



**Kentucky Youth Soccer
2024 Kentucky Challenge Cup
Team Information Guide**



KENTUCKY CHALLENGE CUP

Dear Players, Coaches, and Parents:

On behalf of Kentucky Youth Soccer, we would like to extend a warm welcome to those attending and participating in the 2024 Kentucky Challenge Cup.

As you prepare, Kentucky Youth Soccer has created this Team Information Guide to provide important information and guidance. It is strongly suggested that this document be shared with your team and a copy brought to the event for reference.

A massive thank you to Elizabethtown Sports Park Staff and the Elizabethtown Tourism & Convention Bureau for the continued support of Kentucky Youth Soccer programs and events.

Kentucky Youth Soccer appreciates your continued support and wishes all teams the best of luck. This event provides an experience with a special focus on camaraderie, community, and competition through sport.

Cordially,

Kentucky Youth Soccer Staff

KENTUCKY YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION



KENTUCKY CHALLENGE CUP

KENTUCKY CHALLENGE CUP WEBSITE

The [Kentucky Challenge Cup website](#) is the place for the most up to date tournament information.

TOURNAMENT POLICIES

All teams must be familiar with the [Tournament Policies](#) that are in effect.

COMMUNICATION

If you wish to add anyone to future communications through GotSport, you or your club admin should be able to login into your GotSport team account and add them.

We suggest you join the [Kentucky Challenge Cup Band](#). We will use this communication tool leading up to and during the event for updates.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS/HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

At Elizabethtown Sports Park, our tournament staff office is located behind the concessions area at the main pavilion area by Field 5 in the event you may need the assistance of our staff.

GAME SCHEDULE

[Brackets, Schedules and Standings](#)

LOCATION

Elizabethtown Sports Park
1401 West Park Road
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

**Please note the park gates will open 1 hour prior to the first game each day

TEAM CHECK IN INFORMATION

All documents will be uploaded through GotSport. This is REQUIRED for every team as we will NOT require onsite registration.

You will need to upload the following for each team no later than **Friday, May 3 at 5pm**. Any team that has not uploaded their documents by the deadline are subject to an administrative fine of \$250.00.

- Approved Team Roster from Demopshere
- Concussion Certificates for Every Coach and Team Managers listed on the roster ([Concussion Policy](#))

If you follow these [online directions](#), it will walk you through how to upload these documents. Please ensure that the person who registered the teams will need to be the person who uploads these documents in GotSport.

A few notes as you do this online registration:

- If you need help locating your official team roster, please contact your club.
- We will review each document and contact teams if there are any problems.



KENTUCKY CHALLENGE CUP

HOTELS

If you need hotel rooms for your team, please visit our hotel partner Away Team. Please direct any questions to Away Team.

Preliminary Weekend: [Click here for hotel information](#)

Finals Weekend: [Click here for hotel information](#)

TOURNAMENT MERCHANDISE

The Official Tournament Merchandise Partner is Simax. They will have a mobile trailer where you can purchase personalized Kentucky Challenge Cup merchandise.

SIDELINES

- Benches: Elizabethtown Sports Park will provide team benches.
- Tents: Teams/Spectators may bring tents, but they **cannot** be staked into the ground. Please bring something to weigh your tents down. Please note that some team sidelines may not have enough space to accommodate a tent.

AWARDS

Awards will only be given to the Champion and Finalist place teams in each age group. Once the championship game is completed, please send ONE representative from the team to collect the trophy and medals from the tournament office and distribute them to the team. We will set up a couple of backdrops for team photos near the pavilion by Field 5.

ADAPTING TO THE WEATHER

Prepare your team for playing in warm temperatures and/or humidity. The tournament is held when high temperatures and conditions can be present, so we suggest that players begin to hydrate their bodies a minimum of one week prior to the event to help avoid heat related illnesses.

PLAYER/COACH PASSES

Each player and team official listed on a team roster must carry a current US Youth Soccer member pass. Team passes must be laminated, in alphabetical order by last name, players first and followed by team managers and coaches. Please note that a maximum of 4 team personnel is allowed on the sideline at any time.

