

# TEAM INFORMATION



2025 Southern Presidents Cup Team:

On behalf of US Youth Soccer, congratulations on qualifying for the 2025 US Youth Soccer Southern Presidents Cup! This is an incredible accomplishment towards your goal of advancing to the 2025 US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup in Tampa, Florida to compete for the National title.

We have been busy preparing for your arrival with our host, the North Texas State Soccer Association, to ensure a memorable experience for you in Plano, Texas.

There is an abundance of information in this guide to help prepare for your trip to Plano. Additionally, please visit <u>USYouthSoccer.org</u> periodically for the latest event information. We will update the website leading up to and throughout the event.

The schedule will be available upon completion of all state qualifying events (on or about Friday June 6<sup>th</sup>). The <u>preliminary game schedules</u> are posted on the website. Please note that schedule change requests will not be honored, so please make travel arrangements accordingly.

It is important that your team is registered for the event and your team's roster submitted for approval prior to the deadline provided by your State Association in the <u>GotSport platform</u>.

In lieu of an in-person team check-in, we will host a webinar for team representatives on **Thursday**, **June 5** at **1PM CDT/2PM EDT**. The call-in details for this webinar will be provided about a week prior to the webinar, which will be recorded and made available to all teams for reference.

Should you have any questions or concerns, your first point of contact is always your State Representative. We look forward to seeing you in Texas!

Sincerely,

Jeannie Louk
US Youth Soccer Southern Presidents Cup Program Manager



#### IMPORTANT TEAM INFORMATION

Any information in this document does not replace the need to be familiar with the "US Youth Soccer" Presidents Cup Competition Rules", the "Policy on the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup", and the "US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup Competition Protocols", all of which are available for download from the US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup website.

#### MEMBER PASSES AND BENCH PASS CREDENTIALS

Each player and team official listed on a team roster must possess a current seasonal year US Youth Soccer member pass with a recent face-on, passport style photograph.

All member passes must be a laminated paper card or a machine produced credit card style. Teams without US Youth Soccer member passes will not be allowed to participate in the Southern Presidents Cup.

Bench Personnel are **limited to a maximum of four (4) individuals** (this includes head coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, club coaches, trainers and/or any other team officials) in the technical area during a match. Each individual must possess a valid US Youth Soccer member pass and wear the provided Bench Pass credential around their neck, visible at all times, while in the technical area.

#### US YOUTH SOCCER CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

All US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup competitions follow the US Youth Soccer Concussion Protocol. Please be advised that after a player receives a completed US Youth Soccer Concussion Form due to displaying signs and symptoms of a concussion, that player may not return to play until a signed clearance form from a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy who specializes in concussion treatment and management has been received. Additional information on the concussion protocol is available here and here.

A concussion clearance must be on a document issued by a medical doctor's office, stating that the player has been cleared to return to play and is clear of symptoms. The form must be signed by the medical official.

If a player is cleared during the event, please notify your State Representative (if applicable) and bring the signed clearance to Event Headquarters. If a player is cleared post-event, please contact the US Youth Soccer National Office at 972-334-9300.

**NOTE**: The Athletic Trainers contracted for this event are considered primary, and any team or club Athletic Trainers are secondary.

#### **EVENT HOST**

The North Texas State Soccer Association is honored to host the 2025 US Youth Soccer Southern Presidents Cup. Hosting this event at Russell Creek Park is a tremendous privilege for them. While in the area, please be sure to take advantage of the many wonderful restaurants and attractions. Above all, enjoy your visit, and we wish your team the best of luck during your matches.

#### **EVENT DATES**

Thursday, June 12 Practice day if desired; times must be reserved in advance

Friday, June 13 Group Play Day 1
Saturday, June 14 Group Play Day 2
Sunday, June 15 Group Play Day 3

Monday, June 16 Semifinals Tuesday, June 17 Finals



#### **EVENT LOCATION**

All matches for the 2025 Southern Presidents Cup will be hosted at:

Russell Creek Park
3550 McDermott Road
Plano, Texas 75025

There are 18 natural grass fields and two (2) turf fields at Russell Creek Park. Concessions will be available.

#### PRACTICE FIELDS

Practice fields will be available on Thursday, June 12 from 12:00PM to 5:00PM in 60-minute time slots. A link to sign-up for practice fields will be posted on the event website at <a href="USYouthSoccer.org">USYouthSoccer.org</a> for teams and communicated to State Reps.

