COMPETITION (CP)

DEFINITIONS

Competitive Analysis Program (CAP)

The CAP is designed to be an objective system that measures the levels of play between teams and determines from past performances how a team is likely to perform among a set of teams.

CAP is actively being evaluated but is currently not being used for league or cup placement.

Competition:

In order to create a seamless soccer experience at all levels of commitment and ability, the definitions for level of play, time commitment, and ability level must be identified.

Recreational/Local Level Competition: The Recreational/Local Level of Soccer in Washington Youth Soccer represents the beginning and "for fun" levels of soccer with a 3-5 month time commitment, training 1-2 days a week with a game on the weekend during this time period.
*Local Level soccer includes Associations, Clubs, Teams, Coaches, and Players that commit the time to creating teams to play against other like ability teams locally for the good of the game. Local Level players graduate into the Development Level at the appropriate age and/or ability level if the aspiration is to advance in the game.

Select/Developmental Level Competition: The Select/Developmental Level of Soccer in Washington Youth Soccer encompasses a moderate time commitment (8-9 months per year with training 2 days per week, games on the weekend, and tournament play), a monetary commitment, and requires a commitment to developing within the game.
*Select/Developmental Level soccer includes the organized club soccer teams ("A", "B", "C" and beyond). Developmental Level Clubs, Teams, Coaches, and Players may aspire to attain "Premier/Regional Level" status but results are based on players progressing into Premier/Regional Level programs rather than on wins and losses.

Premier/Regional Level Competition: The Premier/Regional level of soccer in Washington Youth Soccer encompasses a great time commitment (eleven months a year with weekly training and some travel commitments), a monetary commitment, and requires a recognized ability level in the game of soccer at a high level. Regional Level Clubs, Teams, Coaches, and Players aspire to be elite players and results are based on players graduating to the National Level programs.
*Premier/Regional level soccer includes the "A" team level players playing for committed and organized Regional Club soccer programs.

COMPETITION (CP)

National Level Competition: The National level of soccer in Washington Youth Soccer encompasses the greatest time commitment (twelve months a year with daily training and monthly travel commitments), a great monetary commitment, and requires a recognized ability level in the game of soccer at the very highest level.
*National level competition includes USSF Academy level teams and Elite Player Development program teams and is only limited by the strict requirement of highest level playing ability.

COMPETITION (CP)

Leagues

Leagues are the structural framework for competition. Washington Youth Soccer offers leagues to allow players, coaches and teams to develop the skills, ability and commitment needed to advance to the level of competition that they may aspire to achieve. Washington Youth Soccer offers three levels of leagues.

Local Leagues

Local leagues are administered by Member Associations. Local leagues involve limited travel within a Member Association's boundaries. Local leagues are typically the entry level for soccer skills development. Local leagues provide skills development for players, coaches and teams who:

- Are beginning their soccer skills development and may ultimately aspire to move to the District, Region or National levels of competition; or
- Whose time commitments, skills and abilities fit the Local level of commitment with no desire to move to the Development, Region or National level of competition.
- Local leagues may not require a membership pass for each player.

Inter-District League

Any District-Administered League where Washington Youth Soccer teams from outside the host District are allowed to play.

District Leagues

District leagues are the highest team based leagues within each District. These leagues are for boys and girls teams ranging from U11-U19. District leagues are administered by the Districts and eligible age groups are determined by the District.

District leagues involve travel throughout the District and qualifications for District leagues (and divisions) are determined by the District administering the league. District leagues provide skills development opportunities for players, coaches and teams who:

- May aspire to move to the Regional or National levels of competition; or
  Whose time commitment, skills and ability fit the District level of commitment with no desire to move to the Regional or National level of competition.

Washington Youth Soccer State Leagues

Washington State Leagues are the highest team based leagues within Washington Youth Soccer. Washington State Leagues are for U13 through U19 boys and girls teams who have competed successfully in their highest District league and are now ready to move up to the next level of competition.

Washington State Leagues are administered by Washington Youth Soccer. Washington State Leagues are statewide leagues which may involve travel across the state of Washington, including possible winter travel across the mountain passes. Washington State Leagues provide skills development opportunities for Region and National level players, coaches and teams.

For more information about the Washington State Leagues, click on the following link:

[Insert hyper link here]

Membership Pass

Valid passes are passes printed by the Association and/or Club on the official pass card stock distributed by Washington Youth Soccer, showing the current seasonal year, player's name, player's team name and ID number, a recent identifiable player photo/image, and is plastic laminated. The player image should be professional in nature without inappropriate looks or signs.

Check with the league administrator and rules for membership pass requirements to play in a specific league.

