



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

1) What are NYSW boundaries?

NYSWYSA includes all New York State counties to the west and on Interstate Rt. 81. This area is broken up into districts, each of which is managed by separate commissioners.

The districts are as follows:

- Binghamton
- Buffalo
- Rochester
- Southern Tier
- Syracuse
- Twin Tier

Details: <http://nyswysa.org/association-info>
<http://nyswysa.org/association-info/map-of-nysw>

2) I coach a team located within the boundaries of Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association, but we play in NYSW leagues and tournaments. Can we compete in the NYSW State Cup Championship?

No. The majority, as defined in the table below, of the players on a team competing in the NYSW State Cup championship must reside within the boundaries of NYSW.

Residency on Roster	
Roster Size	Majority
22	12
21 or 20	11
19 or 18	10
17 or 16	9
15 or 14	8
13 or 12	7

3) Is an indoor league acceptable as a qualifying league?

No, it is not acceptable as a qualifying league.

4) Are there a minimum number of age-appropriate players required for an age group?

Yes, the majority of players on a team must be the age of the age group in which the team is participating in the State Cup that seasonal year. See Rule 7203, Section 1, Item 6 of the US Youth Soccer NYSW National Championship Series Policy/Rules. This document can be found on the NYSW State Cup website. Please review.

5) Are there any restrictions to a younger player playing in an older age group?

Yes, there are restrictions. These restrictions are covered in Rule 7203, Section 2, and Item 4 of the US Youth Soccer NYSW National Championship Series Policy/Rules. This document can be found on the NYSW State Cup website. Please review.

6) Does someone have to represent a team for the blind draw?

The blind draw for 2022 will be held virtually via Zoom and all are welcome to join.

7) What happens if SAT test day falls on the Saturday of Final Four weekend?

In these cases, NYSW has always worked to schedule the 16U and 17U late in the day on Saturday to provide them the best opportunity to take the test. However, there is no guarantee that this will be possible. We also recommend that players consider taking the test in a location as close to the playing venue as possible (i.e., Cortland Jr & Sr High School). Each player and their parent must decide what is in the best interest of the player.

8) Are there fees in addition to the registration fees that a team will incur?

Both teams will split the referee costs for the playdown game. The home team will cover the cost of the field for the playdown game. So, a team will incur additional costs if they participate in a play down game. The fee structure will be posted within a week of the Blind Draw.

9) Can players be on a State Cup roster and use a secondary player pass?

No. All players on Cup rosters must carry and present a primary player pass from the club they are playing Cup with. Players must be rostered to a team for purposes of league play in order to be qualified as a primary player. These details are covered in Rule 7203, Section 3, Item 2 of the US Youth Soccer NYSW National Championship Series Policy/Rules.

10) Regarding the State Cup playdown match officials' fees, our team manager instructions say that each team pays the same amount toward the fees. Can you please tell me how that breaks down for each (Referee, and two AR's) official?

The home team fee covers the Referee while the Away Team fees are divided evenly between the two Assistant Referees.

11) How many playdown games do we have to play?

The number of playdown games your team would play depends on the number of teams entered in your division. Please see playdown examples on the website and in the Appendix of the NYSW National Championship Policy/Rules.

12) How is the playdown game schedule determined?

- Playdown Game matchups will be determined following the random draw on Sunday, April 3rd.
- Teams are responsible for working together to determine an agreed upon date/time to complete the matches.
- Home team is responsible for securing and paying for a field at the agreed upon date & time.
- Home team is responsible for providing the date/time/location to **NYSW a minimum of 10 days prior** to the scheduled match.
- If a date/time is not agreed upon by the specified deadline for each round, **NYSW will schedule the game at a date, time and location to be determined** and the teams will split the cost of the field rental.
- NYSW will schedule and confirm the referee assignments for the match.
- Both teams will split the cost of the referees for the playdown match.
- The scheduling deadlines are posted on the NYSW State Cup website.

13) If I start different players at the beginning of the second half than those that ended the first half on the pitch, or if I start different players for overtime than those that ended regulation on the pitch, are those considered substitutions?

- PLAYERS are defined as anyone taking the field, in this instance, at the beginning of each half or of overtime. THEY ARE NOT CONSIDERED SUBSTITUTES for any reason.
- PLAYERS may be replaced by a substitute but cannot re-enter in that half for the 15 and Under and older divisions.
- With the check-in limit at 18, that means that you will only be allowed AT MOST, 7 substitutions per half or overtime.
- If you only check-in 16 players, your substitution would be limited to 5 per half or overtime.

14) If a game goes to overtime and/or Kicks from the Penalty Mark, it is not clear if players who came out of the game in the second half will be allowed back into the game for overtime? Also, if the game continues to Kicks from the Penalty Mark, which players are eligible to participate?

- Once overtime begins, any player who is substituted out of the game may not return to the match or be used in Kicks from the Penalty Mark.
- The ENTIRE overtime period is considered one period, even though there is a brief break to switch sides.
- Only players on the field at the end of the match may be used in the FIFA Kicks from the Penalty Mark.

15) We want to make sure we have everything we need for our playdown game.