#### **UNIFORMS**

Each team must have two (2) uniform sets, including socks, (one light color and one dark color at **each match** during the competition. Generally accepted light colors include, but are not limited to, white, light grey, sand, sky blue, yellow, gold, pink, and light green. Generally accepted dark colors include, but are not limited to, black, dark grey, dark brown, navy blue, red, maroon, dark green and deep purple.

- The home team (listed first in the schedule) is required to wear their light color jersey and socks.
- The away team (listed second in the schedule) is required to wear their dark color jersey and socks.
- Matching shorts are not required. The same color shorts can be utilized for both uniforms.

If, in the opinion of the referee, there is a jersey or sock color conflict, the **team causing the conflict** must change. The referee's decision is final. Any failure to comply may result in sanctions and/or fines levied against the offending team. Reminder, teams are required to bring both color uniforms and socks to all matches.

Uniforms numbers must be a minimum of six (6) inches in size. Each field player must have a number permanently affixed to the back of their jersey which must be clearly visible. **Duplicate and/or taped numbers are not permitted**. Goalkeepers must wear colors that distinguish them from other players and referees. Numbered jerseys for goalkeepers are optional; however, are recommended.



#### UNIFORM LOGOS, MARKINGS & SPONSORS

At every level of the National Presidents Cup competitions, a player or team official at a game site to participate in a game or associated activity of the competitions may only have on the outerwear of the player or team official a name, logo, or other identifying mark of a youth soccer organization that is US Youth Soccer, a State Association or other member of US Youth Soccer, a member of a State Association, or an organization that is a member of an organization that is a member of a State Association. A name, logo, or other identifying mark of any other youth soccer organization must be removed, replaced, or covered before the player or team official may continue to remain at the game site for the game or associated activity.

If a player or team official chooses not to remove a name, logo, or other identifying mark of any other youth soccer organization, it must be completely covered by another patch. At the event, USYS can supply semi-permanent patches to cover non-compliant markings or logos. The cost is \$75.00 per team (for 44 patches) or \$3.00 per patch, payable in cash. *Covering non-complaint marks with tape is not permitted*.

A player or team official is not prohibited from having a mark or name on clothing being worn at a match, provided that it is related to an item or service that is appropriate for youth. Any inappropriate mark or name must be removed, replaced, or covered before the player or team official may continue to participate in the match. Examples of inappropriate marks or names would be tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, etc. If there is any question about a logo, marking or sponsor, it is **strongly** suggested that you inquire well in advance of the start of the event to avoid an issue at the field.

Please note that these policies will be strictly enforced for participants at all levels of the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup competitions.

#### **UNIFORM PATCHES**

As teams advance through the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup competitions, they may be presented with State Champion uniform patches. The State Champion patches are optional and *are not required* for the Regional Presidents Cup competition. Before a team affixes any of these patches to their uniforms, be aware that teams that advance to the National Presidents Cup competition *must wear the National Presidents Cup patch* they will be provided, as outlined below. Although teams may utilize any other patches they were presented if they choose, it is recommended that teams leave sufficient space for the National Presidents Cup patch.

Important: All team member uniforms must have each patch permanently affixed in the same location. Patches may be placed:

- On the right or left sleeve of the jersey, approximately 1" above the bottom edge of the sleeve with the patch facing outwards. For long sleeve jerseys, (for example a Goalkeeper jersey) place the patch in approximately the same spot as if it were a short sleeve jersey.
- On the right or left leg of the shorts, approximately 1" above the bottom edge of the hem with the patch facing forward.

These options are provided to avoid conflict with sponsor logos, player numbers, etc. However, as outlined above, all uniforms must have each patch permanently affixed in the same location.







#### **TRAVEL**

All travel to the competition is at your expense. Should you choose to fly, the closest airports are the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) and Love Field (DAL) in Dallas.

#### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

This is a stay-to-play event. Your State Association selects all team hotel accommodations per the event housing requirements. Each team is required to book a minimum of 24 room-nights, through the approved housing coordinator. All teams are required to stay at the property their State Association assigned to them. All properties include free parking and free breakfast unless otherwise noted by your State Rep.

#### SEVERE WEATHER & EVENT NOTIFICATIONS

The Southern Presidents Cup Event Management staff will constantly monitor weather conditions and will follow any local requirements as well as all US Youth Soccer weather protocols. Inclement weather announcements and other important competition information will be broadcast using WhatsApp. Your carrier may impose message and/or data charges. If you consent to receive messages during the Southern Presidents Cup competition, scan the QR code below or click on this link.



