

# FALL CHAMPIONSHIP DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS

**South Texas Youth Soccer Association sponsors Fall Championship District Tournaments** for Under-11 through Under-14 Division III and Under-11 through Under-18/19 Division II boys and girls teams. If necessary, District Tournaments may be held for Super II Under-11 through Under-19 age groups. Based on a rule change adopted at the July 2009 Governing Board Meeting, each District will determine whether to hold Under-9 and Under-10 District Tournaments.

District Tournaments will include teams from all Member Associations within that District - Eastern and Western - who reported having eligible teams interested in participating by October 10th. Each Member Association reporting teams in an age group and competition level is allocated a percentage of the slots in the tournament.

Teams from El Paso Youth Soccer Association and Paso Del Norte Soccer Association participate in District Tournaments at the Division III (recreational) level only. STYSA rules grant a bye to one team in each age group and competition level to advance from El Paso directly to the State Tournament. In the event that teams from both associations in El Paso are interested in advancing, a playoff will be held at the direction of the Western District Vice President to identify the team to advance. More information on the participation by El Paso teams in the State Tournaments can be found on the State Tournament general information page.

Note: No guest players are allowed in District or State Tournaments.

**When:** First weekend of December

**Where:** At various sites within each District – associations request the opportunity to host these events during the District Meeting at the July Governing Board Meeting. Updated lists of sites and the on-site coordinator can be found on the STYSA website at [www.stxsoccer.org](http://www.stxsoccer.org).

**Tournament Size:** Each District Vice-President is charged with the responsibility of determining the size of each age group based on the total number of eligible teams and the number of associations participating. The maximum tournament size is 16 teams. Each association reporting eligible teams will be allocated a minimum of one and a maximum of three allocated teams. The allocation of more than three teams per association when necessary to fill the tournament shall be at the discretion of the District Vice-President.

## **Format of District Tournaments:**

- Tournaments with more than one bracket: Age groups involving 8, 12 or 16 teams are played in a round robin format. Saturday's bracket play consists of mini-games (shortened playing time). Semi-final and final rounds are played on Sunday and are regulation length games for that age and competition level.
- Tournaments with one bracket of more than 5 teams: These tournaments are played as a full round robin of mini-games (shortened playing time). The outcome of the tournament will be based on points awarded.
- Tournaments with one bracket of less than 5 teams: These tournaments are played as a full round robin of regulation length games. The outcome of the tournament will be based on points awarded.

**Participation Cost:** An entry fee is assessed to the Member Association for each team they are allocated. These fees are payable to the State Association prior to the District Tournament by the Member Association. Checks received from individual teams will be returned. Some associations pass the fee along to the participating team or club while others assume the responsibility for the fee. Please check with your Association to determine their requirements.

**Point System:** 10 point system will be used for calculating standings.

Win = 6 points

Tie = 3 points

Loss = 0 points

Goal = 1 point (maximum of 3)

Shutout = 1 point

**Forfeit:** Any team that fails to play an officially scheduled game in District or State Competition will be considered to have abandoned the tournament. Its games will not count to determine tournament standings nor shall they be considered in the standings as a forfeit. The team is not eligible to receive awards nor shall it be considered in the final standings. (STYSA Rule 5.8.3)

Additional Rules regarding District / State Playoffs can be found on the STYSA website at [www.stxsoccer.org](http://www.stxsoccer.org). Click on Publications / Administrative Handbook / District & State Playoffs

**Team Requirements:** All teams must have the following items in their possession when they arrive at the tournament -

- (1) Roster - signed by a responsible officer of the Member Association (usually the Registrar) and including all players who were rostered to the team during Fall play.
- (2) ID Cards - properly prepared and laminated ID Cards are required for all players
- (3) Adult Participation Pass – An Adult Participation Pass of the appropriate color for the current seasonal year including the adult's name and Kidsafe ID Number is required for any adult allowed on the team sideline.
- (4) Penalty Point Report - This report must be signed by the league administrator and must include all points accumulated during the fall season by players or coaches. If an individual has acquired sufficient points to require a suspension, the report must indicate whether the suspension has been served and when.

The Penalty Point Report is not available from the State Office. It is only available from your league and is prepared by the individual assigned the task of maintaining penalty points for your competition level and age group. Check with your local association about who will be providing this report to you and when.

All information will be posted on the STYSA website as it becomes available. Member Associations are required to submit information on advancing teams as soon as it becomes available; however, the deadline for submitting information is the week of the District Tournament. The website will be updated and information will be forwarded to the Site Coordinator as it becomes available. Coaches and parents are asked not to call the State Office to report team information or obtain the names of other teams in the age group. The State Office will only accept advancing team information from the appropriate Association Officer and requests for team names will only slow the process of disseminating the information to the site coordinator.

**Bench Passes:** Bench passes will be issued to the teams at check-in based on the information listed in Affinity and on the roster. Bench passes will be issued to only those individuals listed on the roster provided they satisfy the KidSafe and Coaching License requirements as appropriate. Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Trainers must satisfy both requirements while Team Managers / Team Moms must only satisfy the KidSafe requirement.

## **REMINDERS:**

Please be sure to look carefully at your Roster and ID Cards prior to arrival at the tournament. Each year there is at least one situation where a player has been inadvertently left off a roster or the coach doesn't have an id card for one player. If the player isn't listed on the roster or doesn't have an id card upon arrival at the tournament, they won't be eligible to play. It's the responsibility of the coach to verify that the roster is correct and that each player and coach has a properly laminated ID Card.

Every year someone asks the question, "Can we have guest players?" – **NO!** This is a playoff tournament. All rosters were frozen by the state as of November 1 (or earlier by your Member Association) and only those players who were properly rostered to the team during the fall season and prior to the date rosters were frozen are eligible to participate in the championship tournaments.

Medical Releases, while recommended for those for whom a parent will not be on site, are **not** mandatory.

Players should have a jersey or t-shirt with individual numbers of an alternate color available in the event of a color conflict. All players must wear shin guards.

**Under-10 and younger:** Current rules allow each District the option of holding a District Tournament for the U9 and U10 age groups. Once a determination is made as to whether a District will be holding tournaments for these age groups, the information will be posted on the STYSA website.