We need to bring:

- Player passes?
 - Yes. The pass must contain a picture of the player and be sealed.
- Coaches passes?
 - Yes. The pass must be signed by the coach as their name appears on the front of the pass and it must be sealed.
- State Cup roster – printed on any paper – don't need to sign anything right?
 - Yes, two copies of the official state cup roster printed on any paper.
- Do we need to bring & show medical releases?
 - Medical Releases are not required for playdown matches. They are however required for the Final Four weekend.
- Money for referee?
 - Each team must bring the appropriate fees. Fee structure can be found in the email sent from statecupchair@nyswysa.org and on the NYSWYSA website.
- Money for field rental?
 - The home team is responsible for payment arrangements with the facility for the playdown game.

16) How and to whom do I report the playdown match results?

Both teams will use the PhoneIn webpage (<http://nyswysa.org/PhoneIn/>) to communicate the results for the match. Instructions for using this application are posted on the State Cup website. You will need the PIN #, game number, team names and score to complete the report. **The PIN# for 2022 is 1738.**

17) Where can I find results of the playdown matches?

Results are posted on the State Cup page of the NYSWYSA website.

18) How many games will my team play each day at the Final Four weekend?

Teams in the 12U and 13U divisions will play two (2) games on Saturday and one (1) game on Sunday. Teams in the 14U through 19U divisions will play one (1) game each day of the competition (Friday – Sunday). These guidelines are subject to change based on the number of fields available throughout the competition.

19) How do I obtain the NYSW Official witness signature on the Commitment Form?

The Commitment Form along with the Code of Conduct will be required if your team advances to the Final Four tournament. These documents will be provided by the Cup Committee on the State Cup website and will need to be printed, filled, out and signed in advance and brought with you to the Final Four team registration.

20) How do I obtain a Blue Roster?

Blue rosters have been replaced by a National Championship Series (NCS) roster. The Cup Committee will have the NCS roster available for each team at registration for the Final Four tournament.

21) Do all players have to be present for registration?

All players must register in person. However, you do not need all players present to begin the registration process. Teams that have 50% or more of their players present during the designated registration times can begin the process.

This is subject to change depending on COVID guidelines at the time of registration. A final decision will be made immediately prior to the tournament.

22) Several players will arrive after the designated registration times for the Final 4. What arrangements should we make for them to register and play?

The Registration official will check all the documentation (player pass, Medical Release, proof of residency) for all players listed on the team. For those players not present at the designated registration time, the Registration official will hold their passes at the registration table. When the players arrive at any subsequent time during the competition, they will need to proceed to the registration table and sign the roster. The Registration official will then release the pass to the player. From there, they can proceed to the pitch and play.

23) What arrangements will be made for players that cannot make the Final Four weekend but would be available should the team advance to the Eastern Region Championship?

See Rule 7203, Section 6 of the US Youth Soccer NYSW National Championship Series Policy/Rules - Roster Movement for Regional and National levels. This document can be found on the NYSW State Cup website. Please review.

24) With the 19 and Under players already at college, do we need them to fill out the 'Individual Player Registration Instructions (15U and Older ONLY)' when completing the Eastern Region Online registration form for those teams?

The only information that is necessary for the 19 and Under is First Name, Last Name, Jersey # and Email address.

25) Does the team need to be in uniform for registration?

No, the team does not need to be in uniform at registration.

26) If the manager is present at registration, do the coaches need to be there?

No, the coaches do not have to be present if the person registering the team has the coach's passes at the time of registration and is listed as an official on the team roster.

27) Some parents submitted a photocopy of the school report for proof of residence. Is that acceptable?

Yes, it is acceptable.

28) Some school reports say the student's name, such as John Smith, at the top; then at the bottom after the grades it has the parent's names and address, such as Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Smith, 2 Main St, Penfield, NY. Is that acceptable?

Yes, it is acceptable.

29) Some school reports (electronic or paper copy) do not include a school address. Is that acceptable?

No, it is not acceptable. Other options to consider for proof of residence include:

- Have the parent obtain a letter from the school indicating that the student attends the school. The letter should include the address of the school either as a letter head or in the body of the letter.
- Print a copy of the players Student portal if it shows their address.
- School or Doctors' physical form showing their address and including the letterhead/address of the school or doctor's office.
- School ID if it shows player's address.
- Bank statement in the player's name showing the address

30) Is a copy of a driver's license or permit acceptable for proof of residency?

Yes, as long as the copy shows the address clearly.

31) A player who is home schooled, does not have a report card from a school. What can he/she show at the time of registration to fulfill the proof of residence requirement?

1. A certified school district must approve the curriculum and eventually issue a diploma for children that are home schooled. A letter from this school district, on their letterhead, that attests to the player's current address will meet the requirement.

OR

2. Provide a notarized letter indicating the player's current address.

32) Is the Medical Release our club's form or is there a NYSW form that must be used?

The Medical Release can be either your club or NYSW's form.

33) Does the Medical Release have to be notarized?

It is suggested but not mandatory that the Medical Release form be notarized.

34) If a player has a cast, will they be permitted to play?

Players are permitted to play with casts PROVIDED the cast is not dangerous to the player himself/herself or any other player on the field. This determination is made by the individual referee on the game.