MATCH DAY PROCEDURES

Referees will collect coach and player passes from both teams prior to each game. A maximum of 18 players are allowed to be in uniform for each match.

Kentucky Youth Soccer will provide adidas soccer balls for each game. We ask that each team bring a game ready ball in case our ball disappears, goes into a creek, lake, etc.

All players in the bench area during the game **MUST** wear a penny, jacket, or something different than the players on the field. This pertains to those players on the bench but to players warming up prior to entering the match.

If a player is sent off by a referee, that player may remain on the team bench. Should that player's behavior subsequently become a disturbance a credentialed team official must escort that player away



KENTUCKY CHALLENGE CUP

from the field. If a team official is dismissed, they must leave the vicinity of the field before the match will be restarted.

After each game, please ensure that your bench area is clean, and your team vacates the bench as quickly as possible, so the next team playing can get settled in.

MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS

Medical Release forms for players are not required, however, it is strongly recommend having completed and signed [Kentucky Youth Soccer Medical Release](#) form for each player available and accessible if needed throughout the tournament.

UNIFORMS

Each team must have two (2) uniform sets (one light color and one dark color) at each game during the event.

- The home team is required to wear their light color jersey.
- The away team is required to wear their dark color jersey.

If, in the opinion of the referee, there is a color conflict, the team causing the conflict must change. The referee's decision is final. Uniforms numbers must be a minimum of six (6) inches in size. Each field player must have a number affixed to the back of their jersey which must be clearly visible. Duplicate numbers are not permitted. Numbered jerseys for goalkeepers are optional but are recommended.

From the US Youth Soccer Policy on Players and Playing Rules Rule 304, Section 2: A team member is not prohibited by US Youth Soccer from having a mark or name, or both, on any part of the team member's uniform being worn at a game if the mark or name is related to an item or service that is appropriate for youth. Any inappropriate mark or name on a team member's uniform must be removed, replaced, or covered before the team member may continue to participate.

An example of an inappropriate mark or name would be, but is not limited to, any alcoholic beverage. 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.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Kentucky Youth Soccer expects exemplary behavior from everyone participating in the event, including parents and spectators. Above all, we expect and demand the proper respect for an opponent on the field. This also includes sportsmanlike behavior on the field, respect for referees and opposing coaches, tournament staff and volunteers.

TEAM & PLAYER BEHAVIOR

Players and team officials are expected to adhere to the following standards of conduct. Violation of These standards can jeopardize continued participation in the Kentucky Challenge Cup. Teams are expected to be present at the field at the designated time for all matches. Players shall conduct themselves in a mature manner when in public areas both at and away from the playing fields. No alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or other intoxicants shall be in the possession of players.

A player or team official found using, providing, or in the possession of illegal drugs, alcohol or in violation



KENTUCKY CHALLENGE CUP

of any Kentucky Youth Soccer or US Youth Soccer rule, may result in disciplinary action up to and including disqualification from the event. A player or team official who has displayed violations of local ordinances (including, but not limited to, theft or willful destruction of property) may result in disciplinary action up to and including disqualification from the event.

A player, team official or spectator who physically or verbally attacks another player, team official, spectator, referee, or other event official may result in disciplinary action up to and including disqualification from the event. Players and team officials are expected to cooperate with and be courteous to all tournament personnel and dignitaries. This includes referees, field marshals and other event volunteers.

A maximum of four team officials will be allowed on the team bench during games. Team officials are expected to cooperate with game officials and to follow all established protocols and/or procedures. Degrading remarks directed toward players, opponents, or game officials in any language may result in disciplinary action. A team official would be a head or assistant coach along with team managers.

SPECTATOR CONDUCT

The parents and/or spectators affiliated with a team are considered a part of the team, and the actions of these individuals are the responsibility of the credentialed team officials appearing on the roster.

The spectator area is located on the opposite side of the field from the technical/bench area. No spectators are permitted anywhere behind the goal line during a match. The spectator area is behind the line clearly marked 3 yards beyond the touchline and extends from a point 3 yards from the center line down to the corner flag. Spectators must remain in this area, in the half of the field directly across from their team's bench, subject to the following exception.