#### TEAM REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN

The online team check-in to ensure that all players and team officials are eligible prior to your team's arrival. There is no "in person" team check-in. Any required documents must be uploaded into the GotSport system by the online check-in deadline. Your State Association and/or State Rep will be able to assist you through this process.

#### **MEDICAL SERVICES**

Athletic Trainers will be available for preventative taping services; however, all medical emergencies and injuries will take priority.



#### **HOSPITAL & URGENT CARE FACILITIES**

If clearance is needed for a concussion or other medical situation, the following information is provided for your convenience. If further evaluation or clearance is needed for any injuries, a Texas Health professional will assist with where/who to use for follow-up

- For all needs at the fields, Texas Health will be on hand.
- For after-hours needs, please proceed to the nearest ER.

#### OFFICIAL EVENT MERCHANDISE

We are proud to have <u>Team IP</u> as the official apparel provider of the 2025 Southern Regional Presidents Cup. Be sure to pick up your t-shirts, hoodies and other apparel.

#### **EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES**

US Youth Soccer photographers will be capturing action shots during many (but not all) of the matches during the week. Access to these photographs is free, additional information is contained in this guide.

#### **HYDRATION**

Hydration Stations will be set up at the main Medical Tents during the 2025 competition. Teams are responsible for ensuring that their bench area is clean before departing after a match.

#### **REFEREES**

Just as teams earned the right to compete at the Southern Region Presidents Cup, the referees have also earned their place, based on recommendations and accomplishments from within their home state. At this competition, referees compete to earn the honor of officiating at the National Presidents Cup based on their performance. The referees are supported by senior referees and mentors who contribute to their development by guiding them in post-match reflections. Please refrain from criticizing the officials throughout the competition.



#### **SPECTATORS**

Parents and/or spectators who can reasonably be considered to be affiliated with a team are considered a part of that team, and the actions of those individuals are the responsibility of the credentialed team officials appearing on the roster.

No spectators are permitted anywhere behind the goal line during a match. The spectator area is located on the opposite side of the field from the technical/bench area. Spectators must remain in the half of the field directly across from their team's bench, subject to the following exception.

It is expected that respect for the game and players will prevail if a limited number of spectators wish to *quietly* observe the match at the far end of the opposing spectator section (for example, the Goalkeeper's parents). In the event of disruptive behavior by these spectators, a referee or tournament official may require them to return to their designated area and restrict any further sideline movement of spectators.

Technical instruction, provocative or unsportsmanlike behavior by any spectator may result in 1) their removal from the complex or 2) the removal of ALL spectators, either from one or both teams, for the remainder of the match. Any spectators asked to leave by law enforcement, security, referees, or any other event official must immediately depart the field area and remain out of sight and sound of the match. Ejected spectators may not return to the field at the conclusion of the match. The actions of spectators could result in disciplinary action imposed upon the team, up to and including disqualification from the competition.

Whistles, air horns, megaphones, artificial noisemakers and/or similar devices are prohibited at all National Presidents Cup competitions. Air horns are for use solely by tournament officials to signal when fields must be cleared due to inclement or dangerous weather conditions.

#### LOCAL AREA INFORMATION

Visit Plano is excited to welcome you to the 2025 USYS South Presidents Cup in Plano, Texas. Plano is a vibrant and dynamic city in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. This community offers a wide range of attractions and activities for visitors of all ages and interests. From world-class shopping and dining to exciting outdoor adventures and cultural experiences, Plano has something for everyone!

Click here to Visit Plano!

#### **PARKING**

All parking at Russell Creek Park is free.



#### DISCRIMINATORY LANGUAGE DURING MATCHES

Following examples set by FIFA, Professional Soccer Leagues worldwide and other organizations, US Youth Soccer rejects any form of discrimination, harassment or epithets directed towards an individual based on race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age or physical/mental disability.

The use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or actions are sending off offenses and may include, but are not limited to, epithets in any language that are perceived to be derogatory or inflammatory towards any player (opponent or teammate), coach, referee, spectator, administrator or other individual.

#### Epithets by a Player or Team Official heard by a Referee During a Match:

When the Referee hears an epithet by a Player or Team Official or is advised by a member of the Referee crew that they did:

- The Referee is required to issue an ejection per the Laws of the Game.
- Event Staff will respond and remain at the field for the duration of the match to monitor and take action if necessary.

