Cal North Association Cup Directives, Rules & Regulations

These rules govern California Youth Soccer Association (Cal North) Association Cup Competitions and supersede any other Cal North rules to the extent that other Cal North rules may be inconsistent with these rules.

RULES FOR UNDER 9, UNDER 10 AND UNDER 11 ASSOCIATION CUP CAN BE LOCATED IN THE CAL NORTH JUNIOR CUP FESTIVAL DIRECTIVES, RULES & REGULATIONS DOCUMENT

I. CAL NORTH ASSOCIATION CUP COMPETITIONS

A. The Cal North Association Cup is a statewide event held in winter and spring. Participating teams may be subject to travel over long distances and rescheduling of games due to adverse weather conditions. Teams that do not care to travel, or that lack the flexibility to play rescheduled games, should not apply.

B. The purpose of the **Cal North** Association Cup is the selection of **Cal North** State Champions in each of the gender and age groups offered. Separate competitions will be held in both boys and girls U12, U13, U14, U15, U16 and U19 divisions.

II. JURISDICTION

A. The entire **Cal North** Association Cup competition shall be under the jurisdiction of the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee as authorized by the **Cal North** Board of Directors. The **Cal North** Board of Directors reserves the right to any final decision with regard to any and all games played in these competitions.

III. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A. **Cal North** Association Cup competitions are open to any Under 12 through Under-19 **Cal North** registered team so long as such team meets **Cal North** Association Cup entrance and eligibility requirements, is in good standing at the time of entry, and remains in good standing throughout the competition.

B. No player may participate in the Cal North Association Cup if rostered on a team that participated in a sanctioned playing league for Premier or Gold teams in the current seasonal year. EXCEPTION: A player who was originally rostered on a team **that participated in a sanctioned playing league for Premier or Gold teams** during the current seasonal year, who must transfer off that team due to bona fide reasons may still be eligible to participate in **Cal North** Association Cup competition. Approval may **ONLY** be granted by a request from the team's League President and written approval by the team's District Commissioner.

C. All teams playing in the CYSA Association Cup must have competed at the Silver Elite or lower level. EXCEPTION: Teams that competed at a level higher than Silver Elite when approved by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of their District Commissioner or by the placement of their CYSA playing league representative to complete in a Gold or Premier level division in their CYSA playing league in order to have a viable playing league may still be eligible to participate in CYSA Association Cup.

D. A team or player may play in only one (1) **Cal North** Cup competition within the same current seasonal year. (i.e. team or player may not play in **Cal North** Association Cup **<u>and</u>** in the **Cal North** State Cup, **Cal North** Presidents Cup or **Cal North** Founders' Cup)

E. Any player on a frozen cup roster is considered to have participated in cup play.

F. Players must be properly registered with a **Cal North** affiliated league and their credentials approved by the District Commissioner/Registrar for the current seasonal year, in accordance with **Cal North** and US Youth Soccer Rules. All roster changes will be transacted in compliance with **Cal North** player eligibility rules and roster add, transfer and release requirements.

1. At the time a team's roster is frozen for **Cal North** Association Cup, the team may not have more than five rostered players who were previously rostered during the current seasonal year with a league other than the league of which the team is a member. The rostering of such players with such league shall be made in compliance with the registration rules of **Cal North**.

2. U12 and U13 teams may have up to 18 registered players on their roster. U14 - U19 teams may have up to 22 registered players on the roster (only 18 rostered players are allowed to be game active for each match and the 18 players listed on the game card can change from match to match. Players who are on the roster but not active for the match can sit on the bench but cannot be in uniform)

G. All rostering of individuals on **Cal North** Association Cup teams, including transfers, adds and releases will be processed in accordance with **Cal North** and US Youth Soccer registration requirements.

H. On the Tuesday prior to the scheduled start of cup play for the team's age group and gender the team's cup rosters will freeze in regard to any player movement on or off the roster. In order to be included on the frozen cup roster all roster changes involving players must be processed by the District Registrar not later than midnight on the Monday prior to cup. Transactions involving player movement on or off the team roster (adds, transfers and/or releases) must be submitted to the District Registrar no later than the Friday prior to the roster freeze deadline. Beginning on the roster freeze deadline, roster changes involving players will not be permitted throughout the duration of the state-level cup competition. Only players rostered in accordance with **Cal North** and US Youth Soccer Cup and registration rules will be eligible to participate in **Cal North** Association Cup Competitions

I. Registered team officials may be added to or removed from a team roster at any time prior to the **Cal North** Association Cup competition beginning or after the **Cal North** Association Cup Competition has begun.

IV. TEAM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

A. In order for a team to be eligible for **Cal North** Association Cup Competition, it must submit:

1. The **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Entry Form filled out completely and including the signature or electronic acknowledgement of a registered team official.