NOTE: beginning in seasonal year 2013-2014 player signatures are not required and the Washington Youth Soccer logo and Official signature have been removed. Teams representing Washington Youth Soccer at US Youth Region IV Championship and President Cup events may need new cards new membership passes.

Directors Pass

The Director pass provides a method to have Washington Youth Soccer Office approved Directors in the technical area of a team from their club during league matches. This pass does not require the Director to be on the official team roster and must be presented to the referee when requested.

COMPETITION (CP)

Tournaments and Jamborees

Tournaments are a special competitive event to allow players, coaches and teams to develop their skills, ability and commitment outside of the league structure. Washington Youth Soccer offers four (4) levels of tournaments.

State Tournaments:
State tournaments are administered by Washington Youth Soccer and may limit participation to members of Washington Youth Soccer.

For more information about the State tournaments offered by Washington Youth Soccer, click on the link below:

[Insert hyper link here]

District Tournaments:
District tournaments are administered by Districts throughout Washington Youth Soccer. Each District determines who may participate in District tournaments.

Association Tournaments and Jamborees
Association tournaments are administered by a Member Association of Washington Youth Soccer. Associations determine who may participate in Association tournaments.

Club/Team Tournaments and Jamborees
Club or Team Tournaments are tournaments hosted by a Washington Youth Soccer club or team. Usually, these tournaments are fundraisers for the club or team. Each club or team will establish who may participate in the tournament, but these tournaments may be open tournaments with any U.S. or International youth team able to participate if they meet the tournament eligibility criteria.

COMPETITION (CP)

INFORMATION

All soccer games are a competition and all players have a competitive spirit within them. The levels of competition offered by Washington Youth Soccer are differentiated by the commitment, ability and level of play.

In addition to the traditional "11 Vs 11" format that is used at the U12 through U19 age groups, Washington Youth Soccer also offers national programs (Soccer Across Washington, TOPSoccer, etc.) in order to involve as many youth within the State of Washington as possible.

National Soccer Programs

Soccer Across Washington

Soccer Across Washington is designed to provide the opportunity for all players regardless of geography, economics, gender, language barriers, or ethnicity to be introduced to Washington Youth Soccer. In the true spirit of the game, to afford, foster and provide opportunities for playing soccer in Washington State. Soccer Across Washington provides a network that offers soccer training, administrative guidance, equipment assistance, and technical support to our communities.

COMPETITION (CP)

TOPSoccer The Outreach Program for Soccer

TOPSoccer is a program initiative of US Youth Soccer adopted by the Washington Youth Soccer Board of Directors. It is the official Washington Youth Soccer program for people with disabilities. TOPSoccer will serve these soccer players in the same local clubs and associations as their non-disabled peers.

By providing a community based training and development program for people with disabilities, organized at the grassroots level, a broader spectrum of players will have the opportunity to learn and play soccer.

The emphasis of TOPSoccer is on participation, development, and training. The goal is to enable the many players with physical **and/or cognitive** disabilities to develop their physical fitness, technical skill, and self-esteem, through the game of soccer.

TOPSoccer is not geared toward any specific type of disability and is open to any player over the age of four (4). There are varied types and levels of participation to meet the needs of the players. The unique aspect of TOPSoccer is that each local program is different and is created around the needs of the participants.

For example:

- Skills only: one-time clinics and/or ongoing specialized training for participants who, due to physical limitations or differing levels of function cannot participate in adaptive/modified games.
- Adaptive and modified skills training and small-sided games.
- Unified program of disabled and non-disabled players.

COMPETITION (CP)

Modified Competition

Small Sided Games

The Washington Youth Soccer Small-Sided Program is a modification of the Laws of the Game for age-appropriate play. This is done for a number of reasons:

- The number of players on the field should be developmentally appropriate for children to experience and develop the motor skills necessary in soccer. These rules allow players to experience appropriate tactical decisions for their age. It also meets the needs of the players' social development.

- These modifications create a comfortable environment for the new youth coach. By increasing the number of players incrementally each year, the new coach is able to focus on creating developmentally appropriate practice sessions without the fear and need to focus on teaching specific field positions. With the emphasis on teaching the individual player, the concern for team results is minimized.

- By increasing the number of players on the field and rosters incrementally, it is easier for the coach to deal with the challenge of new players being added to the team. Often times, the new players added to the team are playing soccer for the first time. The use of small-sided games maximizes player contact time with the ball, which aids in the improvement of these new players and their integration into the team.

- The use of smaller field sizes reduces the strain on field space. Several age groups are able to share the same space, or, in most cases, more teams can play in the existing field space.

