

# WCP CUP

## RULES & REGULATIONS

### U23 DIVISION

9v9 Including GK

Roster requirements:

Players born: 1996

Heritage required:6  
(includes 2 staff)

Maximum roster:23

Maximum staff: 5



## DEFINITIONS

**NATION:** Any FIFA recognized country or subject to the approval of the WCP Cup Organization/Registration Committee in their sole and absolute discretion, any ethnically or culturally distinct group.

**STAFF:** Staff may include coaches, managers, water boys, water girls, trainers, etc. Only Players and Staff allowed on field/bench prior to, after or during games. All Staff must be listed on roster no later than the Roster Submission Deadline. For insurance purposes, all Staff must be appropriately registered with the RSA and have paid the appropriate RSA registration fees.

**HERITAGE:** A distinct cultural, ancestral or citizenship affiliation, which is able to be traced either by marriage to a partner of at least 50 percent heredity, offspring of at least 25 percent heredity or through matrilineal or patrilineal bloodlines.

## GENERAL RULES

1. Acceptable Nation team submissions will be based on a first come first serve basis. Each Nation shall only be allowed to field one team per division.
2. There is no guarantee that any Nation team submission will result in the acceptance of that submission/Nation team into the WCP Cup. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, in its sole and absolute discretion, reserves the right to deem any Nation team submission not acceptable for any reason. Letter, email or notification of Nation team acceptance into the WCP Cup will be provided to the Nation team representative.
3. All teams must at all times fully comply with all Roster Requirements and Individual Game Requirements, as outlined above, unless provided with a special dispensation, as described in Rule 10, made in writing by the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee. Teams provided with a special dispensation, as described in Rule 10, made in writing by the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, must at all times fully comply with all Roster Requirements and Individual Game Requirements, as outlined above, except to the extent of that team's specific special written dispensation.
4. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee wishes to bring to your attention that in addition to the Tournament Entry Fee listed below each player may be subject to an additional RSA/SSA player registration/insurance levy fee. Any information on any RSA/SSA additional player registration/insurance levy fees will be made available as soon as information is provided.
5. Absolutely all participants participating in the WCP Cup must, on or before the Roster Submission Deadline, provide all information needed to fill in the entirety of that participants roster information (including but not limited to, confirmation of insurance, health card information and heritage designation). Any participant with missing information will not be allowed to participate in the WCP Cup until the said information is provided.



6. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee is not responsible for informing Nation teams or players of incomplete forms. If any required form or other registration requirements is not completed and returned on or before the applicable deadline listed below, the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee reserves the right to deny any person the ability to participate in the WCP Cup without any prior notice. It is entirely and completely the Nation team and individual participants' responsibility to ensure compliance with all rules, including making sure all forms and other registration requirements are completed fully and submitted on time. Complaints to the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee and/or WCP Cup volunteers stemming from a Nation team or participants' lack of fully completed forms or other registration requirements will not be tolerated. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee further reserves the right to deny any person the ability to participate in the WCP Cup for any reason.
7. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee reserves the right to require any player to prove, in a manner acceptable to the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee in its sole and absolute discretion, their Heritage as claimed on the Heritage Verification Form. Please be advised, as the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee is eliminating the Star Player requirements from previous years, and as such it will be, in its sole and absolute discretion, strictly enforcing the heritage requirements in order to keep the WCP Cup fair and within the true spirit of the tournament.
8. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee or a delegate thereof, in its/his/her sole and absolute discretion, reserves the right to punish, sanction, suspend or disqualify in any way it sees fit any player, participant or Nation team deemed to have breached or deemed to have had others breach on their behalf, in any way, any Rule, Roster Requirement, Individual Game Requirement, been found to have falsely listed any information on any Nation team or individual registration form or in any way circumvented or breached the spirit and intent of the WCP Cup Rules and Regulations, regardless of whether a formal breach has occurred.
9. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee encourages Nations to apply who do not necessarily fulfill all roster requirements. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to grant, upon application, a special dispensation, in any form it sees fit, to any team not in full compliance with all Roster Requirements. If a Nation is requesting a special dispensation, including but not limited to, special roster considerations, or last minute roster changes due to unforeseen injury, an application must be made, in writing, stating the reasons why a special dispensation should be made, at the time of the initial registration or as soon as possible following an unforeseen event. Teams not making such an application at the time of the initial registration, or at the earliest time possible, will not be given any special roster consideration and will be required to fully comply with the roster requirements at all times. All special dispensation decisions will be made by multiple members of the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee who do not have an interest in the particular team or situation at hand. All decisions, where practical, will attempt to keep with past precedents and will at all times keep with the spirit and purpose of the WCP Cup.
10. WCP Cup admission is free for players and Nation team staff only. Complete Nation team rosters will be located at the entrances. In order to obtain free admission, players', coaches' and managers' names must appear on the Nation team rosters and acceptable photo



identification may be requested. If a name does not appear on a team roster or acceptable photo identification is not provided when requested, the admission price must be paid in order to gain admission. Absolutely no exceptions will be made to this rule!

