

US Youth Soccer Tournament Risk

A Direct Kick to Safety

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Mission and Challenge

- Provide a healthy, safe and fair competition for all teams participating
- Allow everyone the opportunity to participate in the activities, view the competitions and experience the spirit of the tournament.

Who is responsible?

The hosting Organization

- State Association
- Clubs and Leagues

Tournament Officials

- Tournament Director
- Tournament Committee
- Tournament Staff

What are the Risks?

Security (Uniform Patrol)

- Protect all players, spectators and participants
- Control traffic flow
- Monitor parking area for pedestrian safety

Grounds and Equipment

- Soccer Goals-inspect and anchor
 1. Inspect construction/sharp corners
 2. Inspect net installation-no metal ties
 3. Goals anchored securely
 4. Secure/anchor goals not in use
- Fields
 1. Inspect for foreign objects
 2. Check for pot holes, hills/ruts
 3. Sprinkler heads seated and properly covered
 4. Restraining line 3' from touch line for spectators
- Inspect bleachers and seating
- Portable tents securely anchored
- Vendors-inspect facilities & equipment for safety precautions
- Adequate restroom facilities
- Beware of the "Attractive Nuisance"

Transportation

- Vehicle operators properly authorized and licensed
- Golf Carts-require seating for all passengers

No standing on carts while moving!

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Severe Weather

- Monitor weather alert radio and lightning detector
- Provide emergency signal device to assist with evacuation of complex
- Instruct coaches on evacuation procedures

Medical

Tournaments will provide paramedical facilities and qualified medical personnel shall be present at all playing sites during competition.

Trainers and medical personnel shall meet the following criteria:

- Be trained and equipped to treat trauma and perform CPR
- Provide emergency first aid
- Recognize and treat sport related injuries
- Maintain communications with tournament HQ and EMS services
- Medics identifiable (badge/clothing)
- Provide written directions to local medical facilities or hospitals
- Provide written report to tournament director for each transported patient

Referee

- Certified Referee Assignor
- Recommend Referee Assessors
- Certified USSF Referees
- Referee skills= Match competition

Tournament Officials

- Adequate tournament staffing
- Committee/Staff identification
- Communications for staff
- Recognizable Headquarters

Goal

Most tournament risks can be avoided by developing a Tournament Risk Management Program, that will substantially reduce or eliminate the likelihood of emergencies.