



Merced Youth Soccer Association Annual MYSA CUP

Welcome to the Annual MYSA CUP, the Recreational League Tournament for Merced Youth Soccer Association teams. Participation in MYSA Cup is available to all MYSA Recreational league teams in good standing. In addition, selected Recreational teams from Atwater, Chowchilla, McSwain, Livingston, and Los Baños are invited on a space available basis. This Tournament is for Under 12 Boys, Under 12 Girls, Under 14 Boys, Under 15 Girls, and Under 18 Coed age groups.

Tournament Format:

The Tournament Committee establishes game assignments, schedules, and determines all team seedings in every round. Teams will play between two to five games each depending on division format.

Four & Five team divisions: Teams play each other once. The team with the highest amount of points will be champion.

Six team divisions: Teams will be in two, three team brackets. The top two seeded teams will be in different brackets, the rest of the teams will be assigned to brackets in a blind draw. Teams in each bracket play each other and only the top two teams of each bracket advance to the semifinal round. Semifinal games are played with the winner of bracket 'A' playing second place of bracket 'B', and winner of bracket 'B' playing second place team of bracket 'A'. Winners of semifinal games advance to the championship game.

Seven team divisions: Teams will be placed in one bracket of three teams, and in one bracket of four teams. The top two seeded teams will be in different brackets, the rest of the teams will be assigned to brackets in a blind draw. The last place team will be eliminated in the three-team bracket the first day of games, while the four-team bracket will eliminate the last two placed teams after the third game. Semifinal games are played with the winner of bracket 'A' playing second place of bracket 'B', and winner of bracket 'B' playing second place team of bracket 'A'. Winners of semifinal games advance to the championship game.

Eight team divisions: Teams will be in two, four team brackets. The top two seeded teams will be in different brackets, the rest of the teams will be assigned to brackets in a blind draw. Teams in each bracket play each other once, with the top two teams in each bracket advancing to the semifinal round. Semifinal games are played with the winner of bracket 'A' playing second place of bracket 'B', and winner of bracket 'B' playing second place team of bracket 'A'. Winners of semifinal games advance to the championship game.

Nine team divisions: Teams will be in three, three team brackets. The top three seeded teams will be in different brackets, the rest of the teams will be assigned to brackets in a blind draw. Teams in each bracket play each other the first weekend. Only the winners of each bracket, and a 'Wild Card', advance to the semifinal round. 'Wild Card' is the second place team in any bracket with the most points. Bracket 'A' winner plays Wild Card, while Bracket 'B' and 'C' winners play each other. If Wild Card is from bracket 'A' then the bracket 'B' winner plays 'Wild Card', while winners of bracket 'A' & 'C' play each other. Winners of semifinal games advance to the championship game.

Ten team divisions: Teams will be in two, five team brackets. The top two seeded teams will be in different brackets, the rest of the teams will be assigned to brackets in a blind draw. Teams in each bracket play three games within their bracket (each team will not play a team within own bracket), with the top two teams in each bracket advancing to the semifinal round. Semifinal games are played with the winner of bracket 'A' playing second place of bracket 'B', and winner of bracket 'B' playing second place team of bracket 'A'. Winners of semifinal games advance to the championship game.

Twelve team divisions: Teams will be in four, three team brackets. The top four seeded teams will be in different brackets, the rest of the teams will be assigned to brackets in a blind draw. Teams in each bracket play each other once, with only the winners of each bracket advancing to the semifinal round. Winner from Bracket 'A' plays winner from Bracket 'B'. Winner from Bracket 'C' plays winner from Bracket 'D'. Semifinal game winners go on to the championship game.

Dates: ***BOTH weekends after the last weekend of regular season play.***

Game Times:

Game times are between 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. (If field/referee availability is lacking then games may be played after 3:00 pm). Game times will be shortened from standard game lengths to accommodate the limited availability of fields and referees. U12 play 25-minute halves; U14, U15, and U18 play 30-minute halves. **Important: Game times listed in schedule are KICK-OFF times.** Be on the field 30 minutes before, ready to play. Failure to field your team will result in shorter game duration and may result in forfeit. This is necessary due to tight scheduling of games. Only Championship games are played with the standard game lengths.

Locations:

Soccer Fields at Merced College, Youth Sports Complex, UC Merced and Merced High School. Other fields may be added to accommodate the number of teams. Refer to your game schedule and the Semi-Final & Championship Games Field Schedule for more details.