2. **Cal North** Association Cup Team Entry Fees in the amount of $550.00 by credit card, check, or money order payable to California Youth Soccer Association

3. A legible copy of the team's official roster (goldenrod) that has been authorized by the team's district registrar.

B. Completed applications submitted by teams from a fully affiliated **Cal North** league, consisting of the three items in Section IV, item A above, must be received at the **Cal North** office (1040 Serpentine Lane, Suite 201, Pleasanton, CA 94566) no later than 5 PM, November 1, 2012 for U12-U14 teams and no later than 5 PM January 2, 2013 for U15-U19 teams.

C. Late receipt of entry through delay by the U.S. Mail, other carriers, or delivery by person cannot and will not be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS! Entries on anything but a **Cal North** Association Cup Entry form will not be accepted. Non acceptance of entries for failure to meet entry deadlines is not protestable.

D. In order to be eligible to play in **Cal North** Association Cup, a team must be registered with an affiliated **Cal North** league. A team must have played in a recognized, sanctioned **Cal North** playing league, including **Cal North** Cal Soccer League (CCSL) with at least three (3) other teams and have played three (3) different teams at least once BEFORE a team participates in **Cal North** Association Cup. Participation in a league for "paper teams" does not fulfill the league play eligibility requirement for **Cal North** Association Cup. In a district where a team's league does not begin play until **Cal North** Association Cup Competition has already begun, or a team has not been able to play the required number of league games because of inclement weather, the team's District Commissioner shall notify the **Cal North** Association Cup Chairman in writing of the team's conflict with this rule and explain why there is a conflict AT LEAST FIVE (5) DAYS PRIOR TO THE ASSOCIATION CUP DRAW FOR THAT TEAM'S AGE/GENDER GROUP. If the team is accepted for play in **Cal North** Association Cup it shall be the responsibility of the team's District Commissioner to make sure that the team meets the

requirements of this paragraph BEFORE the end of the seasonal playing year of that specific year's **Cal North** Association Cup Competition. The District Commissioner shall notify the **Cal North** Association Cup Chairman in writing when a team that has received a temporary exemption from this rule has met the requirements as called for in this paragraph. Participation in **Cal North** Cal Soccer League (CCSL) Spring Session will qualify as a team's playing league requirements if the team registers and fulfills all other **Cal North** Association Cup eligibility and application requirements. Any team that participates in **Cal North** Association Cup and fails to fulfill their commitment to play in the qualifying playing league shall be subject to severe penalties as indicated in section XXIV of these rules. **Under no circumstances, and notwithstanding the foregoing, will any team be eligible to participate in Cal North Association Cup unless it participated as a Cal North team in an approved Cal North league. A team cannot establish eligibility by participating in league or other play only for the purpose of creating or establishing eligibility to participate in Cal North Association Cup.**

E. Any team that enters **Cal North** Association Cup Competition agrees to play WHEREVER it is assigned to play within the **Cal North** geographical boundaries without complaint to **Cal North**.

F. **Cal North** considers each team that enters **Cal North** Association Cup to be in receipt of the **Cal North** Constitution, Bylaws, General Procedures, Specific Rules and PIMs through the publication and posting of the annual issue of **Cal North** Team Manual and/or as a requirement of the completion of the online **Cal North** Association Cup application process. Claims of not having read same before submitting a team entry are not admissible. Each team representative's signature or electronic acknowledgement on the **Cal North** Association Cup Entry Form is confirmation that the team has complied with the above requirements.

V. RESERVE POOL REQUIREMENTS

A. Any team that enters **Cal North** Association Cup after the November 1, 2012 U12-U14 application deadline or the January 2, 2012 U16-U19 application deadline and which meets all other entrance requirements will be placed into the Reserve Pool and is not guaranteed the opportunity to play.

B. Teams entering the Reserve Pool for **Cal North** Association Cup are subject to all **Cal North** Association Cup eligibility requirements.

C. Teams must meet entry form and roster submission requirements as cited in the **Cal North** Association Cup Team Entrance Requirements.

D. Any team that applies to **Cal North** Association Cup as a Reserve Pool team will be assessed an additional fee of $100.00 above the regular **Cal North** Association Cup entry fee.

E. Teams' Reserve Pool entry fees of $650.00 must be paid by certified check, money order, bank cashier's check, or credit card.

F. Prior to the **Cal North** Association Cup draw the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee or designees may, by means of a blind draw, select additional teams from the Reserve Pool for teams in a particular age group in order to make that division divisible by four (4)

G. The **Cal North** Association Cup Committee or designees cannot draw any additional teams from the Reserve Pool other than to attain a division of play that is divisible by four (4) for the **Cal North** Association Cup in the specific age/gender above the number of teams that have entered **Cal North** Association Cup at the time of the entry deadline. The selection will be made through a blind draw from the teams that have entered **Cal North** Association Cup Reserve Pool in the specific age/gender at the time of the Association Cup Reserve Pool entry deadline.

