHES AND ASSIGNING REFEREES:**

1. The NHPCSC committee shall schedule all matches. All matches will be played at NHPCSC committee approved fields located throughout New Hampshire. The NHPCSC committee shall resolve any conflicts concerning the scheduling of matches. No protest or appeal may be raised concerning the scheduling and all decisions will be final.
   * **Round robin, games, will be played during March and April.**

1. The NHPCSC match scheduled for 2015 will be issued no later than, FEBRUARY 15, 2015. The schedule is final unless otherwise approved by the NHPCSC Chairperson.
2. The State Youth Referee Administrator (SYRA) shall assign all referees, assistant referees and assessors to all matches. A Pre‑Tournament clinic for all referees expected to participate in the NHPCSC event will be conducted by the SYRA. Failure to participate in this clinic may result in a referee being excluded from officiating in any event match. The SYRA may exempt referees from attending the clinic based on grade or experience. Assignment of officials to a specific match is not subject to protest or appeal.

**F. Registration, Rosters, and Passes**

1. Each team shall have a copy of their official NHSA League Roster present at the match site. No NHPCSC match will be played without an approved roster from each team. Failure to produce the proper documentation will result in the forfeit of the match.
2. All teams shall have their laminated USYSA Player Passes available at the match sight. Players without such laminated pass or with laminated passes that do not match the approved roster are ineligible to participate in the match.
3. **Any coach, assistant coach, or any other team official must ­have a NHSA approved coaches pass to participate on the team side of the pitch during the match. No team shall participate in a match without either a coach or assistant coach present on the team side of the pitch.**
4. Teams may carry eighteen (18) players per roster. Teams that carry more than eighteen players during their league season will only be permitted to roster eighteen for NHPCSC matches. **For U12 8v8, the roster may only carry up to 14 players. For U14 and older teams, the roster may carry up to 22 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Only eighteen may dress for any given game.**
5. **NO GUEST PLAYERS**

**G.** **International walk‑on:**

1. All final event matches shall begin with an International walk‑on.
2. All team members will participate in the walk‑on.

**H.** **Team Officials Meeting:**

1. A Team Official from each team participating in the NHPCSC competition shall attend the mandatory coaches meeting. A Team Official may be any individual designated to represent a specific team and may represent more than one team. Team Officials will be required to sign an attendance sheet and in turn receive the official team package. All material necessary for the team to participate in the NHPCSC event shall be made available at this time. Each participating team assumes the responsibility to obtain and review this material. No protest or appeal shall be accepted or approved based in whole or in part on the premise that the team or teams were not aware of a specific rule or procedure.

**I. COMPETITION FORMAT**

* 1. **This competition shall be a “Home and Away” tournament with aggregate goals to determine advancement and may have shortened games. The format will determine the two teams who will be required to play in the state Presidents’ Cup final.**
  2. **Each team will play an opponent twice, once as the Home team and once as the Away team. Preliminary matches may end in a tie and goals scored as the Home team will be added to goals scored as the Away team to determine advancement. For Example, if Team A wins its first match 3 - 2 as the Home team and ties its second match 2 - 2 goals as the Away team, they have an aggregate 5 goals and would advance in the competition. In the event of a tie after two matches, the team with the most Away goals advances. If there is still a tie, the second match will follow overtime procedures listed below in Section L.**
  3. Except for the final matches, the home team shall furnish

the game ball. The game ball must meet the US Youth Soccer requirements. The referee has responsibility to measure the game ball prior to the match and ensure it meets requirements. Once the match begins, protests cannot be lodged because of an illegal ball.

