



WYOMING CUP & CHAMPIONSHIPS/ UNITED CUP MANUAL

UPDATED MARCH 2026



WYOMING
S O C C E R



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A. CHECK IN PROCEDURE

To complete the online check in for your team, please follow these instructions.

Log into your GotSport coach/manager account and click on the **Team Management** tab.

1. Click on the name of the team.
2. Click the **Team Registrations** tab at the top. You will see the list of registration events for the team.
3. Select **Wyoming Cup & Championships & United Cup**.
4. Click the **Registration** tab to view the registration.
5. Click the **Edit** button. Once you have clicked on the **Edit** button you will be able to upload the required documents.
6. Click on the **Choose File** button and upload the required file. If you are having trouble uploading the document, the document may be too large to upload, you will need to adjust the size of the file.

Once the documents are uploaded, the event director will be able to view the documents.

1) ROSTERS

1. A team must provide an official State or club roster. The roster and cards will be verified, and an WSA/Cup approved roster will be uploaded into your team account. *The official WSA/Cup roster must be available upon request at the field of play.* Minimal information required on the roster is the player's name, birth year, player ID, uniform number and gender.
2. The official team roster will be generated based on the submitted roster.
3. The documents can be submitted as individual PDF documents or as one PDF.
4. Documents needed include:
 - i. Official club/state issued roster
 - ii. Player cards and coach cards for each listed on the roster.

2) PLAYER PASSES & COACH PASSES

Player and Coach passes must be available at the field always, and a referee will ask for the passes prior to the start of the game and may ask for the WSA/Cup roster. A team must have player passes for all the players on their roster.

Coaches within the technical area or designated area required to be listed on the roster and have a coach pass/card.

3) MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS

Release forms do not need to be uploaded for check in. **However**, it is mandatory that a coach or manager have a completed Medical Release Form for each player on the roster with them during the event.

If you have completed the online check in and received an approved roster, your team's paperwork has been approved.

B. PLAYING RULES

1. The tournament roster cannot exceed the maximum roster size (shown below) and NO player can play on more than one team in the event, and each team must have on its roster at least 50% of the players that were on its max roster at its qualifying events.
2. Wyoming Championship (Gold Division) & Wyoming Cup (Silver Division) placement will be based on point totals, tournament and/or league results, the total number of teams registered in the age group, and will be at the discretion of Wyoming Soccer Association.
3. All games shall be played in accordance with FIFA laws of the game, except as specifically superseded by these WSA rules.
4. The referee may, at his/her discretion, add time up to 10 minutes. For late starts, the referee can shorten each half equally up to 5 minutes to re-establish the field schedule. The interval between halves shall be 5 minutes; the referee is the official timekeeper of the match.
4. All player and coach pass's and approved rosters will be checked at the field prior to the start of each game. If a player or a coach does not have an approved pass at the time of game check-in, he/she may not participate in the game or be on the Team sidelines. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
5. The home team (listed first on the schedule) is responsible for providing the game ball. The visiting team should have a tournament ball ready if needed.
6. Any removal of a coach, assistant coach or team representative by a match official for irresponsible behavior or what could be considered descent will result in a deduction of 3 points from the standings of the team that has caused the infraction.
7. Unlimited substitutions by either team may be made, with permission of the referee, during any stoppage in play.
8. **8U Division Rules: No heading the ball.**
 - Intentional heading will result in an in-direct free kick to the opposing team from the spot of the infraction.
 - All free kicks are indirect. This includes the kickoff, goal kicks, and corner kicks.
 - Goal kicks and corner kicks shall be taken in the general vicinity of the respective goal or corner.
 - No goal keepers. The restart for handling is an indirect free kick where the offense occurred.
 - Incorrect throw-ins will have a "redo" with explanation.
 - No Cards will be given. The referee will use "Teachable Moments" within the game to promote the rules, sportsmanship, and fair play.
9. **10U Division Rules: No heading the ball.**
 - Intentional heading will result in an indirect free kick to the opposing team.