For more information on small-sided games please click on the following link:

http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/coaches/smallsidedgames.asp

COMPETITION (CP)

POLICIES

POLICY #1 - AUTHORITIES

CP-1.1 The Soccer Operations Committee is responsible for establishing the Regional, Select, and Recreational Subcommittees.

CP-1.1.1 The Regional, Select, and Recreational Subcommittees are accountable to the Soccer Operations Committee

CP-1.1.2 The Soccer Operations Committee have the authority to ensure that all leagues approved by Washington Youth Soccer are in compliance with Washington Youth Soccer policies, procedures and rules.

CP-1.1.3 The Regional, Select, and Recreational Subcommittees will have a representative as a member of the Soccer Operations Committee.

CP-1.2 The Soccer Operations Committee is responsible for establishing a State Cup Tournaments Committee.

CP-1.2.1 The State Cup Tournaments Committee is accountable to the Soccer Operations Committee.

CP-1.2.2 The State Cup Tournaments Committee has the authority to ensure that all State Cup tournaments approved by Washington Youth Soccer are in compliance with Washington Youth Soccer policies, procedures and rules.

CP-1.2.3 The State Cup Tournaments Committee has the authority to form sub-committees to support their efforts.

CP-1.3 The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing a National Programs Committee.

CP-1.3.1 The National Programs Committee is accountable to the Soccer Operations Committee with final accountability to the Board of Directors.

CP-1.3.2 The National Programs Committee has the authority to ensure that all programs under its jurisdiction are in compliance with Washington Youth Soccer policies, procedures and rules.

CP-1.3.3 The National Programs Committee has the authority to form sub-committees to support their efforts.

CP-1.3.3.1 The TOPSoccer Committee is a subcommittee of the National Programs committee.

CP-1.3.3.2 The Soccer Across Washington committee is a subcommittee of the National Programs Committee.

POLICY #2 - ADMINISTRATION

CP-2.1 Boys-vs-Girls

CP-2.1.1 Boys teams shall not compete against girls teams in league or tournament play.

CP-2.1.1.1 This policy does not prohibit practice or friendly matches between boys and girls teams.

CP-2.1.1.2 The TOPSoccer program is exempt from this restriction.

CP-2.2 Membership Pass

CP-2.2.1 All players must possess a valid membership pass in any Washington Youth Soccer State, District, or Member Association administered or approved competition in which the rules of competition require membership passes.

CP-2.3 Travel

CP-2.3.1 Any team desiring to participate in a competition outside of the state of Washington will follow the Washington Youth Soccer internal travel procedures.

For a copy of the internal procedures click on the link below **[Insert hyper link here]**

CP-2.3.2 Any team desiring to participate in a State-administered competition will follow the Washington Youth Soccer inclement weather and unplayable field travel procedures.

For a copy of the internal procedures click on the link below **[Insert hyper link here]** (link to inclement travel policy)

POLICY #3 - LEAGUES

CP-3.1 The Soccer Operations Committee is responsible for overseeing league play throughout Washington Youth Soccer.

CP-3.1.1 The Regional Subcommittee is responsible for administering league play and related activities for the Premier/Regional level.

CP-3.1.2 The Select/Development Subcommittee is responsible for administering league play and related activities for the Select/Developmental level.

CP-3.1.3 The Recreational Subcommittee is responsible for administering league play and related activities for the Recreational/Local level.

CP-3.2.4 Each Subcommittee has authority to recommend changes to the leagues that they are responsible for to the Soccer Operations Committee.

CP-3.2.5 Each Subcommittee has authority to require any Washington Youth Soccer approved league that is in violation of Washington Youth Soccer policies, procedures or rules to take necessary action to bring themselves into compliance and/or refer the violators to the appropriate authority within Washington Youth Soccer for disciplinary action.

CP-3.2 Each Subcommittee has the authority to recommend variances to the Rules of Competition to the Soccer Operations Committee.

POLICY #4 - STATE CUP TOURNAMENTS

CP-4.1 The State Cup Tournament Committee is responsible for overseeing tournaments and related activities throughout Washington Youth Soccer.

CP-4.2 The State Cup Tournament Committee is responsible for overseeing and administering State Cup tournaments and related activities.

To see a list of the current Washington Youth Soccer administered tournaments click on the link below:

[Insert hyper link here]

CP-4.2.1 The State Cup Tournament Committee has authority to recommend changes to Washington Youth Soccer administered tournaments to the Soccer Operations Committee.

CP-4.3 The State Cup Tournaments Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving all State Cup tournaments.

CP-4.3.1 The State Cup Tournaments Committee has the authority to recommend variances to the Rules of Competition for all Washington State Cup tournaments to the Soccer Operations Committee.

POLICY #5 - NATIONAL PROGRAMS

CP-5.1 The National Programs Committee is responsible for overseeing all Washington Youth Soccer approved national soccer programs throughout Washington Youth Soccer.

