

To: Open Cup Committee

From: David Applegate

Date: June 22, 2022; Updated July 12 & Nov. 1

Re: Minutes from Open Cup Committee Meeting 06/22/2022

The Open Cup Committee met via Zoom on June 22, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. ET and lasted 1 hour, 37 minutes.

1) Roll Call

Committee members present: Arthur Mattson (chair), Todd Durbin, Kevin Hensley, Stu Holden, Brett Luy, Shonna Schroedl

Others Present: David Applegate, Paul Marstaller

2) Approval of January 10, 2022, and May 5, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved without edit.

3) 2023 Schedule

The 2023 Schedule proposed by staff was approved.

Note: An adjustment to the Third Round dates was unanimously approved on November 1, 2022.

4) Proposed Open Cup Policy Changes:

After discussion, the following policy changes were approved by the Committee. Please see attachment to these minutes for the revised text as approved.

- a. Section 303(a) – Number of normal substitutes, which was a 1-year consideration for 2022, has been approved permanently to align with the current IFAB regulation of 5 subs in regular time plus 1 in extra with windows as noted in the Laws of the Game
- b. Section 203(a) and (b) – Clarifies process of roster approval by U.S. Soccer
- c. Appendix A – Updates technology available to media in press work areas.

5) Entry Fees

The committee discussed the potential increase in entry fees for the 2023-24 tournament. The Committee requested more information related to budget impacts due to increased fees. The committee requested that staff draft an updated policy that allows the Committee to approve entry fees but removes the fees from Federation policy.

Note: The updated policy was distributed via email and approved unanimously on July 12, 2022.

6) Fan Code of Conduct

The Committee adopted a Fan Code of Conduct based on the U.S. Soccer Fan Code of Conduct. Prohibited item policies will be set by the home team based on venue, league and club standards.

7) Ticket Revenue Policy

The Committee briefly discussed a staff proposal to standardize requirements for how clubs applied season ticket revenue toward Open Cup matches. The committee tabled the discussion until more financial data was available.

8) Adjournment

With no other business, the meeting ended at 5:38 p.m. ET.



LAMAR HUNT U.S. OPEN CUP

2023 SCHEDULE (Updated 11/1/2022)

QUALIFYING ROUNDS

Saturday, Sept. 17 - Sunday, Sept. 18	First Qualifying Round
Saturday, Oct. 15 - Sunday, Oct. 16	Second Qualifying Round
Saturday, Nov. 19 - Sunday, Nov. 20	Third Qualifying Round
Saturday, Dec. 17 - Sunday, Dec. 18	Fourth Qualifying Round

TOURNAMENT PROPER

Tuesday, March 21 - Thursday, March 23	First Round Proper (National League Qualifiers Enter)
Tuesday, April 4 - Thursday, April 6	Second Round Proper (Division II teams enter)
Tuesday, April 25 - Wednesday, April 26*	Third Round Proper (Division I teams enter)
Tuesday, May 9 - Wednesday, May 10	Round of 32 (6 to 8 seeded teams enter)
Tuesday, May 23 - Wednesday, May 24	Round of 16
Tuesday, June 6 - Wednesday, June 7	Quarterfinal
Wednesday, Aug. 23	Semifinal
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Final

Notes:

Seeded Teams = Four U.S. teams in Concacaf Champions League + next best teams from 2022 Division I Regular Season Standings (2 east + 2 west)

The Commissioner shall have the authority to set dates outside of the confirmed schedule if such a change is in the best interests of the tournament.

**Third round date moved forward one week on 11/1/2022.*

Proposal to Change U.S. Soccer Policy 102(4)-1, U.S. Open Cup

Specific Policy to be Changed: Section 303(a). Match play

Proposed by: U.S. Open Cup staff during its Committee Conference Call Meeting 6/22/2022

Original Language: 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 3 substitutes from its match day roster unless a match proceeds into extra time, in which case an additional substitution shall be granted. (NOTE: FOR THE 2022 COMPETITION ONLY, A TEAM MAY USE NOT MORE THAN FIVE SUBSTITUTES FROM ITS MATCH DAY ROSTER ACROSS A MAXIMUM OF THREE SUBSTITUTION WINDOWS PLUS THE HALFTIME INTERVAL UNLESS A MATCH PROCEEDS INTO EXTRA TIME, IN WHICH CASE AN ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTION AND SUBSTITUTION WINDOW SHALL BE GRANTED, ALONG WITH SUBSTITUTION WINDOWS PRIOR TO THE START AND AT 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.