- Kick Off, Corners and throw-ins are taken like normal.
 - When the goalkeeper has the ball in his or her hands during play from the opponent, the opposing team must move behind the build out line until the ball is put into play.
 - Once the opposing team is behind the build out line, the goalkeeper can pass, throw, or roll the ball into play (punts and drop kicks are not allowed).
 - If a goalkeeper punts or drop kicks the ball, an indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.
 - If the punt or drop kick occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred.
 - After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes as normal.
 - Before the ball is kicked, players on the kicking team may stand anywhere on the field, including inside the penalty area.
 - The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves. In other words, as soon as a member of the kicking team kicks, or tries to kick, the ball, and the ball visibly moves or begins to roll, the ball is in play. As soon as the ball is in play, other members of the kicking team may play it (inside the penalty area) and defenders may cross the build out line.
 - The goalkeeper (or another player on the kicking team) can wait to put the ball into play once all opponents are behind the build out line, or he or she can release it sooner, but does so accepting the positioning of the opponents and the consequences of how play resumes.
 - The build out line will be used to denote where the offside offense begins.
 - Players cannot be penalized for an offside offense between the halfway line and the build out line.
 - Players can only be penalized for an offside offense between the build out line and goal line.
10. **11/12U Division Rules: No heading the ball.**
- Intentional heading will result in an indirect free kick to the opposing team.
11. All teams are guaranteed a minimum of 3 matches. The Wyoming State Cup will contain a Championship Division (Gold) and a Cup Division (Silver). Brackets within those divisions will be populated based on a review of each team's performance at the qualifying events and the age of a team's players and *is at the sole discretion of the tournament committee.*

C. PLAYER EQUIPMENT

- 1) Shoes/Cleats must meet FIFA specifications.
 - No necklaces, bracelets, earrings, belly-rings or rings of any kind will be allowed.
 - Safety straps are required for players wearing glasses. Wire rims are prohibited – no exceptions.
 - Hard or semi-hard casts of any kind must be covered with foam or other padding material and approved by the referee.
 - All players on a team must wear similar uniforms with each jersey being numbered distinctly and no number being repeated. The goalkeeper must wear a different colored jersey than his/her team and the opposing team.

- Home team (listed first on the schedule) will wear dark uniforms; visiting team will wear light uniforms. The team not abiding by this will change colors if there is a color conflict.
- All players shall have their jerseys fully tucked into their shorts.
- Cold weather attire and accessories made of soft material (i.e. gloves, a beanie, etc.) may be worn, but it will be subject to the referee's approval. The jersey must be the last layer.
- Sponsor logos are allowed on uniforms. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to deem a sponsor logo inappropriate for youth competition.
- Shin guards are to be worn during the game and socks must completely cover them.

D. POINT SYSTEM & TIE BREAKING RULES FOR CUP & CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISIONS

Scoring: There will be no overtime or tiebreakers in the preliminary rounds.

1. Teams shall be awarded points for games as follows:
 - a. Win - 6 points plus 1 point for each goal scored (up to a maximum of 3 per game)
 - b. Tie - 3 points plus 1 point for each goal scored (up to a maximum of 3 per game)
 - c. Loss - 0 points plus 1 point for each goal scored (up to a maximum of 3 per game)
 - d. Shutout - 1 point for holding the other team scoreless (excludes 0-0 shutout)
 - e. Any player red card infraction will result in the loss of 3 points from the team's standings.
 - f. A team receives no points or other credit for more than 3 goals scored in any game.

Total possible points per game are 10.

2. The removal of a coach, assistant coach or team representative by a match official for irresponsible behavior will result in the loss of 3 points from the offending team's standings.
3. If a team is declared ineligible or if a scheduled team does not show for play, the game is a forfeit. In the event of a forfeit during preliminary games, the opposing team shall be awarded 8 points for the win, and the forfeiting team 0 points for the loss.
4. If a team withdraws from the tournament voluntarily or is disqualified from the tournament prior to completion of all games in the preliminary rounds, each team in the flight shall receive 8 points.
5. Coaches are encouraged to verify scores and points awarded on the official tournament score board following the completion of a game.
6. All ties stand in the preliminary games.
7. **Tie breaking:** If necessary, the tie-breaking procedure to determine seeding and/or which team(s) advance to a semi-final or championship match is as follows. Please note that "goals for" do not enter the tie-breaking formula. There is no benefit for increasing the margin of victory beyond three goals.
8. **Results of head-to-head competition:** Start with #2 if more than two teams are tied.
9. **Goal differential:** Goals scored minus goals allowed **to a maximum of 3 goals per game.** Winning 3- 0, 5- 0, or 6-3 would result in a +3-goal differential; there is no benefit to "running up" the score.
10. **Goals against:** Fewest goals allowed in all games. (No limit)
11. **Penalty kicks:** If two teams are still tied after 1 - 3 above, FIFA penalty kicks will break the tie at a time and place set forth by the tournament director/committee.

Resolving ties in semi-final and championship matches

- a.) If a semi-final or championship match is tied at the end of regulation time, the teams will have a 5-minute rest and 2 overtime periods of equal length, which will be played in their entirety; no sudden death.
- b.) The overtime periods in the semi-final matches will be 5-minutes.
- c.) The overtime periods in the championship matches will be 10 minutes for U13 & older and 5 minutes for U12 and younger with a 1-minute interval between periods.
- d.) Should the game remain in a tie at the end of the two overtime periods, FIFA penalty kicks will be conducted.