H. The deadline to adjust and add teams to flights divisible by four (4) shall be 5:00 PM on the Monday preceding the draw for each age/gender division of play.

I. The **Cal North** Association Cup Committee or designees may draw from the Reserve Pool if a team drops from **Cal North** Association Cup play in the team's proper age/gender division.

J. After the **Cal North** Association Cup draw has taken place, whenever a team is needed to fill a vacancy in a bracket in **Cal North** Association Cup Play, a team in the Reserve Pool in the proper age/gender group shall be blind drawn from the Reserve Pool.

K. Any team not blind drawn from the Reserve Pool when play commences shall have $550.00 of its entry fee returned to the team within thirty (30) days from the first day of play in the team's age/gender division. The $100.00 that will be retained by **Cal North** is an administrative late fee.

VI. CREDENTIALS

A. Prior to participating in any round of **Cal North** Association Cup competition, proper credentials that have been approved by the appropriate District or State Registrar for each participating team, player and registered team official shall be presented. Credentials must be properly approved beginning with the first preliminary round game.

B. An original **Cal North** Team roster (goldenrod) must be authorized by the team's District Registrar prior to the team participating in any round/game of **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Play.

C. Properly approved team, player, and registered team official credentials that meet **Cal North** Association Cup requirements will be required at each and every game in order to participate in **Cal North** Association Cup Competition

D. Any improper player's or registered team official's member pass shall be retained by the **Cal North** Association Cup staff which will result in the individual being ineligible to participate until proper credentials are cleared with either their District Commissioner or District Registrar and presented to the **Cal North** Association Cup Credentials Committee for clearance.

E. A US Youth Soccer member pass with original wet ink signature of the player's parent or guardian in the completed Consent for Medical Treatment section must be presented for each player. Players who are 18 years or older at the time of competition MUST sign their own forms.

F. Any exception to the requirement for presenting properly approved credentials for a team, player and/or registered team official prior to the start of a game can only be approved after a review of the facts by the Third Vice Chairman and the on-site cup staff, as well as confirmation by the team's District Registrar and/or the **Cal North** Registration Committee Chair that the team, player(s) and/or registered team official(s) are properly registered and approved for participation in **Cal North** competition. In the absence of the Third Vice Chairman the Chairman of the Board or the 1st Vice Chairman may be consulted.

G. The credential(s) for which an exception is allowed must be presented to on-site cup staff before the conclusion of the weekend on which the game in which the exception was granted takes place.

H. If it is later deemed that the team, player(s) or registered team official(s) for which an exception was granted is not properly approved and credentialed or is not eligible to participate in **Cal North** competition, the individual(s) will be subject to any and all **Cal North** disciplinary policies, including but not limited to **Cal North** Association Cup forfeiture and fine policies.

I. An ineligible player, participating in a **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Game shall cause his/her team to forfeit any game that the player has participated in and may result in further disciplinary action, against the team's coach, registered team official or the player by the **Cal North** Board of Directors.

VII. TEAM FORMATION

A. Any team entering **Cal North** Association Cup may not release a player or players in order to qualify for a lower age group division.

B. A team is required to play in **Cal North** Association Cup at the oldest age group at which it was ever rostered during the seasonal year

C. Player releases are allowed only in certain circumstances as specified in **Cal North** and US Youth Soccer registration rules.

D. The team must demonstrate continuity between the team's league roster and the team's **Cal North** Association Cup roster by maintaining a minimum of nine (9) players common to the rosters of both competitions.

VIII. BRACKETING

A. All properly received **Cal North** Association Cup entries will be entered into preliminary rounds by a modified blind-draw

B. Teams will be bracketed for the preliminary rounds by means of a blind draw conducted by the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee or designees. During the blind draw, no two (2) teams from the same district will be placed in the same bracket unless there are more teams from a given district than there are brackets.

C. If a team drops after the draw, no adjustment of brackets will be made if the replacement team is from the same district as another team already assigned to that bracket.

D. The **Cal North** Association Cup Committee reserves the right to restructure/eliminate brackets due to teams dropping to try to ensure as many brackets as possible have 4 teams in them.

E. The winners of each bracket will advance to single elimination round competition. If necessary for the formation of the next round of single elimination competition, the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee reserves the right to advance runner-up teams from brackets pre-designated by random selection prior to the draw taking place

F. The bracket winners and runners-up will be determined by the scoring point system outlined in Section XV of the **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Directives, Rules & Regulations.

G. The **Cal North** Association Cup Committee reserves the right to combine brackets with less than three (3) teams in the brackets after the draw has taken place. (This would take place after a team has dropped from the competition and there are not any teams available in the "Reserve Pool" to take the place of the team/teams that have withdrawn from competition in the specific bracket or brackets). The combining of these brackets must take place no later than 6:00 PM on the Tuesday prior to the first weekend of play in the particular age/gender division that is being adjusted.