How the Policy Would Change: 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 ~~3~~**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.** (NOTE: FOR THE 2022 COMPETITION ONLY,

~~A TEAM MAY USE NOT MORE THAN FIVE SUBSTITUTES FROM ITS MATCH DAY ROSTER ACROSS A MAXIMUM OF THREE SUBSTITUTION WINDOWS PLUS THE HALFTIME INTERVAL UNLESS A MATCH PROCEEDS INTO EXTRA TIME, IN WHICH CASE AN ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTION AND SUBSTITUTION WINDOW SHALL BE GRANTED, ALONG WITH SUBSTITUTION WINDOWS PRIOR TO THE START AND AT THE HALFTIME INTERVAL OF EXTRA TIME.)~~

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Revised Policy: 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.

Rationale: To incorporate changes approved by the International Football Association Board (IFAB) at its June 13, 2022, meeting for the 2022-23 competition year.

Proposal to Change U.S. Soccer Policy 102(4)-1, U.S. Open Cup

Specific Policy to be Changed: Section 203(a) and (b). Player eligibility

Proposed by: U.S. Open Cup staff during its Committee Conference Call Meeting 6/22/2022

Original Language: (a) Teams entering the Competition shall use their official league roster as their roster for the Competition. Except as specified in this Policy or except as the result of discipline matters imposed by U.S. Soccer, all players on an official league roster will be eligible for Competition matches, 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 a Competition roster, with the exception of the following: 1) Loaned players originating from teams competing in leagues that are not active participants in the Competition 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 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.

(b) Roster rules for competing teams:

- (1) For teams entering the Competition by competing through Open Division qualifying rounds: Each team shall submit its roster, together with additional player information that has been requested, to the Commissioner by a date set by the Committee. Rules with respect to the maximum number of players, roster approval and freeze deadlines, and other features shall be determined by the Committee and communicated and enforced by the Commissioner.
- (2) For teams entering the Competition after all Open Division qualifying rounds have concluded: Three weeks prior to the first Competition Round in which a team participates, that team shall submit to the Commissioner its roster for the Competition, together with additional player information that has been requested by the Commissioner. A team's roster for the Competition shall not be frozen at any time during the Competition. For Competition matches, a team may add players to or drop them from its league roster under the league rules currently in place. Any changes to a team's roster must be communicated to the Commissioner and all clearances obtained, including approval from U.S. Soccer's player registration department, no later than 2 p.m. CT on the first business day prior to any match in the Competition in order for such changes to be in effect for said match.

How the Policy Would Change: (a) Teams entering the Competition shall use their official league roster as **the basis for** their roster for the Competition. Except as specified in this Policy or except as the result of discipline matters imposed by U.S. Soccer, all players on an official league roster, **once approved by U.S. Soccer's Player Status Department and the Commissioner,** will be eligible for Competition matches, 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 a Competition roster, with the exception of the following: 1) Loaned players originating from teams competing in leagues that are not active participants in the Competition 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 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.

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Revised Policy: (a) Teams entering the Competition shall use their official league roster as the basis for their roster for the Competition. Except as specified in this Policy or except as the result of discipline matters imposed by U.S. Soccer, all players on an official league roster, once approved by U.S. Soccer's Player Status Department and the Commissioner, will be eligible for Competition matches, 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 a Competition roster, with the exception of the

following: 1) Loaned players originating from teams competing in leagues that are not active participants in the Competition 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 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.

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Rationale: To clarify the process for roster approval.

Proposal to Change U.S. Soccer Policy 102(4)-1, U.S. Open Cup

Specific Policy to be Changed: ATTACHMENT A —COMPETITION STADIUM REQUIREMENTS

Proposed by: U.S. Open Cup staff during its Committee Conference Call Meeting 6/22/2022

Original Language:

All Competition 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 box areas w/ phone and fax capabilities to accommodate at least 20 media members
- 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.

How the Policy Would Change:

All Competition 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 box areas w/ phone and fax capabilities to accommodate at least 20 media members~~
- 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
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- EMS vehicle on site and emergency response procedures written and distributed
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- 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.

Rationale: To update outdated media service requirements.