Wyoming United Cup

8U Division

1. Follows festival style of play.
2. Games may end in a tie.
3. Scores will be recorded for information only.
4. Points will not be awarded for wins & loses as stated for the Cup and Championship divisions.
5. All Wyoming United Cup participants will receive a participation award.

10-12U Division

Will follow Wyoming Cup & Championships points system and 1st & 2nd Place Teams in each individual division will receive awards.

15U Division (Small-sided)

Will follow Wyoming Cup & Championships points system and 1st & 2nd Place Teams in each individual division will receive awards.

1. Will be 7v7, with max roster of 10 players.
2. Games will be played on 12U Fields with 18' goals.
3. No offside offenses will be called.
4. Games will be officiated by one center referee.

Sportsmanship is paramount in this tournament

Wyoming Cup & Championship Division

1.

Age Group	Game Length	Ball Size	Event Roster	Players on Field	Guest Players
9U/10U	2 – 25 Minute Halves	#4	12	7 v 7	None
11U/12U	2 – 30 Minute Halves	#4	16	9 v 9	None
13U/14U	2 – 35 Minute Halves	#5	18	11 v 11	None
14U/15U	2 – 35 Minute	#5	18	11 v 11	None

	Halves				
15U/19U	2 – 40 Minute Halves	#5	18	11 v 11	None

2.

Wyoming United Cup Division

Age Group	Game Length	Ball Size	Event Roster	Players on Field	Guest Players
7U/8U	2 – 20 Minute Halves	#3	8	4 v 4	None
9U/10U	2 – 25 Minute Halves	#4	12	7 v 7	None
11U/12U	2 – 30 Minute Halves	#4	16	9 v 9	None
15U	2 – 35 Minute Halves	#5	10	7 v 7	None

E. GAME PROCEDURE AND FORFEITURE RULING

- Any team not ready to play at the scheduled start time shall be granted a 10-minute grace period. Any team not ready to play at the expiration of the grace period shall be deemed to have forfeited the game. Minimums are as follows to constitute a legal team.

Age Group	Minimum Players
7U/8U	Three (3)
9U/10U	Four (4)
11U/12U	Six (6)
13U/14U	Seven (7)
15U/19U	Seven (7)

2. If a team forfeits one of its preliminary games, the opposing team shall be awarded eight (8) points for the win, and the forfeiting team zero (0) points for the loss. If goal differential becomes a factor in future tie-breaking procedures, the goals counted for the forfeited game shall be determined by taking the average of the goals scored and allowed by the team in their remaining preliminary games.
3. Teams that forfeit a pool play game will not be allowed to play in the semi-finals or finals of the tournament.
4. If no referee is present within five minutes of the scheduled start time, the match will be delayed and both coaches shall contact the field marshal.
5. If there is only one referee present and no assistants or one referee and one assistant for a preliminary match at the scheduled start time, the referee present shall commence the match using volunteer linesmen. Should an assistant referee arrive at the field, he/she shall enter the match at an appropriate break in play and volunteer linesmen shall be relieved. Club linesmen are not entitled to match fees.
6. **FINES FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR OR PERFORM**
Based on circumstances involved, Wyoming Soccer Association (WSA) may levy a fine of \$100.00 per game for all games forfeited during the tournament. This fine may be dispersed as WSA deems appropriate for the circumstances. All fines will be assessed to the team's association/club and must be paid within 30 days of the completion of the tournament. WSA shall have the authority to refuse entry the following year to any team from an association/club with unpaid fines at the time of entry.

F. CONDUCT

Team coaches are responsible for their players along with parents and guests on the sideline. Abuse from spectators or coaches will not be tolerated. Please refer to the Zero Tolerance Policy for additional information.

1. No team, club official or parent may enter the field of play, regardless of the circumstances, unless the person has been given permission to enter the field of play by the referee.
2. Red Cards:
 - a. Any player receiving a red card during a game will be ejected from the remainder of the game and will be ineligible for participation for a minimum of one game (this includes a championship game), unless given for referee abuse, which will follow the [U.S.S.F. Referee Abuse Prevention Policy](#), and will result in a minimum two game suspension. The player card will be retained by the field referee and turned in at the referee headquarters with the official game card. The card may be reclaimed by the coach after the suspension has been served. All yellow and red cards will be recorded on the official game cards and will be reported to WSA.
 - b. Coaches that are ejected from a game shall leave the field for the remainder of the game (at least 100 yards from the field) and will be ineligible to participate as a coach in a minimum of the next two games per the [U.S.S.F Referee Abuse Prevention Policy](#). All coach ejections will be reported to WSA.
 - c. Any spectator ejected from a game shall immediately move at least 100 yards from the field of play and may be ejected from the facility or may be ejected for the remainder of the tournament at the Tournament Committee's discretion.

