



Policy 605-1 – Registration of Amateur Players

...

Section 6. Inclusion Policy

(A) To clarify the Bylaws, membership of the Federation is open to all soccer organizations and all soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators and officials without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, **disabilities**, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or national origin.

...

Policy 102(4)-1 – Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup

...

Section 202. Team eligibility.

...

- (b) Division, I, II and III Outdoor Professional League Teams:
- (1) To remain eligible throughout the tournament:
 - (i) A team must remain a playing member **in good standing** within its club/league competition from **December 31** **November 30** of the competition year until the Open Cup Final;
 - (ii) A team's league must be in operation from **December 31** **November 30** of the competition year until the Open Cup Final.
 - (2) ~~Any team whose league is starting its first season of competition:~~
 - ~~(i) — Must have its league schedule set and announced to the public by January 31 of the competition year;~~
 - ~~(ii) — Must have its first league game scheduled for no later than seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled Open Cup round of competition involving the team's division.~~
 - (3) ~~Any team starting its first season in an existing Division I, II or III Outdoor Professional League:~~
 - ~~(i) — Must have its league schedule set and announced to the public by January 31 of the competition year;~~
 - ~~(ii) — Must have its first league game scheduled for no later than seven~~

- (iii) ~~(7) days prior to the first scheduled Open Cup round of competition involving the team's division.~~
- (2) Each league shall submit a list of all playing members planned for its upcoming season by July 1 of the preceding year.
 - (i) Any team whose league is starting its first season of competition must be included in the league's Professional League Sanctioning application by July 1 of the preceding year, and the application must be approved no later than December 20.
 - (ii) Any team starting its first season of competition in an existing Division I, II or III Outdoor Professional League must be included in the league's Professional League Sanctioning application by July 1 of the preceding year, and the application must be approved no later than December 20.

...

Section 203. Player eligibility

- (a) Teams entering the Open Cup shall use their official league roster as the basis for their Open Cup roster. Except as specified in this Policy or except as the result of discipline matters imposed by U.S. Soccer, all players on an official roster, once approved by U.S. Soccer's Player Status Department and the Commissioner, will be eligible for Open Cup competition, regardless of any status (e.g., injured reserve) each player may have with regard to league competition. Players on loan from another team or league may not be included on an Open Cup roster, with the exception of the following: 1) Loaned players originating from teams competing leagues that are not active participants in the Open Cup Tournament or qualifying process (professional indoor leagues, foreign clubs, etc.); 2) players on loan from other U.S. clubs for a period of greater than 90 days; or 3) players from teams who have been deemed ineligible for the current Open Cup competition due to the provisions of Section 202(e) and are loaned to the team exercising roster control pursuant to Section 202(e). ~~A team may list up to 18 players on its game day roster.~~

...

- (c) (1) Any player who plays in any part of an ~~Open Cup~~ match for an ~~Open Division~~ team, ~~including any match in any in the~~ Open Division qualifying rounds, may not be included in the Open Cup roster or play for any other ~~Open Division~~ team in the Open Cup competition for that competition year.
 - (2) Any player who plays in any part of a match in the Competition's tournament proper may not be included in the roster or play for any other team in the Competition's tournament proper for that Competition year.

...

Section 302. ~~Player uniforms~~ Venues

- ~~(a) When the uniforms of 2 competing teams are similar, as determined by the referee, the visiting team shall change its uniform.~~
 - ~~(b) A clear visible number, at least 8 inches high must be worn on the back of each player's jersey. Each player on a team must wear a number different from the. Numbers of the other players on the same team.~~
- (a) The Committee will publish a competition handbook that addresses venue requirements for the competition matches.
 - (b) The Committee may designate stages of the competition for which the rules set by the Handbook differ based on the round of the competition.