H. If the draw has taken place and due to an administrative error a team must be added to a **Cal North** Association Cup age/gender group, that team will be placed into the competition as follows: The brackets of three (3) in the specific age/gender group will be put into a hat, one of the brackets will be drawn from the hat and the team will be inserted as the fourth (4th) team in that bracket.

I. If in the opinion of the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee Chairman and his/her Committee, an uncorrectable error is made in the draw of a division of teams, and it is discovered after the draw has taken place, the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee Chairman and his/her Committee shall determine the best and most expeditious manner in which to redraw the particular division/divisions if they determine that a partial or complete redraw is necessary. The implementation of this shall be done as quickly as possible with the approval of the **Cal North** 3rd Vice Chairman.

J. If, due to the withdrawal of teams, half or more of the preliminary brackets contain three or fewer teams, the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee may schedule a redraw of that age group. In addition, the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee or designees may redraw any age group if withdrawals reduce the total number of teams in that age group competition to a level, which would eliminate the need for an extra round of competition.

K. **Cal North** reserves the right to cancel an age/group gender division that does not have a minimum of eight qualified applicants at the time of the application deadline. If the determination is made to cancel any age/group gender division the team will be offered a refund in full or the opportunity to migrate to any other **Cal North** cup age/group gender division for which they are qualified. When migrating to a different **Cal North** cup any applicable refund or additional application fees will be applied.

IX. SCHEDULING

A. Requests for scheduling accommodations or adjustments on behalf of any specific team will not be taken into consideration when creating the schedules.

B. A complete schedule of games, playing dates, and opponents will be mailed to all teams as soon as possible prior to the preliminary round games beginning.

C. THERE WILL BE NO RESCHEDULING OF GAMES TO ACCOMMODATE OUT-OF-STATE TOURNAMENTS, LEAGUE GAMES, SOCIAL EVENTS, SCHOOL AND/OR COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTS.

D. It is the responsibility of each team to be aware of all potential conflicts which may affect its ability and the ability of its players to participate in **Cal North** Association Cup competition on any and all dates for which play is scheduled (both primary dates for play and alternate dates for play) for its age group.

E. A game upon which a protest/appeal is upheld will be replayed as called for by the **Cal North** Protest and Appeals Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the **Cal North** Association Cup Chairman to reschedule the game and set a time and place for the game that will allow all **Cal North** Association Cup Competition play to continue with the least amount of delay.

F. The team listed first on the **Cal North**-issued schedule of games shall be the HOME TEAM in all cases and will provide a game ball.

X. COMPETITION PROCEDURES

A. All games will be governed by the FIFA Laws of the Game and those rules included in the US Youth Soccer Rules, **Cal North** Constitution, Bylaws, General Procedures, Specific Rules and PIMs unless the rules of this competition determine otherwise.

B. For this competition **Cal North** unlimited substitution rules as indicated in PIM 10-3 item E will be in effect.

C. For preliminary round games, the host district is responsible for supplying referee and game fields (and/or alternative fields).

D. It is recommended that field marshals be available for crowd control, etc.

E. In single elimination games, both teams' bench areas will be on the same side of the field, and coaching from the sideline will not be permitted except as in accordance with FIFA directives.

F. Spectator areas will be established on the opposite side of the field at single elimination games. No individual is allowed on the team side of the field in these games unless they are credentialed members of one of the teams participating in the game.

G. No more than four (4) registered team officials from each team, including coaches, shall be on the same side of the field as the teams during second round, round of 16, quarterfinal, semifinal and finals play.

XI. UNIFORMS

A. The appearance of players is a vital extension of the game. A player's team uniform confirms the identity of the club or organization that the player represents. It should be worn with pride.

B. Stockings/socks must be of the same color, (a player must wear stockings/socks of a matching color), should be correctly worn in the pulled-up position covering shin pads or guards.

C. Shirts/ jerseys shall be neatly tucked into their shorts.

D. The wearing of tracksuit trousers or long tights in a color that coordinates with the team's colors is permissible in adverse weather.

E. Cyclists' pants, tights, etc., may be worn under a player's shorts if they are the same color as the shorts.

F. The wearing of long sleeve base-layer under garments beneath the players' uniform jerseys is permitted in the following instances: 1) if the base-layer under garment is the same color as the primary color of the team's uniform jersey; 2) if a black base-layer under garment is worn by the team when the primary color of the team's uniform jersey is a dark color; 3) if a white base-layer under garment is worn when the primary color of the team's uniform jersey is a light color. Any player who wears a base-layer under garment must wear a base-layer garment that matches those worn by the other members of his/her team.

G. All **Cal North** Association Cup referees will be instructed to enforce this uniform rule in all games.

H. Home teams will change jerseys in the event of a conflict in jersey color. When changing jerseys, teams must adhere to the rule regarding the base-layer under garments.