G. INCLEMENT WEATHER

The tournament director and leadership staff are committed to providing a great experience for the participants. The inclement weather-related information will be posted online on the GotSport schedule page at the top of the page, and email notification and on-site horns will be utilized.

In the event of inclement weather, the tournament director (leadership staff) has the authority to adjust the games according to the following:

1. Change the duration of the game(s).
2. Relocate, delay or reschedule the game(s).
3. Cancel the game(s).

1. Lightning Delay Process

When lightning strikes within a 10-mile radius of the fields:

1. Event staff will stop all games with ONE long horn blast.
2. All **participants, referees & spectators MUST** leave the fields immediately and take shelter in vehicles.
3. Referees, Teams & Spectators should check the GotSport schedule page & email notices for announcement updates while waiting in their vehicles during the lightning delay.
4. 30 minutes without a lightning strike must be observed before an all-clear signal is given. Every strike that occurs will reset the waiting timer to 30 minutes.
5. Once 30 minutes have passed without a strike, an “all-clear” signal will be signified with 3 short horn blasts. Information will be updated on the GotSport schedule page and an email notice will be sent.

2. Continuing/Rescheduling/Cancelling Delayed Games

a) Continuing Games

- Game time will be shortened if games are delayed more than 30 minutes. The Tournament reserves the right to shorten the halves by up to 20 minutes per half if in the preliminary pool games.
- If the delay time exceeds 60 minutes, any game in progress with more than 50% of the game completed, will be called final and scores will be recorded as they were at the stoppage time of the game.
- If less than 50% of the game has been completed, Tournament has the authority to
 - Reschedule the game to a new time. If time and field location allow.
 - Let the game complete the first half and call it final at halftime.
 - Cancel games that will not affect the standings in the divisions.

b) Rescheduling Postponed/Delayed Games

- IF games are delayed more than 60 minutes, tournament reserves the right to reschedule the incomplete and/or postponed games.
- Games may be shortened by up to 20 minutes to allow the games to be played in the remaining tournament time frame.
- Games may be rescheduled to the following day starting as early as 7 a.m.

c) Cancelled Games

- A cancelled match cannot be rescheduled.
- Divisions with a team(s) that has only played 2 games out of the 3, will have the final standings determined by the “Points per Game Average” (PPGA).
- The PPGA is determined by the number of points earned divided by the number of games played.

If a championship match is suspended for any reason, play will resume at a time, date, and location designated by the tournament director. Championship matches will be played to completion even if play must be continued on a subsequent day and/or at a different location.

Any situation not covered in the above scenarios will be resolved by the Tournament Director/Staff or their designated representative.

H. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

1. The Tournament Committee may consist of 1 or 2 WSA Staff.
2. Tournament Committee will review the referee send-off reports and assess appropriate penalties based on published minimum guidelines.
3. Tournament Committee findings are recorded at tournament headquarters.
4. No appeals are allowed if suspensions are within the published minimum guidelines.
5. When extended, penalties are warranted, coaches and players must be notified as soon as possible.
6. Tournament Committee member(s) will notify the coach or player.

I. PROTEST AND APPEALS PROCEDURE

1. The tournament protest and appeals committee will hear all appeals and or protests submitted according to #8.
2. All protests and appeals must be submitted by a team official as listed on the team roster involved in the game.
3. The Tournament Committee will establish a P&A committee 1 week prior to the start of the event. The P&A committee will consist of persons selected from WSA members, member associations and club representatives.
4. All questions relating to qualifications or eligibility of competitors, suspensions and disputes or protests shall be referred to the P&A committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.
5. To be valid and eligible for consideration, protests shall be lodged in writing with the tournament director within sixty (60) minutes after the end of the game. Tournament Director will then provide copies to the head referee/assignor and committee members. Additionally, the protest regarding a game must also be filed with the P&A committee within sixty (60) minutes after the completion of the game in question.
6. If the protest or appeal is based on a game on the final day of the tournament it must be received as indicated above. The P&A committee may be convened by conference call to hear the issue.
7. The only exception to rule 4 involves protests relating to the grounds, goal posts, bars and the appurtenances of the game, which must be in writing and submitted to the tournament director prior to the start of the game. All other P&A procedures must be followed.
8. All protests and appeals shall include the following and be submitted in the following outlined manner:
 - a. A non-refundable fee of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) in cash or certified check; no personal checks.
 - b. Two (2) copies of the protest or appeal if received in hard copy format.
 - c. Two (2) copies of all information to be presented by witnesses if received in hard copy format.
 - d. Protests or appeals may be submitted via email to wssa@wyomingsoccer.com and witnesses must be copied in the communication.
9. A plea of ignorance to the rules of this competition is not sufficient grounds for a protest or an appeal.
10. The chairman of the P&A committee shall notify teams or players of the committee's findings. Notification shall be via an association member if the coach or player cannot be contacted.

