Equality State Championships Rules

All games will be played under FIFA rules modified by US Youth Soccer for youth competition. This event is exclusively for teams aged 16U+, and each team will play a minimum of three games. Rules regarding conduct of spectators, coaches, and players will be in accordance with FIFA rules and regulations and outlined below.

Eligible Players

***No player can play on more than one (1) team at any point during this tournament**

Any team playing an illegal, ineligible, or non-rostered player will forfeit that game or games, and will no longer be eligible to participate in the event.

AGE DETERMINATION: The player's playing age is determined by the following Wyoming Soccer Association age guidelines for 2026/2027.

Age Division	Eligible Birthdates
16U	Aug 1, 2010 - July 31, 2011
17U	Aug 1, 2009 - July 31, 2010
18U	Aug 1, 2008 - July 31, 2009
19U	Aug 1, 2007 - July 31, 2008

NUMBER OF PLAYERS

16U-19U 11v11

MAX ROSTER SIZE

16U-19U 18 players

GUEST PLAYERS

Guest players must register as guests through GotSoccer or be written in at the bottom of the roster and approved by Wyoming Soccer Association. A player may only play for one team during the tournament. No more than five (5) guest players are allowed per team.

Team Qualifications

This is a State Championship Event and will qualify teams for the following Regional and/or National Event(s):

1) USYS NorthWest Regional Presidents' Cup
2) USYS National Championships

Teams whose intentions are to qualify for the USYS NorthWest Regional Presidents' Cup

Must place within the top two within their division and may enter the Regional Presidents' Cup event in the Division of their true age group.

Teams whose intentions are to qualify for the USYS National Championships

Must be in the top division of their age group and win their division.

Withdrawn Teams

No team will be scheduled until payment is received. If a team withdraws after the schedule is published, no money will be refunded.

Financial Responsibility/Insurance Coverage

The tournament officials or any member of the tournament board or sponsor will not assume any financial responsibility or liability for any injuries or illnesses occurring during and/or while traveling to or from The Equality State Championships tournament. The individual team assumes all financial responsibility and liability.

While participating in Wyoming Soccer Association sanctioned activities, players, coaches, administrators and volunteers, properly registered with WSA and one of its affiliated clubs, are provided secondary medical insurance. In addition, there is coverage under a primary general liability policy for bodily injury or property damage to spectators, game participants, and to members of the general public.

Injury claims against the medical insurance must be submitted to Wyoming Soccer Association within 90 days of the occurrence of the injury. Medical claims are submitted online. Please click here for more information.

Team Check-In

Check in will be online.

Forfeits

Teams failing to be previously checked-in with the Field Reps at their designated field five (5) minutes after their scheduled kick-off time will forfeit the game. Teams must have a minimum of seven (7) players present. Forfeiture shall result in the awarding of eight (8) points to the non-forfeiting team.

Abandonment

The results of any game terminated as a consequence of abandonment, defined as misconduct by players, coaches, and/or spectators as called by the referee, shall be based on the score at the time of abandonment. However, at no time shall the non-abandoning team be awarded less than eight (8) points. The abandoning team shall have two (2) points deducted from its point total.

Inclement Weather

The results of any game terminated as a consequence of inclement weather, as determined solely at the discretion of the referee shall be as follows:

1. If a game is 5 minutes into 2nd half of play, the game will stand as if played in its entirety and scored accordingly.
2. If a game is called before that, FIFA kicks from the mark will be taken at a later time as determined by the tournament committee to determine the winner. If FIFA kicks are taken to determine a winner of a preliminary game, a maximum of 5 kicks will be taken per team. At the end of 5 kicks the game will be scored 1-0 win for the team that has scored more penalty kicks, or a 0-0 tie if both teams are tied after 5 kicks. If possible Semifinals and Final games will be delayed and played in their entirety at a later time determined by the Referee Assignor and tournament committee. If weather does not allow these games to be played we will follow the same rules for FIFA kicks from the mark and a winner will be determined by applying FIFA rules for this circumstance.

If your team completes 2 games before the tournament is cancelled, no refund will be given.

If your team does not complete 2 games before the tournament is cancelled, your team will receive a 25% refund.

Home Team

The home team is the team listed first. Size 5 game balls will be provided by Wyoming Soccer Association.

Visiting Team

The visiting team is the team listed second.

Player Equipment

1. Shoes/Cleats must meet FIFA specifications.

2. No necklaces, bracelets, earrings, belly-rings or rings of any kind will be allowed.

3. Safety straps are required for players wearing glasses. Wire rims are prohibited – no exceptions.

4. Hard or semi-hard casts of any kind must be covered with foam or other padding material and approved by the referee.

5. 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.

