AYSO
Southern California Extra
Developmental Soccer League
(SCEDSL)

State Cup Tournament

Hosted By
AYSO Sections 1, 10 & 11

Revised October 22, 2024

GUIDELINES

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AYSO SCEDSL
STATE CUP ADDENDUM

DOCUMENT

This document serves as an addition to the SCEDSL Program Guidelines. It does not replace any information in the SCEDSL Program Guidelines. If there happens to be a contradiction between this addendum and the SCEDSL Program Guidelines above, the latter should be regarded as accurate.

THE TOURNAMENT

Ideally, every team participating in the SCEDSL Fall Season should have the chance to join the SCEDSL State Cup Tournament. There are three main factors determining a team's invitation to the tournament: opting-in, eligibility and qualification.

OPT-IN

Teams interested in being considered for postseason play must register via the SCEDSL postseason registration system by the date indicated in the SCEDSL Program Calendar.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility pertains to a team's compliance with program rules (e.g., adhering to season regulations). The SCEDSL Program Guidelines outline various factors that may result in a team's disqualification (ineligibility) from the tournament. Instances include the use of ineligible players, repeated coach/spectator misconduct, among others. Please refer to the SCEDSL Program Guidelines for a comprehensive understanding of eligibility regulations.

QUALIFICATION

Qualification relates to a team's position in the final standings of the regular season. As we have a limited number of fields, we may not always accommodate every team for participation in the tournament. In such instances, available spots are offered to the top-ranked teams. The specific process for offering these spots is known as "Team Selection" and is outlined below. It's essential to highlight that timely registration for the tournament is also a factor in qualification. Teams must register by the deadline to be eligible for consideration.

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION

To take part in the tournament, teams must register their interest by completing a registration form, which will be accessible on the SCEDSL website by early October, with a probable deadline in late October. Fall season teams will be notified via email once the tournament registration dates are finalized. Teams failing to register by the deadline will be deemed ineligible.

On the other hand, teams that are registered and meet all eligibility and qualification criteria will be included in the tournament schedule and are expected to take part. Once scheduled, teams are

obliged to attend and participate. Failure to do so negatively impacts multiple teams and diminishes the quality of the tournament. Teams withdrawing from the tournament after schedules have been published will forfeit their tournament participation fees.

ROSTERS

Teams participating in the tournament are not permitted to make modifications to their fall season rosters. However, special consideration may be granted to teams facing roster shortages due to player injuries.

TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

The tournament will be held at various sites across Sections 1, 10 and 11 and will be separated into the Champions Cup and the League Cup flights. The tournament is structured into three stages to determine the division champions in each flight:

Stage 1: Play-in Matches:

In this stage, select teams may compete against each other to gain entry into the Champions Cup flight. Details as to which teams will need to participate in a Play-In match.

Also, If the number of interested teams exceeds the tournament's capacity, Play-In games may be necessary to determine which teams secure the last available spots in the tournament.

Stage 2: Pool Round:

Teams will be divided into pools and scheduled to play each team within their respective pools. Standings at the conclusion of the pool round will dictate which teams progress to Stage 3.

Stage 3: Final Round:

Teams advancing to this round will engage in single-elimination matches to determine the division champion in their flight. The final round in each division is expected to include Quarterfinals, Semifinals, and Championship matches.

Tournament Limitations

Our objective is to include as many teams as possible in the tournament on the dates outlined in the SCEDSL program calendar. The smooth operation of the tournament depends on several factors, including field availability, site resources, weather conditions, and the availability of weekends, among others. If any of these factors prevent us from adhering to the original plan, the tournament committee retains the authority to modify the tournament structure and the number of participating teams to suit the available resources.

LEVELS OF COMPETITION

The SCEDSL State Cup Tournament will feature two separate tournament groups: the Champions Cup and the League Cup. The Champions Cup will be the more competitive of the two.

Detailed explanations of team selection for the Champions Cup and League Cup are provided below.