#### Epithets by a Player or Team Official not heard by a Referee but reported to a Referee:

When a Player or Team Official informs a member of the Referee crew that an epithet was directed towards them or another individual, but no member of the Referee crew heard the epithet:

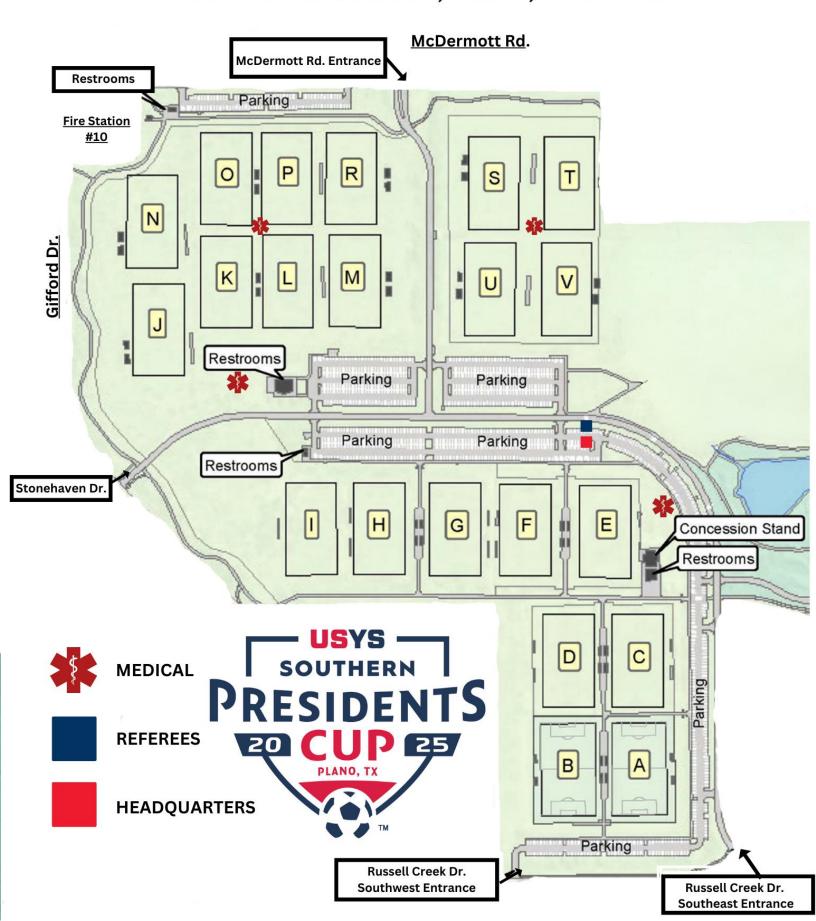
- At the next stoppage of play, the Referee will bring the target and the individual alleged to have conveyed the epithet to the midfield touch line, along with the Head Coaches of both teams, the Referee crew and responding Event Staff where the alleged epithet will be reviewed.
- Following that meeting, coaches may bring their team to the touchline to advise that additional incidents may result in an immediate ejection, a temporary suspension of the match, the match being abandoned and/or teams being removed from the competition.
- Play will be restarted and time added to account for the delay.
- Event Staff will remain at the field for the duration of the match to monitor and take action if necessary.

#### Epithets by Spectators heard by or reported to a Referee During a Match:

- At the next stoppage of play the Referee will direct players to go to their respective benches.
- The Referee will bring the Head Coaches from both teams, the Referee crew and responding Event Staff to an area away from the benches.
- Both Head Coaches will be advised of what was reported, and if identified, the spectator that said it.
- Both Head Coaches will be requested to inform their spectators that any additional incidents
  may result in a temporary suspension of the match, removal of spectators for the balance of
  the match and possibly future matches, the match being abandoned and/or teams being
  removed from the competition.
- If the offending spectator was not identified, the Head Coach will be requested to ask their spectators to assist in identifying the offending spectator.
- If the offending spectator is identified, Event Staff will inform the spectator they must leave sight and sound of the field before the match will resume. Security will intervene if the spectator refuses to comply.
- Additionally, the sideline may be cleared of all spectators from the offending team for the balance of the match and possibly future matches.
- Event Staff will remain at the field for the duration of the match to monitor and take action if necessary.

## 2025 USYS Southern Presidents Cup Russell Creek Park

3500 McDermott Rd., Plano, TX 75025







## FREE EVENT PHOTOS

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ONLINE AND ONSITE OFFICIAL MERCHANDISER

WILL BE SUPPORTING THE US YOUTH SOCCER

SCHEDULE FOR 2025-2026 ALONG WITH ITS OFFICIAL

MERCHANDISE WEBSITE AT SHOPUSYS.COM