To see a list of the current national soccer competitions click on the link below: **[Insert hyper link here]**

CP-5.1.12 The National Programs Committee has authority to recommend changes to State approved national soccer programs to the Soccer Operations Committee.

CP-5.1.2 The National Programs Committee has the authority to recommend rules variances for all Washington Youth Soccer approved national programs to the Soccer Operations Committee.

CP-5.1.3 The National Programs Committee has authority to require any Washington Youth Soccer approved national soccer program that is in violation of Washington Youth Soccer policies, procedures or rules to take necessary action to bring themselves into compliance and/or refer the violators to the appropriate authority within Washington Youth Soccer for disciplinary action.

COMPETITION (CP)

PROCEDURES

PROCEDURES #1 - AUTHORITIES

PCP-1.1 The Soccer Operations Committee is responsible for establishing committees related to leagues, State Cup tournaments, and national programs.

PCP-1.1.1 The committees related to leagues, State Cup tournaments, and national programs are accountable to the Soccer Operations Committee

PROCEDURES #2 - ADMINISTRATION

PCP-2.1 Boys Vs. Girls

There are no procedures established for this section at this time.

PCP-2.2 Membership Pass

PCP-2.2.1 It is recommended that the membership passes for each member of a team be grouped together and secured with a ring or other fastener for any Washington Youth Soccer District, or Member Association administered or approved competition in which the rules of competition require membership passes.

PROCEDURES #3 - LEAGUES

PCP-3.1 The Soccer Operations Committee will establish and publish internal procedures related to leagues.

The current internal procedures can be found by clicking on the following link: [Insert hyper link]

PCP-3.2 The internal procedures related to each level of leagues will be reviewed by the appropriate subcommittee at least annually to ensure that all procedures are current.

PCP-3.2.1 Each subcommittee will provide a report to the Soccer Operations Committee once their review is complete. The report will identify whether any changes were identified and if any proposed changes are planned.

PCP-3.3 Changes to the internal procedures will follow the procedures established in the Administrative Structure section of these Operating Documents.

The current procedures for changing internal procedures can be found by clicking on the following link: [Insert hyper link]

PCP-3.4 Updated internal procedures will be published to the web site in a timely manner, typically no later than one (1) week after approval by the Soccer Operations Committee.

PROCEDURE #4 - STATE CUP TOURNAMENTS

PCP-4.1 The State Cup Tournaments Committee will establish and publish internal procedures related to tournaments.

The current State Cup Tournaments Committee internal procedures can be found by clicking on the following link: [Insert hyper link]

PCP-4.2 The internal procedures related to tournaments will be reviewed by the State Cup Tournaments Committee at least annually to ensure that all procedures are current.

PCP-4.2.1 The State Cup Tournaments Committee may choose to delegate responsibilities for reviewing and recommending changes to subcommittees but the Soccer Operations Committee retains final responsibility for reviewing and recommending the changes.

PCP-4.2.2 The State Cup Tournaments Committee will provide a report to the Soccer Operations Committee once the review is complete. The report will identify whether any changes were identified and if any proposed changes are planned.

PCP-4.3 Changes to the internal procedures will follow the procedures established in the Administrative Structure section of these Operating Documents.

The current procedures for changing internal procedures can be found by clicking on the following link: [Insert hyper link]

PCP-4.4 Updated internal procedures will be published to the web site in a timely manner, typically no later than one (1) week after approval by the Soccer Operations Committee.

PROCEDURE #5 - NATIONAL PROGRAMS

PCP-5.1 The National Programs Committee will establish and publish internal procedures related to all national competitions.

The current National Programs Committee internal procedures can be found by clicking on the following link: [Insert hyper link]

PCP-5.3 The internal procedures will be reviewed by the National Programs Committee at least annually to ensure that all procedures are current.

PCP-3.2.1 The National Programs Committee may choose to delegate responsibilities for reviewing and recommending changes to sub-committees but the National Programs Committee retains final responsibility for reviewing and recommending the changes.

PCP-5.3.1 The committee will provide a report to the Soccer Operations Committee once the review is complete. The report will identify whether any changes were identified and if any proposed changes are planned.

PCP-5.4 Changes to the internal procedures will follow the procedures established in the Administrative Structure section of these Operating Documents.

The current procedures for changing internal procedures can be found by clicking on the following link: [Insert hyper link]

PCP-5.5 Updated internal procedures will be published to the web site no later than one (1) week after approval by the Soccer Operations Committee.

COMPETITION (CP)

Summary of changes

24 August 2013

Revised wording of membership pass on page 4.

Added a definition of Directors Pass on page 4.