Champions Cup Team Selection

The number of teams and the criteria for selecting which eligible and qualified teams will be invited to participate in the Champions Cup Tournament will depend on the following regular season criteria: if teams were split into balanced flights, the number of flights, and the total number of teams involved.

Details regarding which teams will be invited to participate in the Champions Cup Tournament are outlined below.

Unbalanced Divisions (Including 9U)

In divisions where regular season teams were not divided into competitively balanced flights, typically seen in 9U divisions, the following criteria will determine which teams will be invited to participate in the Champions Cup Tournament.

Less than 8 Teams	No Post Season
8 - 16 Teams	Top 6 or 8 Teams All Flights
16 - 24 Teams	Top 8 Teams all flights
25 - 32 Teams	Top 12 teams all flights
33+ Teams	Top 16 teams all flights

Balanced Divisions

In divisions where regular season teams were divided into competitively balanced flights, the following criteria will determine which teams will be invited to participate in the Champions Cup Tournament.

Two Flights

No. of Teams	Flight 1	Flight 2	Play-In 1	Play-In 2	Play-In 3	Total
8 - 16	Top 2	Top 1	3rd Flight 1 vs 4th Flight 2	4th Flight 1 vs 3rd Flight 2	5th Flight 1 vs 2nd Flight 2	6 Teams
16 – 24	Top 3	Top 2	4th Flight 1 vs 5th Flight 2	5th Flight 1 vs 4th Flight 2	6th Flight 1 vs 3rd Flight 2	8 Teams
25 – 32	Top 5	Top 4	6th Flight 1 vs 7th Flight 2	7th Flight 1 vs 6th Flight 2	8th Flight 1 vs 5th Flight 2	12 Teams
33 +	Top 8	Top 7	9th Flight 1 vs 10th Flight 2	10th Flight 1 vs 9th Flight 2	11th Flight 1 vs 8th Flight 2	18 Teams

No. of Teams	Flight 1	Flight 2	Flight 3	Play-In 1	Play-In 2	Play-In 3	Total
8 - 16	Top 3	Top 2	Top 1	N/A	N/A	N/A	6 Teams
16 - 24	Top 2	Top 2	Top 1	3rd Flight 1 vs 2nd Flight 3	4th Flight 1 vs 4th Flight 2	5th Flight 1 vs 3rd Flight 2	8 Teams
25 - 32	Top 4	Top 3	Top 2	5th Flight 1 vs 3rd Flight 3	6th Flight 1 vs 5th Flight 2	7th Flight 1 vs 4th Flight 2	12 Teams
33+	Top 7	Top 5	Top 3	8th Flight 1 vs 4th Flight 3	9th Flight 1 vs 7th Flight 2	10th Flight 1 vs 6th Flight 2	18 Teams

Divisions With Large Flights

In large divisions, it is possible that some flights may be divided into multiple pools. For instance, a division with 16 Flight 1 teams may be split into Flight 1 Pool A and Flight 1 Pool B, ensuring each team within a pool plays each other at least once during the regular season.

In such cases, teams within the flight will be ranked based on the criteria outlined in the STANDINGS section of the regular season guidelines to determine which teams will be invited to participate in the Champions Cup Tournament.

League Cup Team Selection

The teams invited to participate in the League Cup will largely depend on the number of interested teams and the available field space. Our goal is to provide every eligible and qualified team with the opportunity to participate in the tournament. Ideally, every team that did not receive an invitation to the Champions Cup will have the chance to participate in the League Cup.

Further details will be provided once we have confirmed the number of interested teams.

GAME DAY GUIDELINES

These guidelines will be amended to include comprehensive game day guidelines before the conclusion of the Fall regular season. This draft of the guidelines aims to provide visibility to those involved in the SCEDSL program regarding the tournament's intentions, structure, eligibility, qualifications, and selection criteria prior to the start of the regular season.

MODIFICATIONS & EXCEPTIONS

While these guidelines serve as the primary governing document for the SCEDSL State Cup tournament, the tournament administration reserves the right to modify or make exceptions to these guidelines at any time. Any such modifications or exceptions require prior approval from the involved Section Directors.

END OF DOCUMENT