



US Youth Soccer

ODP Region IV Tournament

RULES & PROCEDURES 2008



A. Age Groups

The ODP Region IV Tournament will consist of the following age groups both Boys and Girls.

* 1991s	UNDER 17 GIRLS	UNDER 17 BOYS
* 1992s	UNDER 16 GIRLS	UNDER 16 BOYS
1993s	UNDER 15 GIRLS	UNDER 15 BOYS
1994s	UNDER 14 GIRLS	UNDER 14 BOYS

* *Winners qualify for the ODP National Championships .*

B. TEAM/PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. This competition is open to any US Youth Soccer Region IV State ODP Team in the above age divisions. Any team applying must be affiliated with one of the 14 states in US Youth Soccer Region IV.
2. Each State Association will provide the ODP Region IV Tournament committee with their ODP State Team **POOL** roster maximum 26 players by December 28, 2007 this is NOT your official Roster. Your official team roster will be frozen at check-in, and can only contain a maximum of 18 players of the 26 named in the pool.
3. Players who are duly registered and actively playing on a club and/or a State ODP Pool Team within their state of residence and who meet the age requirements for their team will be eligible to play.

Any team that is found guilty of fielding an ineligible player for whatever reason (non-compliance with the age limit, omission from the list of submitted pool players as a potential participant in the matches etc.) shall forfeit the match.

C. Rosters

1. Each State Association will provide the ODP Region IV Tournament Committee with six (7) copies (1 original and 6 copies) of their State ODP Official Team Rosters prior to the beginning of the competition. These rosters will be frozen at the team check-in.
2. All State Associations participating in the ODP Region IV Tournament must adhere to the following criteria.

3.
 1. Rosters **MUST** be typed.
 2. Players **MUST** be listed in Alphabetical Order. Last name first.
 3. Jersey Numbers **MUST** be listed on the Roster including Goalie.
 4. **NO** team shall be allowed more than eighteen (18) players on its official roster.
 5. **All rosters must be approved by the STATE President or delegate. Any player who fails to be named on the roster shall not be allowed to take part in the competition.**

4. Any State Association that withdraws a team from the ODP Region IV Tournament will be subject to a fine of \$1500.00 per team.

D. Format of Competition

1. Team competition in the ODP Region IV Tournament will follow a format set up by the ODP Tournament Committee according to the number of teams entered. All teams will receive a minimum of three (3) games.

2. **Game Balls** The Game Balls for all games will be provided by the tournament. All games will be played using a size #5 ball.

3. **Grace Periods** Teams not ready to play at the scheduled start time of any match shall be granted a ten (10) minute grace period. A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a team.

Teams not ready to play after this grace period has expired shall be reported to the ODP Region IV Tournament Committee by the Referee. The game shall be recorded as a 0-1 loss for the forfeiting team. Any team with an unreasonable forfeit will not be allowed to advance.

4. Home Team – Visiting Team

The team listed first in each pairing is the home team. The visiting team will have the choice of jersey colors. If, in the opinion of the referee, there is a conflict the home team shall change jerseys.

5. Team Bench – Sidelines

Teams and team personnel (maximum of four (4) people can represent the team personnel, i.e. coach, assistant coach, manager, trainer) will be on the "Team Bench" sideline. Parents and spectators will be on the opposite sideline. Team personnel will have identification passes provided by the ODP Region IV Tournament Committee. Passes will be issued at team check-in.

6. State DOC

State DOC's may be on the team side line with their team. But to be on the bench they will be counted as one of the four team personnel.

7. **Region IV ODP Coaching Staff** The Region IV ODP Coaching Staff will be given identification passes, which will enable them to be on the sideline with the teams and team personnel.

7. Uniforms

Each player must wear an official uniform with a six-inch minimum size number on the back of the shirt ([this includes goal keepers](#)). Duplicate numbers are not permitted. Teams **MUST** bring an alternate jersey with a six-inch minimum size number on the back.