Technical instruction from any part of the spectator area, or provocative or unsportsmanlike behavior by any spectator may result in their removal from the complex. Any spectator asked to leave by a referee or tournament official must immediately depart the field area and remain out of sight and sound of the match until the teams have departed the field of play and are no longer the responsibility of the referee. Any individual removed may not return to the field at the end of the game.

Whistles, air horns, megaphones and any music devices are prohibited at all Kentucky Youth Soccer competitions. Air horns are for use solely by tournament officials to signal when fields must be cleared due to inclement or dangerous weather conditions.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

If severe weather is imminent, tournament personnel will blow an air horn. At that time, we will ask that everyone LEAVE the field of play and seek shelter immediately. All visitors and athletes must evacuate immediately to vehicles and stay there until all clear signal sounds. Please note if there is thunder or lightning in the area, we will have to wait a minimum of 30 minutes after each thunder or lightning occurrence. We will blow the horn three consecutive times once the weather is all clear and send an update on the official Kentucky Challenge Cup BAND.

CONCESSION STANDS

The concession stands within the Elizabethtown Sports Park will be open during matches they offer a variety of food and beverage items for sale.



KENTUCKY CHALLENGE CUP

INCORRECT SCORES

Scores will **ONLY** be updated online. We do make mistakes though and if a score looks incorrect online, please have **ONE** person per team (preferably the team manager or coach) email stevenmurry@kysoccer.net and we will check on the information that we received by the referees and update as needed.

SOCIAL MEDIA

During the event, we will be active on social media through the tournament, from posting pictures to tournament updates, weather delays, etc. If you are not a follower, please consider giving us a follow and tagging us in your post and using [#KYChallengeCup24](#) on any of the social media platforms.

Facebook [@kyyouthsoccer](#)

Twitter [@kyyouthsoccer](#)

Instagram [@kyyouthsoccer](#)

We ask that if you have a tournament related question, please come to the tournament director's office rather than communicating through social media.

BAND

We're excited to announce that BAND is the official communication platform for Kentucky Youth Soccer, and we'll be using it extensively throughout our tournaments. Stay connected and informed by registering for the official Kentucky Challenge Cup BAND! Get instant access to important updates, game schedules, and tournament announcements, ensuring you never miss a beat.

Join the 2024 Kentucky Challenge Cup BAND- [HERE](#).

SPORTS MEDICINE INFORMATION

Soccer is an endurance sport consisting of moderate activity levels interspersed with brief high intensity bursts. This type of activity leads to a high rate of heat production within the body. Heat related illnesses occur when the body generates more heat than it can release. Generally, this happens when the temperature within the body rises too high. The heat related illness can take on one of three forms: heat cramps (mildest and most common), heat exhaustion (very serious, could lead to other problems), or heat stroke (extremely serious, could cause death).

- **Heat cramps** are muscle cramps that occur during or immediately following heavy exertion in hot or humid weather. These cramps can occur in one or several different muscles, with the leg muscles being the most common site. Heat cramps are warnings that more severe heat related problems are possible but can be avoided if appropriate actions are taken.
- **Heat exhaustion** is an indication that the body's cooling system is not working properly. This will produce varied symptoms, but most often a person will feel nauseated, disoriented, and/or weak. The skin is usually cold and clammy. When either of these conditions occur, one should move to a cool, shaded area, drink plenty of cold water, and rest. Avoid any further activity for 24 hours and seek medical assistance if symptoms continue.
- **Heat stroke** occurs when there is a complete shutdown of the body's cooling system and requires immediate medical attention. The victim will often go into shock or even lose consciousness. Additionally, the skin will generally be hot and dry. If the person's body temperature is not lowered immediately, heat stroke may cause death. Cool the person's body rapidly and call for emergency



KENTUCKY CHALLENGE CUP

medical assistance.

Ensure that all players are hydrating their bodies a minimum of one week prior to the tournament (longer is better) and that they eat a nourishing breakfast before each game.

Kentucky Youth Soccer will have certified athletic trainers onsite during the entire event.