35) My child was diagnosed with a possible concussion from the medical professionals at the field. What are the next steps for him/her to return to play?

Your player needs to be seen by a Medical Doctor, Doctor of Osteopathy or a doctor that specializes in concussion treatment and management. Parent must present a signed release from one of the above before your player can return to the field of play. Release needs to be on the letter head of the doctor or medical organization at which the player was examined.

36) Does the goalie jersey need a number?

Yes, each player must have a number on the roster and jersey. Double zero '00' is not an acceptable number.

37) What is the difference between a Wildcard team and an Alternate team assigned to the Eastern Region Championships?

- Wildcard teams are positions that are created to balance the number of teams in each division. Wildcard requirements are determined after all State Associations submit their Team Entry form for the Championship. Wildcard teams are assigned to a bracket to avoid having two teams from the same state association.
- Alternate teams are teams that are selected to replace a team that has dropped out of the competition after the State Associations have submitted their team entry forms. They will be assigned to the bracket from which the team dropped out. So, you may have two teams from the same state in the same bracket.

38) If a player receives a red card, can he remain on the bench?

Yes, the player will be permitted to remain on the bench under the supervision of a Risk Management approved team official. The player must remove their uniform jersey. If the player continues to be disruptive or a distraction to anyone in the bench area, they will be escorted from the area to the Tournament Headquarters.

39) If a player receives a red card in their USYS National League Conference (NLC) or another qualifying league, will they have to sit out their first game of the State Cup?

The National Championship Series (NCS) is a national tournament consisting of three levels of competition. These are State Cup, Regional Championships and finally the National Championships. To participate in the Series, every team, except for those in the 19 and Under divisions, must participate in a qualifying league.

The USYS NLC is one such qualifying league. Although teams from the NLC may qualify for direct entry to the Eastern Regional Championships of the NCS, the league itself is not one of the levels of the NCS. Thus, games played in the NCS and the NLC are not in the same competition.

Therefore, a red card issued in a game played in NLC or another qualifying league does not carryover and impact a player in the State Cup level of the NCS competition. Note however that if the red card was issued in the Division 1 Finals of the NLC and the player’s team did advance to the Eastern Regional Championship, the player would have to sit out at least the first game played at the Eastern Regional Championship.

40) What does the team manager need to bring to the Eastern Region Championship registration?

- The team manager will be required to bring the passes for both the players and the team officials. You must have your medical releases with you for the games however you will not have to present them at registration.
- Players and coaches do not need to be present.
- A team official must watch the Team Official webinar posted on the Eastern Regional Championships website.

41) Will seeding for the 2022 State Cup carryover from the 2021 State Cup?

RULE NYSW 7202 -- NYSW FORMAT OF COMPETITION

Registered teams that participated in the 2021 Semi-Finals/ Finals at State Cup will be seeded in the order they finished, provided their current season State Cup roster total has at least a majority of the same players as the 2021 season (except 13U – which is 8 players from previous year 12U roster). The majority shall be defined as shown in the table below. The roster used to establish the seed will be the previous year’s roster for the State Cup competition, not a roster that was modified later for Regional or National play with Club pass players.

Current Season Cup Roster Total	Number of Players from 2019 Season to equal Majority
22	12
21	11
20	11
19	10
18	10
17	9
16	9
15	8
14	8

42) Will seedings carry through to the Final Four tournament?

Yes, as they are used to establish the brackets and will carry through to the finals.

43) Can a player who participated in another State Cup (i.e., Eastern NY) be added to a NYSW State Cup Roster if their team has been eliminated prior to the roster freeze date?

No, a player cannot have participated in another state association State Cup.

RULE NYSW 7207 -- PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. General

(1) A player must be properly registered and rostered in accordance with the rules of US Youth Soccer and NYSW. Failure to remit player registration fees before the commencement of your State Cup matches violates this requirement and can result in disqualification of your team(s).

(2) A youth player may be on the National Championship roster of only one team at each level of the National Championships competitions during any seasonal year; provided, however, that a youth player who was rostered to a team of a club at a National Championship competition level that does not advance to the next level and who has been issued a club pass of that club in accordance with this policy may be rostered to another team of that club at the next level of the National Championships competitions. Subject to the foregoing, and subject to the provisions of Rule 7203, Section 1 (5), at each level of the National Championships competitions, a team may add to its National Championships roster for that level as many registered youth players holding club passes of that club of which a team is a member as the team, or its club determines so long as the roster does not exceed the maximum number of players permitted for the age group. A team may not change the club of which it is a member at any time after the commencement of the National Championship competitions and in any event only in compliance with the rules of NYSW.

44) Is there a certain uniform that the home and away teams need to wear for gameday?

The home team is traditionally the dark color. If the two team's colors are similar, the home team will need to change.

45) What is the best way to organize paperwork for check-in at registration?

All paperwork should be grouped together by player so all documents can be checked for each player at one time. (i.e., Joe Smith – player pass, proof of residence, medical form, covid waiver)

46) Are you collecting the documents being checked at registration?

No, they are being checked and will be returned to the team manager.