The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee reserves the right to force anyone, even if listed on a Nation team roster, to pay admission.

Listing non-players, coaches or managers on Nation team rosters will not be tolerated and will result in the forfeiture of the entire Nation team's free admission.

11. Any and all discipline, whether as a result of an incident or incidents on or off the field of play (or a combination of both), will be dealt with by the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, or its designate(s), in its/his/her sole and absolute discretion. Whenever practical, the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, or its designate(s), in its/his/her sole and absolute discretion, will attempt to provide all parties a chance to be involved in the hearing or other decision making process. Discipline decisions will be made by a Discipline Committee appointed by the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, or its designate(s), in its/his/her sole and absolute discretion. All attempts will be made to ensure that said Discipline Committee is free of bias or other conflicts of interest with respect to the matter.

Discipline hearings will not be held for dismissal/red card offences, where the standard sanction is only an automatic one game suspension unless requested by a sanctioned participant or appropriate team representative of the sanctioned participant or the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, or its designate(s), in its/his/her sole and absolute discretion, feels that a Discipline Committee should review the situation. There is no appeal with respect to the decisions of the Discipline Committee as it relates to past, current or future WCP Cup events.

Please note that the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, or its designate(s), in its/his/her sole and absolute discretion, may appoint a Discipline Committee to deal with all matters or incidents, whether or not they occur within the tournament venues, should the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, or its designate(s), in its/his/her sole and absolute discretion, feel that such a matter or incident negatively impacts the spirit, legitimacy or perception of the past, current or future WCP Cup events.

As a sanctioned event, any and all discipline matters and relevant decisions will be reported to appropriate sanctioning bodies. All WCP Cup participants may be subject to additional discipline by sanctioning bodies or their local governing associations. Such additional discipline is outside of the control of the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee and the WCP Cup. Organizing/Registration Committee takes no position on any further discipline sanctioning bodies or local governing associations feel is necessary. Notwithstanding the fact that the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee, or its designate(s), in its/his/her sole and absolute discretion, may appoint a Discipline Committee to review and adjudicate on a matter for the purposes of the WCP Cup event, the following matters are required, pursuant to the WCP Cup sanctioning requirements and the Saskatchewan Soccer Association Discipline Guidelines, to be forwarded directly to sanctioning bodies for review and adjudication:

- a) Misconduct involving alleged physical or verbal assault of a game official;
- b) Misconduct by game officials;
- c) Spectator misconduct;
- d) Individual or Nation Team expulsion from the WCP Cup; and
- e) Discipline matters that required a hearing.



12. Due to the fact that late payments, registrations and submissions drastically affects the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee's ability to plan and schedule all WCP Cup events, the strict adherence to the timelines and attendance requirements set forth in these Rules and Regulations or at any other time by the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee is a necessity. Any failure to meet deadlines, requirements or Rules and Regulations (including but not limited to deadlines relating to payment, roster and registration deadlines, incomplete liability waiver form, incomplete or inaccurate heritage verification form, abusing the spirit of the heritage rules, team representative failing to attend required meetings, failure to have required number of players at opening ceremonies, inappropriate dressing room behaviour, etc.) will be subject to fines starting at \$50.00 for the first offence and doubling for each following offence.

Furthermore, once a Nation team is fined for the first time, the said Nation team will be required, in addition to the cost of their fine, to post a refundable bond, the amount of which will be determined on a case by case basis by the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee in its sole and absolute discretion, which will be applied towards any additional fines and returned to the Nation team should no further offences occur. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee will be strictly enforcing fines and will not allow teams and/or players to participate until all outstanding fines and all required bonds are paid. The WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee in its sole and absolute discretion reserves the right to waive fines only in exceptional circumstances.

13. Nation Teams are allowed to pull individual Youth Players up and include them on their Roster, notwithstanding the fact that the individual Youth Player may be participating in and listed on the Roster of a Youth Boys Division Nation Team. In order to encourage consistency between divisions, the Men's Nation Team which corresponds to the cultural heritage of the individual Youth Player's division Nation Team (the "Senior Heritage Team") has first preference over an individual Youth Player, unless:

- a) A Senior Heritage Team is not registered in the WCP Cup;
- b) The Senior Heritage Team does not wish to allow the individual Youth Player to participate and be listed on the Senior Heritage Team's roster. The Senior Heritage Team will be required to sign a declaration form to the effect that the individual Youth Player is not intended to be used on that Senior Heritage Team's roster. Any Senior Heritage Team refusing to sign a declaration form for an individual Youth Player will be required to register that Youth Player on their roster and provide him with the chance to participate in the current WCP Cup; or
- c) The individual Youth Player can demonstrate that he has a higher percentage of Heritage with another Men's Nation Team than the Men's Nation Team that corresponds to the cultural heritage of the individual Youth Player's Junior division Nation Team and in such a case, the individual Youth Player may participate and be listed on the Men's Nation Team of which such higher Heritage is demonstrated.