I. The referee will have final determination as to whether or not a team must change their jersey or base layer under-garment due to conflicting colors.

XII. FIELDS

A. Fields should be properly marked and ready by game time, with corner flags and nets in good condition.

B. The recommended minimum dimensions for game fields are: 100 yards long x 60 yards wide for U12 and U13; 100 yards long x 70 yards wide for U14 through U19.

C. The **Cal North** Association Cup Chairman may place games on different sized fields if the use of such fields is necessary for the timely play of **Cal North** Association Cup games.

D. The referee's decision, as to whether any field is playable or not, is not protestable.

XIII. GAME LENGTH

A. Length of games, overtime periods, and ball specifications shall be as follows:

Age Group	Preliminary Round	Single Elimination Round	O.T. Period	Ball Size	Circumference	Weight
U19	two - 40 min.	two - 45 min.	two - 15 min.	#5	27"-28"	14-16 oz's.
U15, U16	two - 35 min.	two - 40 min.	two - 15 min.	#5	27"-28"	14-16 oz's.
U13, U14	two - 30 min.	two - 35 min.	two - 10 min.	#5	27"-28"	14-16 oz's.
U12	two - 25 min.	two - 30 min.	two - 10 min.	#4	25"-26"	11-13 oz's.

B. The length of games played in the opening round and any subsequent Round-Robin round of **Cal North** Cup Competition will be reduced by five (5) minutes per half.

C. Single elimination games shall be regulation length.

D. All ties in the opening round shall stand and no extra time shall be played SUBJECT TO LAW 7 OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME.

E. In single-elimination games, the "Golden Goal" rule will be in place.

F. If the teams remain tied at the end of overtime play, then the winner shall be determined by kicks from the penalty spot per FIFA.

XIV. GAME REPORT

A. **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Game and Referee Report (game cards), supplied by **Cal North**, shall be presented to the referee and will be used for all **Cal North** Association Cup games. Such game cards, properly filled out, will be submitted by the hosting venue to the **Cal North** office at the conclusion of each weekend of play.

XV. SCORING

A. In the preliminary rounds, the following point system will be used to determine which teams advance.

3 points for a WIN
1 point for a TIE
0 points for a LOSS

B. If teams are tied in points at the conclusion of the preliminary round, the following tie-breaking procedure will be employed to determine which teams advance to the next round:

1. Results of head-to-head competition between teams that are tied.
2. Goal differential (goals scored minus goals allowed to a maximum differential of 4 per game).
3. Least goals allowed.
4. Most goals scored to a maximum of 4 per game.
5. Kicks taken from the penalty spot per FIFA

C. In three team groups, if FIFA kicks involve a team that had completed play on a previous day and is unavailable to take the kicks, an alternative time and site for the kicks shall be scheduled by the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee Chairman.

D. To determine the advancing team(s) when more than two teams in a bracket are tied at the end of the preliminary round matches, the tie breaker criteria listed in section XVI, items B and C will be applied in the order listed to determine the placement of each team in the bracket, beginning at tie breaker #2. One or more teams' order of finish in the bracket can be determined at any step of the tie breaking process. Until the order of finish of each of the tied teams in the bracket can be determined, the tie breaking steps will be applied in the order shown without reverting to a previous step at any time during the tie breaking determination.

E. Should three or more teams be tied at the end of the preliminary round after completing the above list of tie-breakers, a Round Robin Shoot-out will then be utilized as follows: Ten (10) shots will be taken per team, five (5) each against opposing keepers. Total from two (2) shoot-outs, i.e. Team A scores 3 versus Team B keeper, then scores 2 versus Team C keeper, Team A's total is 5. Team with most goals advances. If teams remain tied after two (2) rounds, re-shoot. Coach will designate ten (10) shooters of which ANY ROSTERED PLAYER may shoot.

Round 1

Team A	5 Players (1 - 5) versus Team B Keeper
Team B	5 Players (1 - 5) versus Team C Keeper
Team C	5 Players (1 - 5) versus Team A Keeper

Round 2

Team A	5 Players (6 - 10) versus Team C Keeper
Team B	5 Players (6 - 10) versus Team A Keeper
Team C	5 Players (6 - 10) versus Team B Keeper

XVI. CANCELLATIONS

A. In the event of inclement weather, the host district is responsible for informing the **Cal North** Office, the **Cal North** Third Vice Chair, the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee Chairman, and the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee members as soon as possible before games if fields are unplayable. Only the **Cal North** Cup Committee Chairman may reschedule a game for different dates. If inclement weather should necessitate field and/ or playing date change, it is the prerogative of the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee Chairman to schedule such changes. District **Cal North** Association Cup Coordinators may, if necessitated by inclement weather, make last minute changes to different playing sites.

B. The **Cal North** Association Cup Committee Chairman may schedule makeup games necessitated by inclement weather or reentry games due to a Protest and Appeals decision on consecutive days (Saturday and Sunday) or between scheduled dates (weekdays). The **Cal North** Cup Committee Chairman's decisions are not protestable.