* 1. Teams not ready for play at the scheduled start time of any match shall be granted a ten‑minute grace period. A minimum of seven players constitutes a team ready for play. Any team not ready to play after this ten-minute grace period has expired shall forfeit the match.
  2. The home team shall be the team listed first. Should NHSA be unable to provide a field, the home team shall provide the field. The visiting team shall have the choice of jersey colors. If in the opinion of the referee there is a color conflict, the home team shall change jerseys.
     1. Team and team officials (maximum of four coaches/managers) will be allowed on the sideline. Parents and spectators will be on the opposite sideline. Team official identification passes will only be issued to those who are represented and approved by the NHPCSC committee. Coaches will remain in the designated coach's box. Spectators will not be allowed on the team side of the pitch. Spectators will be the responsibility of the team’s head coach. Game Officials may stop the match until such time as spectators comply with the rules. **Team Officials must possess an approved pass to be on the team sideline.** NHPCSC officials shall be permitted on the team sideline.
     2. The assigned referee shall complete the NHPCSC Referee Report form for all matches. The referee is responsible for completion of the form and for its submission to the event registrar. **Each coach has the responsibility and right to verify the score with the referee at the conclusion of the match. The referee shall not be responsible to ensure that coaches verify the score.** The Referee Report form shall constitute the official record of the match.
     3. Each player shall wear an official uniform with a six‑inch minimum size number on the back of the jersey. The goalie jersey shall be optional. Duplicate numbers are not permitted. Both teams must have at the match site alternate jerseys with a six‑inch minimum size number on the back. In addition each team must have alternate socks (light and dark sock).
     4. The NHPCSC representative shall receive the team roster, player passes and the coaches’ passes before each match. The roster and passes may or may not remain in the possession of the NHPCSC representative for the duration of the match. Coaches are required to wear in clear site the NHPCSC event credentials (coaches pass) issued by the registrar. Any person on the team side without event credentials will be requested to leave. Coaches are responsible and could cause a forfeit for not abiding by the rule. Each coach is responsible for obtaining the roster and passes at match conclusion.
     5. Lengths of matches, Overtime Periods, Ball requirements,

1. U-17, U-18, U-19 90 min. game and #5 balls; overtime is two 15 minute halves, no golden goal
2. U15, U-16 80 min. game and #5 balls; overtime is two 15 minute halves, no golden goal
3. U-13, U-14 70 min. game and #5 balls; overtime is two ten minute halves, no golden goal
4. U-12 60 min. game and #4 balls; overtime is two ten minute halves, no golden goal
5. **Finals ONLY:** To determine which of the two teams in a drawn match after overtime periods shall be declared a winner; only the taking of kicks from the penalty mark shall make the winner. Should weather, darkness or any other reason preclude the continuation of the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, the kicks will be suspended until such time as the teams may resume.   
   The Cup Committee shall designate the date, time and place. This method of determination shall not be subject to a protest or appeal.
   * 1. If the field complex provides viewing from the goal line, then the spectators must be at least 10 yards from the pitch. All efforts will be made to avoid spectators from viewing the match from directly behind the goal.
     2. **Finals only:** An unfinished match due to any cause shall be replayed providing neither team is at fault nor play has not begun in the second half. If play is stopped during the second ha1f and play cannot resume and provided neither team is at fault, the game may be deemed complete. Should play be stopped at any time without possibility of resumption due to one of the teams being adjudged at fault, the match shall be declared a forfeit by the team adjudged at fault. This committee shall make all decisions under this paragraph. Only the committee can decide if this game can be resumed or replayed.
     3. After a team has been determined the winner, the match is over and will not be replayed under any circumstances.

**J.** **EJECTION'S:**

**1. Player Ejection's:**

1. If a player is ejected from any match, the player's pass, team roster and referee's report of the incident shall be submitted to the field registrar.
2. b. The minimum penalty for an ejection is that a player shall not be permitted to play in the next NHSA immediate match of a player's team. This penalty may be increased at the discretion of the NHPCSC Committee.
3. c. The SYRA will be notified of the player's ineligibility. The SYRA shall in turn notify the assigned referee for the respective team's next match.
4. d. If the team of an ejected player allows the ejected player to participate in the next immediate match, that team shall forfeit the match. The coach will be subject to sanctions by NHSA and the teams respective league officials
5. e. The NHPCSC committee shall forward all ejected player passes to the team's respective league officials.

2. **Coach Dismissal:**

1. a. If a coach is dismissed from any match, the coach's pass, team roster and a copy of the referee's report of the incident shall be submitted to the NHPCSC Chairperson.
2. b. The minimum penalty for an ejection is that the coach shall not be permitted to participate in the next immediate NHSA match or, if that team has been eliminated from further NHPCSC competition, the next immediate NHSA match of the ejected coach even if it involves a different team. The penalty may be increased at the discretion of the NHPCSC Committee.
3. c. The NHPCSC Chairperson shall notify the SYRA of the coach's ineligibility who shall in turn notify the assigned referee for the coach's next immediate match.
4. d. If the ejected coach participates in any manner in the next immediate match, that team shall forfeit that match. The coach shall be subject to sanctions by the NHSA.
5. e. The NHPCSC Chairperson shall forward all ejected coach passes and referee reports to the NHSA President.
6. f. Due to the elimination of team or teams from NHPCSC competition, and either an ejected player or coach does not serve the minimum penalty. The ejected player or coach may be required to serve the penalty in the next scheduled NHSA competition. The NHSA Vice President of Youth Competitive will make this decision.