Any and all disputes between Youth Players and Nation teams or between Nation teams will be immediately forwarded to the WCP Cup Organizing/Registration Committee who will make a final and binding decision with respect to the individual Youth Player. Be aware that disputes arising after the Roster Submission Deadline may be subject to an adjudication fee, the payment of which will be considered a fine and will bring with it the same payment obligations for fines as outlined in Rule 13.



14. It is a strict condition of participation and all participants (or if under the age of 18, their parents and/or guardians) who agree to have their names included on a Nation Team roster agrees to waive any and all claims that they have or may have in the future against WCP Sport and Entertainment Inc. and to release its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, agents, representatives, assigns and successors from any and all liability for any loss, damage, injury or expense that they may suffer or that their next of kin may suffer, as a result of their participation in activities and sports offered by WCP Sport and Entertainment Inc., due to any cause whatsoever INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE, BREACH OF CONTRACT and/or BREACH OF ANY DUTY OF CARE ON THE PART OF WCP Sport and Entertainment Inc., its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, agents, representatives, assigns and successors. The participants also agree to hold harmless and indemnify WCP Sport and Entertainment Inc., its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, agents, representatives, assigns and successors from any liability for any property damage or personal injury to any third party, resulting from their activities and participation in the activities offered by or associated with WCP Sport and Entertainment Inc.



# TOURNAMENT FORMAT

After round robin games, the first place team receives a bye to the final. Second and third place teams play in a semi final game, with the winner advancing to the final game.

Based on scheduling, teams may have games on consecutive days. Games will be played on the front and/or back field.

## GAME DURATION

- All games are 2 X 25 Minute halves
- Extra time will be played during knockout stage and medal rounds if games end in a tie after regulation time

### Additional time format:

- 2 X 5 min halves with "Golden Goal"
- If there are no goals after both extra time halves, "Kicks from the Penalty Mark" will be used to decide the winner
- First penalty shootout round will have five shooters for each team
- If, after both teams have taken five kicks from the penalty mark, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order until all present and eligible dressed roster players have each taken a penalty kick until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks

## TOURNAMENT RULES

1. No foul language
2. Slide tackles permitted
3. No offsides
4. Unlimited substitutions on the fly
5. Direct kick-ins (not throw-ins)
6. All free kicks are direct
7. Please remember that the WCP Cup is meant to unify and bring cultures/nations/countries together. As such, absolutely no racist, sectarian or ethnic abuse of any kind will be tolerated. Any player, coach, Nation team official, or fan deemed guilty of abuse of any kind will be immediately sanctioned, banned or punished by the WCP Cup Organization/Registration Committee in its sole and absolute discretion.
8. All Nation teams guaranteed a minimum of 3 games
9. Non-taunting goal celebrations are encouraged and will not result in yellow cards



## PLAYERS ON FIELD

9v9 soccer (1 goalkeeper and 8 field players), a minimum of 9 players is required to begin a game.

## UNIFORMS

### Nation teams must have:

- Matching Home and Away jerseys in different country colours, numbered on back of each jersey
- Country name or logo appearing on both Home and Away
- Two sets of matching shorts and socks in different colours

Nation teams failing to have a representative attend the designated WCP Cup uniform declaration meeting will be subject to a fine as per Rule 12 and will not be able to participate in any WCP Cup event/game until said fine and subsequent bond is paid.

Anyone on the field or in the bench area prior to, following or during a game, whether it be staff or players not playing (ex: injury), must at all times be dressed in Nation team attire. Items including, but not limited to, ripped/torn jeans, baggy shorts and flip flops will not be tolerated. Nation teams will be given only one warning prior to being fined as per Rule 12.

## POINT SYSTEM

### Point accumulation will be as follows:

3 points for a win  
1 point for a tie

All goals scored for and against shall be used to determine final Nation team standings during group and knockout stages.

## TIE BREAK SYSTEM

The following tie breaking procedures will be used if two Nation teams are tied after group stage play:

- a) Result of game between Nation teams tied
- b) Goal Differential
- c) Total goals for

The following tie breaking procedures will be used if three Nation teams are tied after group stage play:

- a) Goal Differential
- b) Goals for

If two or more Nation teams are tied after the above tie breaking procedures, a shoot-out between the two or more remaining tied Nation teams will occur. The format and rules of the shoot-out will be determined by the WCP Cup Organization/Registration Committee in its sole and absolute discretion.