Section 303. Match play

- ~~(a) Each team will be allowed to select not more than 18 players from its official league roster who shall be designated for its match day roster. No later than 60 minutes prior to the start of the match, each team will provide to the referee and the other team a match day roster designating not more than 11 starting players and the other players (not more than 7) as the pool of players from which substitutions may be made. A team may use not more than five (5) substitutes from its match day roster unless a match proceeds into extra time, in which case an additional substitution shall be granted. Each team will have three (3) windows during play (i.e. between the start and end of any period) to make any substitutions and will be granted an additional substitution window if a match proceeds into extra time. Without counting against the aforementioned windows, each team may also make substitutions during the halftime interval of normal time, the interval between normal and extra time, and the halftime interval of extra time. Once a player leaves the match and is replaced by a substitute, the player leaving may not re-enter the match. As permitted by the Laws of the Game, the Committee may consider adding a provision for additional substitutions for a player suffering a concussion injury. A player originally selected for the match day roster of up to 18 who is deemed not able to play may be replaced prior to kickoff by another player on the team's official league roster with the consent of the referee and will not be eligible to compete in the match in which he was replaced. The replacement of such a player (if originally listed as a starting player) shall not reduce the number of substitutions available to his team. The referee shall communicate any such change to the opposing team.~~
- ~~(b) Each match shall be comprised of two 45 minute halves, with a halftime interval not to exceed 15 minutes. If the match is tied at the end of the second half, there will be a five-minute break followed by two 15 minute extra time periods, with a one minute interval between periods for teams to change ends of the field. If the match is still tied at the end of the two extra time periods, the winner will be decided by kicks from the penalty mark as described in the FIFA Laws of the Game. If, in the opinion of the match commissioner~~

~~assigned the game by the Commissioner, there may not be sufficient light to safely complete both extra time periods and kicks from the penalty mark, the match commissioner (in consultation with the referee) may shorten the extra time periods by equal amounts, shorten the break between regulation and extra time periods, and/or cancel the extra time periods entirely. Such a decision must be made and communicated to the teams no later than the start of the first extra time period.~~

~~(c) The referee will keep the official time of the match. However, the scoreboard shall count up from 00:00 to 120:00, if possible.~~

~~(d) The team or the Federation hosting the match shall provide the ball for the match. In the event that the game is to be televised, the Federation may elect to provide the ball.~~

~~(e) Each team shall have no more than seven (7) players and nine (9) coaches or team officials in its Technical Area. The name of each coach and team official shall be included on the roster sheet provided to the referee before the match.~~

(a) The Committee will publish a competition handbook that addresses venue requirements for the competition matches.

(b) The Committee may designate stages of the competition for which the rules set by the Handbook differ based on the round of the competition.

...

U.S. Open Cup Stadium Requirements

All Open Cup Matches from Round 1 to the Final must guarantee:

- ~~• A playing surface of at least 68 yds by 110 yds Smooth, flat, and level playing surface with natural grass~~
- ~~• Clear and distinct field markings according to FIFA specifications~~
- ~~• Goal nets and corner flags~~
- ~~• Adequate lighting for night play~~
- ~~• Electronic scoreboard in working order that counts up to 120 minutes when possible~~
- ~~• Clear and audible public address system~~
- ~~• Team benches to accommodate 16 personnel per team~~
- ~~• Fourth official's table~~
- ~~• An enclosed stadium for controlled ticket access; adequate tickets sales staff, ushers, security~~
- ~~• Minimum seating capacity that is appropriate for the scheduled match/round.~~
- ~~• Press facilities equipped with power and internet access that is appropriate for scheduled match/round~~
- ~~• Dressing rooms with working showers (either connected to stadium or in an adjacent structure) for teams, with an additional separate dressing area for the match officials~~
- ~~• EMS vehicle on site and emergency response procedures written and distributed~~
- ~~• Flag of the United States displayed and United States National Anthem played~~

- ~~• Sufficient floodlights for TV broadcasts~~
- ~~• Suitable area to park TV production truck~~

~~The Commissioner shall have the authority to waive or modify the stadium requirements for good cause, or may place additional conditions or requirements for hosting a game in the Competition.~~