**K. Rules OF PLAY**

1. Except as otherwise provided herein, the rules of US Youth Soccer and the FIFA laws shall apply.
2. Substitutions shall be unlimited for all age groups in NHPCSC.

1. Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, at the following times:
2. Prior to a throw in by either team.
3. Prior to a goal kick, by either team.
4. After a goal.
5. After an injury, it is unlimited by either team.
6. Half time
7. Team and team officials (maximum of four coaches/managers) will be allowed on the sideline. Parents and spectators will be on the opposite sideline. **Team official identification passes will only be issued to those who are represented, listed on the roster and approved by the NHPCSC committee.** Coaches will remain in the designated coach's box.

**L. SCORING AND TIE BREAKERS FOR PRELIMINARY PLAY**

Scoring Method: The standings of teams within brackets are based upon the number of points earned in qualifying games. Teams earn points as follows:

1. One point for each goal scored as the Home team.

1. One point for each goal scored as the Away team
2. Forfeits are considered a 4-0 victory for the non-forfeiting team.

Tie Breakers: In the event teams are tied on the basis of points earned at the end of the Home and Away set, the second match will be extended under the rules set forth for overtime procedures in Section I.5.V above.

**In Aggregate Play, the team with the most Away goals in its set shall break the tie. For example, Team A plays Team B in two matches. Team A is the Home team for the first match and ties the first match 2-2. In the second match, Team A is the visiting team and ties the match 3-3. Though both games result in a tie, Team A advances with 5 “away” goals. Should both teams have the same number of “away” goals, the second match will extend to include overtime and if necessary, Kicks from the penalty mark (as described in the National Championships Rule 242 Sections 2(c)).**

**To determine seeding for preliminary play, returning teams will be seeded highest, according to their standing in the previous year’s tournament. The remaining teams in the pool will be randomly drawn to fill the pool with the first team drawn to be the next highest seed and the method will be continued until the seeding is complete.**

**M.** **PROTESTS**

1. The protest must be communicated to the referee and opposing coach prior to leaving the game site.
2. The protest must be filed with the NHPCSC Chairperson within two hours of completion of the match with the following:
3. Fee in the amount of $250.00. This fee maybe in cash, cashiers check, money order or a personal check. All check and money orders must be made payable to NHSA at time of protest within 45 minutes to end of game.
4. The protest must be submitted in writing with a minimum of five (5) copies and must include full particulars of the grounds on which the protest is lodged.
5. Protests relating to grounds, goal posts, bars or other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained if the referee has approved them. Judgment decisions of the referee are not subject to protest.
6. The NHPCSC Chairperson in conjunction with NHPCSC committee and NHSA Officials shall resolve all protests and the decision rendered by the NHPCSC Committee shall be final. Decisions concerning the NHPCSC competition protests shall not be subject to review or appeal by or to NHSA.
7. The NHPCSC committee shall immediately upon receipt of a protest notify the team against which the protest is made and shall give a copy of the submitted protest and all particulars to that team, which will then have the right to defend its case.
8. Parents or lawyers shall not represent a team at the hearing of protest unless they are listed on the team's roster as a coach, assistant coach or team manager.
9. A plea of ignorance to the rules and regulations of the NHPCSC is not sufficient grounds of protest.

**N. Team Medals**

Teams (both boys and girls) ending the tournament as the champions or finalists will receive NHSA Presidents Cup medallions in all age divisions.

**O.** **Fair Play Award**

1. A Fair Play Plaque will be awarded to a team for each age group/division.
2. Objectives of the NHPCSC Fair Play Award are:
3. Respect for self and others through fair play.
4. Elimination of any and all unsportsmanlike conduct.
5. Promotion of safety and development of skills.
6. Appreciation of opponents.
7. Respect for officials who ensure fair and safe play NHPCSC

All teams participating in the NHPCSC will be rated on each game by the referees. The game officials in the following categories will award points for:

1. Cooperation of Players.
2. Cooperation of Coaches.
3. Overall Game Conduct.

**P. ALL OTHER MATTERS**

1. **SPECTATORS AND PARENTS NEED TO NOTE, NO DOGS WILL BE**

**ALLOWED ON ANY FACILITY HOSTING NHSA TOURNAMENT, either loose or on a**

**leash.**

**All field areas will be a “SMOKE FREE ZONE”. NO ALCOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED AT OR ON FIELDS**

1. The NHPCSC Chairperson and committee reserves the right of interpretation and application for any matter addressed herein or to set policy for any and all matters of the NHSPCSC competition not specifically addressed herein.
2. Any and all decisions of the NHPCSC Chairperson or Committee are final not subject to protest or appeal.