



## FACT SHEET: TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANT

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### **1. TOURNAMENT APPROVAL:**

If this fact sheet is accompanied by an “approved” tournament form, the tournament has been sanctioned by US Club Soccer, which is a National Association member of the USSF. As such, US Club Soccer is authorized by the USSF Bylaws to sanction such tournaments.

### **2. US CLUB SOCCER MEMBER TEAMS:**

If you are a US Club Soccer member, it is not necessary to request travel permission to attend the tournament if you use your US Club Soccer player and staff cards. Your players and staff are covered by a \$100,000 secondary accident insurance policy. Your club is covered by liability insurance.

### **3. USSF AFFILIATE TEAMS:**

If you are a member of another USSF member organization, and this tournament is “open” as nearly all are, you are welcome to attend the tournament. If it is being held in your state, you may be able to attend without permission, but please check your state’s rules. If you are attending from another state, you may need to seek travel permission from your state association by complying with the regular travel permission procedures. It is suggested that you apply at the earliest possible time. If you have complied with your state association’s travel permission procedures, they are required to approve your travel. However, if you are having trouble getting insurance coverage from your state association, see #5 below.

### **4. USSF RULES:**

Note that you may not be denied permission to attend based on the fact the tournament is not a US Youth Soccer-sanctioned event, if you comply with your state association’s travel rules, if they have any for such events. Such denial is in violation of the anti-discrimination provisions of the USSF Bylaws, and USSF Policy 601-7. A copy of this policy has been provided in your approval e-mail.

### **5. OPTIONAL TOURNAMENT INSURANCE FOR NON-MEMBERS:**

If you’re having a problem getting insurance coverage from your state association, insurance may be obtained from US Club Soccer to attend the tournament at a charge of \$50 per team. Under this program, the team still gets travel permission from its state association, and uses its USYS player cards, but is covered by the US Club Soccer insurance policy. To do this, you may obtain the necessary [application form](#) from our Web site: go to [registration/tournament information](#).

### **6. TOURNAMENT TEAM OPTION:**

In lieu of #5 above, you may be able to attend the tournament as a US Club Soccer tournament team, and travel with US Club Soccer passcards. Under this scenario, you will be issued US Club Soccer player and staff passcards for this tournament only, and will be covered by our insurance policy. The fee is \$8 per passcard to cover insurance and the USSF registration fee. In most cases, though, the insurance option in #5 above will suffice, but if you wanted coverage to practice with the tournament team before the tournament itself, this might be a better option. Tournament team information is also found at [usclubsoccer.org](#) at [registration/tournament information](#).

### **7. FURTHER INFORMATION:**

If you have any questions, you may contact Adam Augustine at (843) 614-4140 x20, or e-mail us at [tournament@usclubsoccer.org](mailto:tournament@usclubsoccer.org). We will assist in clarifying these matters with your state association if necessary.



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### III. REVISED USSF POLICY

#### Policy 601-7 -Competition Participation

##### Section I.

(A) Any properly registered team has the right to enter any competition involving Organization Members or their members provided that it is eligible under the rules of that competition, pays all required fees, and is in good standing.

(B) No Organization Member or member of an Organization Member shall interfere with the opportunity of a player, coach or team to travel to compete in a competition, including a game, scrimmage, tournament or League governed by

Section 1 (A) above and shall not deny permission to travel unless that player, coach or team has been prohibited from doing so for disciplinary reasons pursuant to the due process requirements set forth in Bylaw 701. The foregoing shall not prevent Organization Members and their members from having bylaws, rules, or policies that penalize teams or players for failing to meet their previously scheduled game commitments or prevent Organization Members from enforcing reasonable notification requirements prior to travel.

(C) Any Organization Member or member of an Organization Member, player, coach or individual denied the right to participate in any competition involving Organization Members or their members has the right of appeal and/or grievance through the applicable procedures set forth in Federation Bylaws and Policies.

##### Section 2.

(A) Tournaments hosted by Organization members or their members shall fall within one of the following two classes:

(1) Unrestricted Tournament: A tournament that is open to all Federation affiliated participants. Any tournament that allows international participants must be an Unrestricted Tournament.

(2) Restricted Tournament: A tournament that is open only to members of a single Organization Member or a subset thereof.

(B) Organization Members and their members shall be entitled to sponsor and/or approve tournaments in and according to reasonable requirements they establish as long as done so in a fair and timely manner. No Organization Member or member of an Organization member shall have a bylaw, rule or policy that prohibits their members from participating in Unrestricted Tournaments. Organization Members may not deny approval to host a tournament on the basis that the tournament is Unrestricted.

##### Section 3.

This policy does not apply to Professional Leagues or Indoor Professional Leagues.

### III. RATIONALE

To ensure that players have as many opportunities as possible to participate in tournaments and competitions, and to make the policy consistent with U.S. Soccer's organizational structure.