J. GENERAL POLICIES

1. Refunds will not be given once team registration fees are processed.
2. Qualification requires each team to be affiliated with a WSA Affiliated Club in good standing with WSA. The team coach/club registrar is responsible for verifying qualifications during Wyoming Cup/Championship application process.
3. The Referee's Game Report/Card will serve as the official game record. The Referee decision is final, no appeals or protests of the referee decisions. Please see [U.S.S.F. Referee Abuse Prevention Policy](#), which was made into effect on March 1, 2025. This policy will be strictly enforced and questions/answers regarding this policy can be found [HERE](#).

4. Following the tournament all red card reports and proof of penalty served must be submitted to the WSA office.
5. The Tournament Committee, the hosting club, WSA, tournament sponsors, or volunteers will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by any team (including entry fees) or tournament participants if the tournament is canceled in whole or in part for any reason.
6. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the tournament that may not be addressed in these guidelines and its decision shall be final.
7. During the play of any game, all members of a team not on the field of play shall remain in their designated team area and behind any drawn spectator line or at least 5 (five) feet from the touch line, with the specific exceptions of players warming up prior to impending substitution.
8. Teams will be on the opposite side of the field from each other; coaches and players will be positioned behind the assistant referee for their side. Guests will be on the same side of the field as their respective teams. The team's area shall extend starting ten (10) yards from the halfway line for a distance of twenty (20) yards towards the appropriate goal. Spectators' area will commence ten (10) yards opposite their team and extend to the touch line opposite their respective team.
9. Only credentialed players and coaches and designated tournament staff will be allowed in the team area.
10. No one is allowed behind the goal area during a game.
11. Players and Coaches are to remain in the designated technical area. No more than one (1) coach at a time may step away, if necessary, to impart tactical information to the players. He/she must return to the designated area soon after and cannot interfere at any time with the assistant referee's movements.
12. Neither the hosting club, tournament volunteers or WSA are responsible for the behavior of players, coaches, and spectators off the field or for damages resulting from such behavior, nor are they responsible for any injuries, which may occur to players, coaches, and spectators because of their participation at the tournament.
13. The Referee Tent or referees' gathering area is **off limits** to players, coaches and spectators, unless accompanied by a tournament official or representative or to retrieve a player pass. NO harassment or verbal abuse will be tolerated during the retrieval of a player pass
14. Coaches and players committing breaches of the law may be ejected from the tournament at the discretion of the tournament director.
15. Any player, coach, or spectator who, while participating in any tournament event, is found to be in possession of alcohol, illegal drugs, or weapons (in accordance with state law) shall be banned from the tournament and appropriate notification shall be given to local law enforcement authorities.
16. **NO DOGS (PETS) ARE ALLOWED AT THE TOURNAMENT OR ON THE FIELDS DURING THE EVENT.**
17. The operation of unmanned or remote-control aircraft is not permitted in or around the event venue.
18. There will be individual first and second place medals award in the Wyoming Championship Division, as well as first place team awards. Individual first and second place medals will also be awarded for the Wyoming Cup Division (Silver). All 8U teams participating in the United Cup will receive individual awards, while those participating in older divisions of the United Cup will receive 1st and 2nd place awards.

K. USSF REFEREES

The tournament will contract a USSF certified referee assignor. USSF certified referees will be contracted for the duration of the event. USSF Referee rules, policies and procedures will be followed. In order to comply with the Laws of the Game, all games will employ the diagonal system of control and be assigned according to the following order of preference:

- One registered referee and two registered assistant referees
- One registered referee and one registered assistant referee and one unregistered club linesperson*
- One registered referee and two unregistered club linespersons*
- One registered referee if one registered referee is appropriate for the level(age) of competition or no unregistered club linespersons* are available.

L. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

The above rules and procedures are not meant to be all inclusive. Matters not provided for or extraordinary circumstances shall be brought to the attention of WSA and the Tournament Committee for determination and appropriate action.