Awards: Brackets with 6 or more teams will receive 1st & 2nd place awards. Brackets with 5 or less teams will receive 1st place awards only.

TOURNAMENT RULES

- Game Cards:** The *winning coach is responsible* to bring completed and signed game cards to the Tournament Table at Merced College (located near Tri-College Center). COACHES: DO NOT leave field without getting game cards from the referees! In case of a tie game, the home team will take game cards to Tournament Table.
- Equipment:** Each coach is responsible for furnishing a game ball and a goalie shirt. Coach will present all documents on demand to referee or any M.Y.S.A representative.
- Uniform:** **ALL** shirts will be tucked in. Shin guards are required. Home team, or the team listed first, must wear jersey vests, if a color conflict exists. A second shirt (**NO HOODS**) may be worn under a jersey provided all team members wearing shirt are wearing matching color. No pants, gloves, etc. will be allowed except by the goalie. If you switch goalies, that player (the player leaving goalie) must immediately conform to the uniform rules. **All players must wear their M.Y.S.A assigned uniform, including shorts. Players wearing non-M.Y.S.A issued uniforms may not be allowed to play until approved uniform is worn.**
- Rules of Play:** Unless otherwise stated in the Tournament Schedule, the Standard M.Y.S.A. / FIFA Rules for Adult games apply. *All Ties stand in elimination round games.* **No Shootouts until Semi-Final Games and Championship Game.** Semi-final and Championship games will have two 5 (five) minute overtimes. **Golden Goal (Sudden Death) rule applies.** FIFA shootout if still tied after overtime.

NO APPEALS: Referee and Tournament Committee rulings are final!

ADDITIONAL RULES

- 1) You must coach **only from the coaches' box**, which extends 10 yards each way of the half line, and 3 feet behind the touchline. **ALL SPECTATORS** must be 6 feet behind the touchline. **Parents, spectators are not allowed down by the penalty area or behind the goal line.**
- 2) **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED ON ANY GAME SITE OR FACILITY. NO PETS AT ANY SOCCER FACILITY.**
- 3) The behavior of parents and spectators are the responsibility of team coaches. Please have all parents and spectators **on your side of the field.** The referee will expect you to handle any problems that may arise on your side of the field.
- 4) **Every player must play at least half of the game, unless the player is sick or injured.** Remember, this is a recreational league tournament for developmental players; our main goal is to provide every player the opportunity to play. Non-conformity to the ½ game rule will result in a forfeited game, with points added/subtracted accordingly.
- 5) You must have your team **clean up** their side of the field after each and every game. Trash containers are available for this purpose.
- 6) **Any player, coach, or spectator challenging another player, coach, spectator or referee to a fight before, during, or after a game will be suspended from further Tournament games and could cause that team to be suspended from any further Tournament play.**
- 7) Goal Nets and Corner Flags: same as league play. Home & Away teams scheduled for first game of day will set up nets (nets will be delivered). Home & Away teams scheduled for last game on field take down nets & flags. Home team is to return equipment to appropriate location.
- 8) *******Any red-carded (Sent Off) player or coach will be out for the remainder of the tournament whether received during the first game or last game. Coach receiving red card or sent off will not be allowed on sideline for any game.*******

GOOD LUCK to your team and may you all have Great Games!

MYSA CUP

Point System

WIN = 3 POINTS

TIE = 1 POINT

LOSS = NO POINTS

In the case of a *Forfeit*: The game card will show a 2 – 0 game with points figured appropriately.

Loss of Points

1/2 Point for every red card a player receives.

1 Point for every red card a coach or assistant coach receives.

Any red-carded or sent off player or coach will be out for the remainder of the tournament whether received during the first game or last game. Coach receiving red card or sent off will not be allowed on sideline for any game.

NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

TIE BREAKING

Tie breaking procedures to advance to final / semi-final round:

- 1) Head to Head competition: winner advances.
(If three or more teams are tied: team that beat both other teams advances, if not then skip to procedure #2. As soon as one of the three teams is eliminated, tie breaking starts at #1 again.)
- 2) Goal differential (scored minus allowed; maximum differential of 4 per game).
- 3) Total goals scored up to 4 per game.
- 4) Total goals scored against. (Lower number advances)
- 5) If tie still exists: MYSA representative will break the tie with all involved coaches present.

Tie Breaking in Final and Semi-Final round: Refer to Tournament rules handout.