6. Home team (listed first on the schedule) will wear dark uniforms; visiting team will wear light uniforms. The team causing the conflict will change colors if there is a color conflict.

7. All players shall have their jerseys fully tucked into their shorts.

8. 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.

9. Sponsor logos are allowed on uniforms. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to deem a sponsor logo inappropriate for youth competition.

10. Shin guards are to be worn during the game and socks must completely cover them.

Game Duration

45 min halves, 5 min halftime break

If a Semi-Final or Championship game is tied at the end of regulation play:

1. There will be two five (5) minute overtime periods.
3. There will be no break in-between overtime periods. The official will blow the whistle, teams will switch sides and play will resume.
4. All overtime periods will be played in their entirety.
5. If after two overtime periods the score remains tied, the game will be decided by penalty kicks per FIFA rules.

Substitutions

Unlimited substitutions by either team may be made, with permission of the referee, during any stoppage in play.

Coaching

No excessive coaching from the sidelines will be allowed. Coaches must stay in the technical area (18-yard line extended). The Coach is responsible for all spectators. Warnings may be issued to coaches for unruly spectators, and

coaches can be ejected from the game. Unruly spectators will be asked to leave the premises. Failure to comply may cause a team to forfeit the game.

Sideline Policy

The home team has first choice as to where it wishes to locate its bench area. Coaches and substitutes are required to remain within their bench area during the game.

Where field space permits, 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.

- When teams are located on opposite sides of the field, 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. b. Spectators' area will commence ten (10) yards opposite their team and extend to the touch line opposite their respective team.
- In the event field space does not allow, and both teams are on the same side of the field, each team's area shall commence ten (10) yards from the halfway line and shall extend for a distance of twenty (20) yards towards the appropriate goal line. When a fourth official has been appointed, both teams shall be on the same side of the field. Parents and spectators should occupy the same half of the field as the team they are supporting on the opposite side of the field from the benches. Spectators are not allowed to observe the game from within 15 yards behind the goal line.

Scoring

1. Maximum ten (10) points possible for the winner
2. Six (6) points for a win
3. Three (3) points for a tie
4. Zero (0) points for a loss
5. One (1) point for a shut out win (0-0 tie does not award shutout point)
6. One (1) point for each goal scored, up to a maximum of three (3) for each team, regardless of where the team wins, loses, or ties
7. Ties in flight games shall remain a tie. No overtime games to be played in flight play.
8. Should any team forfeit; the opposing team shall be awarded eight (8) points.

Standings

If tied when all games in a flight are complete, standings will be determined as follows:

1. Winner of any head-to-head game (disregard if more than 2 teams tied)
2. Goal differential (goals scored minus goals allowed – max of 3 per game)
3. Most goals scored (max of 3 per game)

4. Least goals allowed (no max)
5. Shutout wins (forfeits not counting)
6. FIFA kicks from the penalty mark

Sportsmanship

1. ***The U.S. Soccer Referee Abuse Prevention Policy will be strictly followed and enforced.***
2. Unsportsmanlike conduct exhibited by players, coaches, or spectators, will be reported by the referees to the Tournament Committee. Spectators displaying unsportsmanlike conduct may earn a red or yellow card for the coach of the team they are supporting
3. A player receiving a red card or two yellow cards in one game shall be expelled from the game and cannot be replaced. Furthermore, this player is automatically disqualified from participating in their team's next scheduled tournament game.
4. A coach that gets ejected from a game shall be expelled from the game, must leave the field of play to the satisfaction of the referee, and is automatically disqualified from coaching their team at any time during the next scheduled tournament game.
5. **In the event that a player or coach is ejected (red carded) from a game for fighting, the player or coach will not be permitted to play or coach in any other game in the tournament. Furthermore, any player, coach, or spectator who physically strikes a referee will be ejected from the tournament, and reported to the WSA Disciplinary Committee.**
6. Yellow cards accumulate; a player or coach who receives three yellow cards will be disqualified from participating in the next scheduled tournament game. The team will also have a point deducted.
7. Any player or coach receiving a red card or two yellow cards in one game, who then plays or coaches in their team's next tournament game will cause their team to automatically forfeit the game and the game shall be scored as if a forfeit had occurred.
8. The use of any noise making device is prohibited.

Protest

No protests or appeals will be accepted or considered. The decision of the Referee is final.