XVII. ABANDONED/TERMINATED GAMES

A. Should a scheduled game be terminated or abandoned before its completion and the situation is not covered by **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Rules, or National Cup Rules, the status of the game shall be determined by the **Cal North** Protest & Appeals (P&A) Committee.

B. The terms abandon and terminate are interchangeable and mean the same thing for purposes of **Cal North** Association Cup Competition play.

C. A game can be abandoned or terminated by the referee when one of the following situations occur:

1. The referee is unable to control the players on the field.

2. The referee is unable to control the actions of individuals that are not playing in the game (coaches / registered team officials / spectators, etc.)

3. The field has become unsafe to play on for any reason (weather related, objects being thrown onto the field, or any other circumstance that makes the field "unsafe" for play.

4. The referee has been instructed by a **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Administrator to abandon/terminate for a specific purpose related to **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Rules.

5. The referee and his/her assistants have been threatened by a player, coach, registered team official, and/or spectator and feel that it is in the best interest of the referees/assistant referees to abandon/terminate the game and leave the site.

6. Any reasons that are consistent with the risk of continuing to play being outweighed by the possibility of someone being seriously injured if the game continues.

7. The team does not have present at least one registered team official of the appropriate age with the required **Cal North** credentials at any time ONCE the game has begun. If this situation occurs the game will be deemed an abandoned/terminated game.

A. A game can be deemed abandoned/terminated ONLY after the game has begun OR just prior to the game IF the field is determined to be unsafe for play or the weather is such that in the opinion of the referee OR a **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Administrator the game cannot be played for reasons of safety or potential field damage. Any game that is abandoned / terminated prior to the game beginning shall be played at a later time UNLESS the game will not have any bearing on which team wins the bracket that the two (2) teams are in.

B. Once a game has BEGUN and the game is abandoned/terminated the status of the game shall be determined by the **Cal North** Protest, Appeal and Disciplinary Committee regardless of at what point during the game it was abandoned/terminated. The **Cal North** Protest, Appeal and disciplinary committee shall render a decision as to the status of the game within seventy-two (72) hours of the written information reaching the **Cal North** First Vice Chairman, which shall allow the competition to continue pending a decision by the **Cal North** PAD Committee. The **Cal North** Protest, Appeal and Disciplinary Committee may determine that the game that was abandoned / terminated must be played over again in its entirety.

C. The **Cal North** Protest, Appeal and Disciplinary Committee may also take separate action regarding team's or individual's behavior that is related to the abandonment/termination of any game as a result of information that has been brought to their attention during the review of the abandoned/terminated game or games.

XVIII. FORFEITURES

A. In the event that a team forfeits and/or withdraws during the preliminary round competition, all games involving that team shall not be considered in determining the team that advances. If a team forfeits one game, all games that team is scheduled to play are forfeit. A game is forfeit when:

1. A team does not show up to play at the time and field at which they are scheduled to play as per the **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Schedule. It is the team's responsibility to know when and where they are assigned to play ANY **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Game in which they are scheduled to participate. It is the team's responsibility to be aware of any schedule changes that take place in **Cal North** Association Cup Competition play that affects their team.

2. A team is not ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled start time of a **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Game in which the team has been scheduled to participate with AT LEAST seven (7) players who have proper credentials as specified in the **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Rules and who are dressed in uniforms that meet the **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Guidelines. The team must also have a registered team official of the appropriate age and with proper **Cal North** credentials as called for in the **Cal North**

Association Cup Competition Rules at the beginning of and throughout the game. A team allows a player, registered team official, or coach to participate in a **Cal North** Association Cup game and it is found out before, during, or after the game that the player, coach OR registered team official was not properly credentialed, was not in good standing or was otherwise ineligible to participate in the game/games.

B. Once a game has begun, the game cannot be a forfeit UNLESS one of the teams has at least one individual that is not eligible to participate in **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Play AND the individual participates in the game as described in Section B, Item 3 above.

C. If due to a sendoff during the game there is no adult who is a registered team official available to take charge of the team, the game shall immediately be terminated and the opposing team shall be declared the winner of the game. If the score of the game exceeds 1 - 0 in favor of the opposing team at the time of the game being terminated that score shall stand as the final score of the game. If the score is 1 - 1 or the score favors the team that is causing the game to be terminated the score shall be recorded as a 1 - 0 score in favor of the opposing team.

XIX. AWARDS

A. A commemorative team trophy will be presented to the winning team's coach.

B. Participation pins will be given to all teams up to a maximum of twenty (20) medals per team for U12 - U13 teams and up to twenty-four (24) medals per team for U14 - U19 teams.

C. Individual championship game medals will be presented as follows: A maximum of twenty (20) medals per team for U12 - U13 teams and up to twenty-four (24) medals per team for U14 - U19 teams.