Proposal to Change U.S. Soccer Policy 102(4)-1, U.S. Open Cup

Specific Policy to be Changed: Section 204. Entering the Competition
Proposed by: U.S. Open Cup staff via email.

Original Language: (a) To compete in the Competition, a team must apply each year on a form provided by the Federation and pay an entry fee with the application for each year the team enters the Competition. The entry fee shall be paid by cashier's check or money order made payable to "U.S. Soccer Federation". The application and entry fee must be submitted to the Federation by the deadline established by the Committee. The Committee may establish different entry deadlines for different categories of competition. The Committee may also establish a requirement for teams entering the Competition to submit a performance bond in a form and at levels as the Committee may deem appropriate.

(b) Prior to the 2015-16 Competition, the annual entry fee shall be as follows:

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (1) Each team competing through the Open Division | \$200 |
| (2) Each Division III Outdoor Professional League team | \$350 |
| (3) Each Division II Outdoor Professional League team | \$550 |
| (4) Each Division I Outdoor Professional League team | \$650 |

Starting with the 2015-16 Competition, the annual entry fee shall be as follows:

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (1) Each team competing through the Open Division | \$200 |
| (2) Each Division III Outdoor Professional League team | \$400 |
| (3) Each Division II Outdoor Professional League team | \$600 |
| (4) Each Division I Outdoor Professional League team | \$700 |

Revised Policy: To compete in the Competition, a team must apply each year on a form provided by the Federation and pay an entry fee with the application for each year the team enters the Competition. The application and entry fee must be submitted to the Federation by the deadline published in the Open Cup Handbook. Entry fees and deadlines may differ for different categories of competition. The Open Cup Handbook may also set a requirement for teams entering the Competition to submit a performance bond and a referee crew expense fee in a form and at levels as deemed appropriate.

Rationale: Removing set fees at the policy level to allow staff and the Committee to set entry fees commensurate with budget (Fees revenues are separately reviewed during the budgeting processes, so approval via policy is redundant.). Accommodates online registration/payment. Legislates for a different way to cover officiating crew expense by tournament organizers instead of making the home team responsible in each game.

Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup

Proposed Fan Code of Conduct (Adapted from U.S. Soccer Fan Code of Conduct)

June 21, 2022

U.S. Soccer Fan Code of Conduct

U.S. Soccer Fans have a right to a safe, respectful, and enjoyable experience, and U.S. Soccer is committed to keeping its games safe and comfortable for all fans. All Fans are expected to abide by this Fan Code of Conduct in addition to all stadium rules. Fans are responsible for reviewing both before arriving at the stadium.

The U.S. Soccer Federation has a zero-tolerance policy relating to harassment or discrimination on or off the field. This includes, but is not limited to, language, actions, or demonstrations based on an individual or group's:

- Race
- Religion
- Sexual Orientation
- National Origin
- Gender
- Political Views
- Disability
- Age

Fans are expected to:

- Sit only in their ticketed seats and show their tickets when requested. Not stand in aisles or obstruct others from viewing the game.
- Cheer, sing, and otherwise support their team while remaining respectful and courteous to all players, referees, and other fans, including the opposing team.
- Promptly return a ball that enters the stands.
- Consume alcoholic beverages in a responsible manner.
- Follow directions from venue staff regarding stadium policies and emergency procedures
- Display good sportsmanship.

Prohibited actions at U.S. Soccer matches include, but are not limited to the following:

- Fighting or physical violence of any type
- Threatening, bullying, or abusive behavior directed at other fans, players, officials, or staff members
- Racial, sexual, xenophobic, sexist, obscene, abusive, and/or homophobic language (including on signs or visible representations), chants, or gestures or conduct
- Causing damage to property
- Indecent exposure or the wearing of obscene or indecent clothing or displaying obscene or indecent signage.
- Entering the field of play or throwing any items onto the field of play
- Possession or use of any illegal substance

U.S. Soccer encourages collaboration between participating teams to provide the best, safest experience possible for both home and visiting supporters. Ultimately, the host team is responsible for setting protocols for visiting supporters including but not limited to enforcing standard prohibited items list.

Host Teams Should Use Standard Prohibited Items list for a Home Match and communicate this clearly through common conventions including websites, signage, etc.

Fans are encouraged to report any inappropriate behavior to any Stadium worker.

Fans who choose not to adhere to these provisions may be subject to ejection without refund and revocation of future ticket privileges.