

FALL CHAMPIONSHIP STATE TOURNAMENTS

South Texas Youth Soccer Association sponsors **State Tournaments** for Under-11 through Under-19 boys and girls teams in Division II and Under-14 through Under-19 in the Super II level of play. (Note: No guest players are allowed!)

When: Second weekend of December

Where: The Districts alternate the hosting responsibilities for the State Tournaments. For the Fall 2009 State Championships the Girls will be hosted by Western District while the Boys will be hosted by Eastern District.

Size of the Tournament: State Tournaments consist of 4 or 5 teams - the top two teams from each of the two Districts and an El Paso representative (if participating in that age group).

- Division II - the first and second place teams in each age group will advance from the previous weekend's District Tournament and may be joined by an El Paso team. With two associations in El Paso, it will also be necessary to have a playoff should teams from both associations express a desire to participate in the State Tournament as only 1 team from El Paso will receive a bye into the State Tournament.
- Super II - The State Tournament will include the first and second place teams from each District. Eastern District will advance the top two teams in each age group based on final standings since all teams play a District-wide schedule during the fall season. Western District no longer plays as a single entity; therefore, a District Tournament will be required with representatives from the three different entities – Capitol Area Super II, Western District Super II, and Rio Valley Super II competitions – competing to identify the top two teams in each age group. With two associations in El Paso, it will also be necessary to have a playoff should teams from both associations express a desire to participate in the State Tournament as only 1 team from El Paso will receive a bye into the State Tournament.

Format of the Tournament: State Tournaments are played as a round robin. 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. In any age group in which El Paso is sending a team, the rules require that the two District representatives play one another prior to arriving at the State Tournament.

Point System: 10 point system

Win = 6 points Tie = 3 points Loss = 0 points Goal = 1 point (maximum 3)

A point will also be awarded for a shutout.

Forfeits: Any team that fails to play an officially scheduled game in District or State Competition will be considered to have abandoned the tournament. Any games played by that team 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)

Cost of the Tournament: An entry fee is assessed to each Super II team advancing to the State Tournament (if there was no District Tournament). These fees are payable to the State Association by the Member Association. Some associations assess the fee to the participating team or club while others assume the responsibility for the fee. There is no additional fee for Division II or Super II teams advancing from a District Tournament.

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

- (1) Roster - signed by the Member Association Registrar and including all players who are rostered to the team.

- (2) ID Cards - properly prepared and laminated ID Cards are required for all players
- (3) Laminated Adult Participation Pass – all adults wishing to be on the team sideline must have in their possession a laminated Adult Participation Pass for the current seasonal year that includes the individual's name and KidSafe number.
- (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, if so, when.

The Penalty Point Report is not available from the State Office. For Division II and Super II teams, the report is provided by the individual within your competition level who has been assigned the task of maintaining penalty points. Check with your Association or scorekeeper about who will be providing these documents to you.

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 prior to that date 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 individually numbered of an alternate color available in the event of a color conflict. All players must wear shin guards.