XX. ADVANCEMENT

A. The age group champions from **Cal North** Association Cup do not advance to US Youth Soccer Regional or National Cup competition.

XXI. SEND OFFS / EXPULSIONS / SUSPENSIONS

A. Any team accumulating three (3) send offs and/or expulsions throughout this competition shall be immediately placed on probationary status. Upon receipt of a fourth (4th) player or registered team official send off or expulsion for any team, the team shall immediately be eliminated from the competition for the remainder of the current **Cal North** Association Cup Competition. The game shall be terminated by the referee upon the issuance of the fourth send off or expulsion. The preliminary round games involving that team shall not be considered in determining the team that advances. In single elimination games, the opposing team automatically advances.

B. Each District hosting games shall have, on site, a Protest, Appeals, Disciplinary (PAD) Committee to determine penalties for red card sendoffs and expulsions. PAD Committee decisions shall be communicated to applicable players, coaches or team officials.

C. Any player or registered team official who is sent off or expelled from the field before, during or after a **Cal North** Cup Competition game shall automatically receive the recommended minimum penalty prescribed by **Cal North** for the applicable age group and offense per **Cal North** Specific Rule 4:05 Disciplinary Rulings including the mandatory two additional game suspension required for any registered team official. Additional games may be added by the Disciplinary Committee if the circumstances of the offense warrant it.

D. Sendoffs shall be administered in accordance with **Cal North** PIM 10-4. If a player or registered team official is sent off or expelled and has not served his/her suspension, the governing authority for that competition shall mail the member pass, game report and Send-Off Report to the individual's District Commissioner, with the exception of send offs for referee assault which will be sent to the Board of Directors of this Association.

E. The suspended individual shall be ineligible for further **Cal North** Cup Competition Play until the player pass is returned, upon completion of suspension. All **Cal North** Cup Competition suspensions must be served during **Cal North** Cup Competition and Regional Cup/National Cup competition if applicable. If the individual does not complete their suspension in the current season of **Cal North** Association Cup Competition the suspension shall carry over to the following season's **Cal North** Cup Competition/ Regional Cup/ US Youth Soccer National Cup Competition until the suspension is completely served.

F. When a coach or registered team official is serving a suspension earned in a previous season of **Cal North** Cup or US Youth Soccer Regional or National Cup competition, he/she shall serve the suspension with the team with which he/she earned the suspension as long as the coach or registered team official is still associated with that team.

G. When a suspension is carried over from a previous season **Cal North** Cup or US Youth Soccer Regional or National Cup Competition, if the coach or registered team official is no longer with the team with which he or she earned the suspension, the coach or registered team official will serve the suspension with the team that he/she is currently registered with that is competing in **Cal North** or US Youth Soccer Regional or National Cup Competition.

H. Coaches or registered team officials who are listed on multiple rosters and who are suspended during **Cal North** Cup competition and/or US Youth Soccer National Championship Series games will serve their suspension during the next scheduled **Cal North** Cup and/or US Youth Soccer Regional or National Cup competition games involving the team with which they were participating as a registered team official at the time of their suspension. If that team is eliminated from **Cal North** Cup and/or US Youth Soccer Regional or National Cup competition prior to the suspension being served in its entirety the individual will continue to serve his/her suspension in the following season with the next team to which he/she is registered and which participates in the **Cal North** Cup competition and/or US Youth Soccer Regional or National Cup competition

I. Any individual who is sent-off or expelled during a **Cal North** Association Cup Competition game and the suspension exceeds the minimum suspension for the conduct that caused the send-off or expulsion shall have recorded in the **Cal North** Referee's Send Off Report the reason for the additional suspended games, or an attachment to the **Cal North** Referees Send Off Report that indicates the reason for the additional suspension. The lack of such backup may be grounds for reduction of suspension. The minimum suspensions are located in Section 4:05 of **Cal North** Specific Rules.

J. Coaches or registered team officials affiliated with two or more teams may not participate with any team while serving a suspension.

K. Suspension penalties that cannot be served in the current season will carry over to the next seasonal year.

L. All instances of Referee Assault shall be reported within 48 hours to the **Cal North** First Vice Chairman. Individuals, accused of Referee Assault, shall be immediately suspended pending a review by the **Cal North** Protest, Appeals & Discipline (PAD) Committee. Reports of Referee Assault should be sent to the **Cal North** State Office in Pleasanton.

XXII. PROTEST, APPEALS AND DISCIPLINE

A. The **Cal North** Cup Suspension Status Report form will be used to record all decisions regarding send-offs and expulsions. Directives regarding send-offs and expulsions are located in section 4:05 of the **Cal North** Specific Rules.

B. With cause, the Board of Directors may remove from **Cal North** Association Cup competition any team, which violates section 3:01:03 of the General Procedures of the **Cal North** Constitution.