8. **Equipment:** The wearing of shin guards will be mandatory for all players throughout the duration of all games.

9. Preliminary Games, Semi Finals and Finals – Overtime Periods

In the preliminary rounds, tie scores at the end of regulation time shall stand. In Semi Finals and Finals there will be two 10-minute overtime halves, if still tied after overtime teams will then go directly to Penalty Kicks.

10. Length of Games

Age Group

Game Length

U 18/U17	Two 35 minute halves/10 minute half time
U 16/U 15	Two 35 minute halves/10 minute half time
U 14/U 13	Two 30 minute halves/10 minute half time

Championship games will be full length.

11. Inclement Weather:

In case of inclement weather, the ODP Region IV Tournament Committee will have the authority to change games as follows:

- a. Relocate or reschedule any game(s).
- b. Change the duration of any game(s).
- c. Cancel any preliminary game(s).

12. Point System:

- a. Determination of standings within a group.
- b. Preliminary game points

Three	(3) points for a win
One	(1) point for a tie
Zero	(0) points for a loss

c. **Resolving ties within a group.** Ties in points in the preliminary rounds shall use the following tiebreaker rules in order:

1. The winner in head-to-head competition
2. Goal differential (goals scored minus goals allowed to a maximum differential of 4 per game)
3. Least goals allowed
4. Most goals scored
5. Shut-out wins (forfeits not counting)
6. FIFA kicks from the penalty mark
7. If more than two (2) teams who have played each other in bracket are tied at the end of the preliminary round, the tiebreaker criteria listed shall be used in the order shown until one team is advanced or one team is eliminated, or

both. If remaining teams are still tied at this point in the tie-breaking process, they will then be compared beginning again with step 1 until another team is either advanced or eliminated. If all teams did not play each other in bracket play then they will then be compared beginning again with step 2 until another team is either advanced or eliminated.

d. **Three way tie within a group:** Follow same format above. If FIFA Kicks have to be taken there will be a draw by the ODP Region IV Tournament Committee. The first team drawn will receive the bye; the next team drawn will be the home team against the remaining team in the first contest of penalty kicks. The winner of the first contest will then compete against the bye team in penalty kicks to determine the group winner. The bye team will be the home team.

E. Rules of Play:

1. Except as otherwise provided herein, the rules of US Youth Soccer and the FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall apply.
2. **Substitutions:** Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, at any stoppage of play.
3. In accordance with the ODP Regional Championship rules, 7 substitutions are allowed per half. Once a player is substituted, that player cannot return to the game in that half.

F. General:

1. **The ODP Region IV Tournament Committee's interpretation of the rules shall be final.**
2. The ODP Region IV Tournament Committee reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to this tournament.
3. There will be **NO** protests.
4. All teams must present the following paperwork at check in: (completed and signed)

Medical Release Form (Players)

Region IV Player Code of Conduct form (Players, Coaches, Team Administrators)

Region IV Publication Release Form (Players)
5. All Tournament participants are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner throughout the Tournament. All Participants are subject to the terms of the US Youth Soccer Code of Conduct.
6. All teams participating will be expected to make their travel arrangements accordingly. All teams should be prepared to play on Friday by: 12:00 pm and through Monday 5:00 pm.
7. All teams will be expected to participate and play on revised schedules.

G. Discipline

1. A player/Coach or asst. Coach who is ejected from any preliminary or semi-final game shall sit out the remainder of that game and the following game.
2. Players receiving a red card in the final game will be suspended from playing in the first game of the ODP National Championship Tournament.
3. Players that receive a red card in their final game that do not go on to the ODP National Championship Tournament will be referred back to their State Association for appropriate disciplinary action.
4. In the event a player is ejected, the State team administrator will escort the player off the field and away from the playing area.
5. In the event an adult associated with a team is ejected, the adult must leave the playing area.