C. Send offs and/or expulsions are not subject to Protest or Appeal.

D. Referees will retain member passes, for those individuals who have been sent off or expelled, and along with the **Cal North** Referee Send Off Report and the game report will turn them in to the on-site Protest, Appeals and Discipline (PAD) Committee for disciplinary action. The member passes

along with a copy of the Game and Referee Report card and a copy of the **Cal North** Referee's Send Off Report will be sent within forty eight (48) hours to the sent off or expelled individual's District Commissioner for further action if necessary.

E. Referees' judgment calls and send-offs may not be protested or appealed. Only protests or appeals of a misapplication of the Laws of the Game will be considered.

F. Disciplinary action that exceeds **Cal North**'s recommended minimum penalty for an offense for an age group may be appealed.

G. In order for a protest of a competition to be valid, the referee must be notified that the game is under protest prior to leaving the field of play. The referee should record protests on game cards, inform the opposing coach and notify the **Cal North** Association Cup PAD Committee.

H. The protest must be in writing and received by **Cal North** headquarters within 72 hours after the game being protested. A $200.00 fee must accompany the protest or appeal. **Cal North** headquarters: 1040 Serpentine Lane, Suite 201, Pleasanton, CA. 94566.

I. The decision of the **Cal North** Protest & Appeals Committee shall be forwarded to the coach within 48 hours of the P & A Committee's decision.

J. Game results and **Cal North** Protest & Appeals Committee decisions will stand, and scheduled **Cal North** Cup Competition games will continue.

K. There will be no make-up games against teams that have lost during the time of any protest or appeal procedure not filed by or against them.

L. All appeals and protests shall be heard by the **Cal North** Protest & Appeals Committee within five (5) days after the game has been played that is being appealed or protested. No further protest or appeal shall be allowed beyond the hearing of the **Cal North** Protest & Appeals Committee.

M. Any appeal or protest filed that pertains to any **Cal North** Cup Competition activity including but not limited to team entry status, player eligibility, team eligibility, or any other area pertaining to **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Play except a specific game/games shall be heard by the **Cal North** Protest & Appeals Committee within seven (7) days of filing of the protest and appeal.

N. The **Cal North** Protest & Appeals Committee also reserves the right to make decisions regarding appeals and protests by conference phone call or other electronic communications amongst the members of the Committee relying solely on the written testimony that is submitted by the parties to the appeal or protest.

O. BY ENTERING A CAL NORTH ASSOCIATION CUP COMPETITION TOURNAMENT A TEAM AGREES TO WAIVE ANY APPEAL RIGHTS OTHER THAN TO THE CAL NORTH PROTEST & APPEALS COMMITTEE.

XXIII. WITHDRAWALS

A. In order to withdraw from Cal North Association Cup play, a team must submit a notice in writing to the Cal North office during business hours (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday through Friday) and must receive written confirmation from the Cal North office that the notice has been received.

B. Any team that withdraws from the **Cal North** Association Cup AFTER their application has been received by **Cal North**, but prior to the draw, will forfeit their entry fee.

XXIV. FINES

A. Any team that withdraws from **Cal North** Association Cup play AFTER the draw, but at least one week prior to the start of scheduled play, will forfeit their entry fee and be fined $300.00.

B. Any team that withdraws from **Cal North** Association Cup less than one week prior to the start of scheduled play, but before 5:00 p.m. the Friday before scheduled play will forfeit their entry fee and be fined $500.00.

C. Any team that does not withdraw prior to 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the start of play, forfeits a game after the start of the preliminary round, or is eliminated from the competition per Section XVIII and/or Section XXI of the **Cal North** Association Cup Competition Directives, Rules & Regulations will forfeit their entry fee and be fined $750.00.

D. Any team that participates in **Cal North** Association Cup and fails to fulfill their commitment to participate in a qualifying Playing League as indicated in section IV-D of these rules will be fined $2000.00, and may be subject to further sanctions and disciplinary action by the **Cal North** Board of Directors.

E. Any team found to have participated in **Cal North** Association Cup when not eligible to do so will be fined $2000.00 and may be subject to further sanctions and disciplinary action by the **Cal North** Board of Directors.

F. For teams that play only one game in the preliminary round due to forfeit/forfeits these penalty fees may be used to defray their expenses.

G. It is the responsibility of each League to ensure that all **Cal North** Association Cup fees and fines are paid to **Cal North**. Leagues with outstanding fees and fines will be ineligible for **Cal North** Cup play until they pay their fees and fines.

XXV. AUTHORITY

A. The **Cal North** Board of Directors reserves the right to change any rule prior to the competition, and such changes will take effect five (5) days after written notification has been made to all teams entered/remaining in that competition.

B. During the competition, questions regarding interpretation of these rules and matters not addressed herein shall be resolved by the **Cal North** Association Cup Coordinator on site or the **Cal North** Association Cup Committee Chairman.