



Ohio Youth Soccer Association North

2011 Bothwell Cup Competition

RULES

Welcome to the 20th anniversary of the Bothwell Cup!

The Bothwell Cup was established in 1991 in honor of the late Sam Bothwell, formerly of Mentor, OH, who was a well-known soccer activist who helped start travel programs within the OYSAN boundaries.

2011 Tournament Director / Bothwell Cup Chairperson: Paul Emhoff

If the Chairperson is unavailable or off-site, a Chairperson Designee will be appointed by the Chairperson.

The first Chairperson Designee is Pam Menick, Executive Director of OYSAN.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

1) FORMAT

All age groups will consist of pools. The OYSAN Bothwell Cup Committee reserves the right to accept or deny teams based on prior OYSAN Bothwell Cup history, prior league play and/or tournament history

2) COMPETITION DATES: October 21-23, 2011

3) SCHEDULING CONFLICTS

- a) OYSAN Bothwell Cup games should take precedence over all scheduled league games.
- b) All games scheduled by member leagues are required to be rescheduled to permit all eligible teams to compete in the OYSAN Bothwell Cup.

4) TEAM ELIGIBILITY, ROSTERS

- a) Age groups will be determined by the 2011-2012 US Youth Soccer Registration Ages as listed on the last page of this document. **IMPORTANT:** U14/U15 Divisions. U15 teams in the U14/15 division can have no more than three (3) U15 players on the Bothwell Cup Roster.
- b) All OYSAN team officials must be Risk Management certified by the Ohio Youth Soccer Association North. All non-US Youth Soccer teams are required to provide their official organization Risk Management approval confirmation for all coaches participating with the team.
- c) The OYSAN Bothwell Cup is for current US Youth Soccer affiliated teams and/or USSF affiliated teams only.
- d) **Teams that participated in their home state association 2011 State Cup Tournament or similar tournament for Premier Level Division 1 teams are not eligible to participate**

in the OYSAN Bothwell Cup unless approved by the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Committee.

IMPORTANT: A team is considered the same team and not eligible for the Bothwell Cup if more than 50% of a team's rostered players were on the 2011 State Cup roster.

- e) With the submission of the OYSAN Bothwell Cup application form, the coach, manager and team certify that they are registered and in good standing with their National Association or State Association.
- f) **Roster submission deadline** is **OCTOBER 7, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.**
- g) **Failure to submit a roster by the established deadline will result in a \$50 per day late fee for each day the roster is late.** Teams will not be permitted to play OYSAN Bothwell Cup games until their roster and payment is received.
- h) **Roster additions** may not take place after Check-in at the tournament.
- i) **Roster sizes:** An OYSAN Bothwell Cup roster for U9-U10 teams can have a maximum of 12 players, the roster for U11-12 teams can have a maximum of 14 players and teams U13 and older shall have no more than 18 players on its roster
- j) **Player Eligibility/Roster Make-up:** All team's US Youth Soccer affiliated league team roster, tournament team roster (all players must be from same club) or, for LeagueOne users, Event Roster, OR USSF Affiliated team roster serves as the OYSAN Bothwell Cup roster.
 - i) Tournament teams (Event Rosters in LeagueOne) are allowed.
 - ii) All players on the roster must be from the same club and registered with the same National Soccer Association. An entire roster must be registered exclusively with one National Association. There shall be no mixed registrations on a single roster.
 - iii) A player may play for one team only in the OYSAN Bothwell Cup competition.
 - iv) For leagues without club-carding: GUEST PLAYERS must be from the SAME CLUB/organization.
 - v) OUT OF STATE TEAMS and PLAYERS have an approved TRAVEL PERMIT from their home state. Travel permits are NOT needed for OYSAN teams.
 - vi) Players may not 'play-up' more than 2 years.
- k) Any team found to have used an ineligible player in any game shall forfeit all games by a 0-4 score. Such teams will also be fined and not permitted to continue tournament play.

5) SCHEDULING AND BRACKETING

- a) U10 – U14/15 Teams should not be scheduled to play any more than two OYSAN Bothwell Cup games on any one day but this cannot be guaranteed. U9 teams will be playing a one-day FESTIVAL format and will play multiple games in a single day.
- b) In all age groups, the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Committee will seed teams. The seeding process may take into account the team's league standings, team information forms, previous OYSAN Bothwell Cup results, and tournament records from the previous and current year.
- c) Where numbers provide, the top Competitive Division will be comprised of teams that play in the OYSAN State League or which play in the first division of larger competitive leagues. All other teams will be placed into other divisions of play at the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Committee's discretion.

6) CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

Each team manager is required to Check-in at the tournament headquarters (where their first game is) at least 45 minutes prior to the start of his or her first game. Coaches and Players do not need to be at the Check-In. The team manager needs to have their team's player PASSES and CURRENT ROSTER.

7) REFEREES

The OYSAN Bothwell Cup Committee designated assignors will schedule referees for all OYSAN Bothwell Cup Games.

8) FORFEITURES

- a) A minimum of five players constitutes a team for U9-U10 teams.
- b) A minimum of six players constitutes a team for the U11-12 teams.
- c) A minimum of seven players constitutes a team for the U13 & above teams.
- d) A fifteen-minute grace period shall be allowed beyond the official start time of the game if the minimum number of players is not available at start time. If at the end of the 15-minute grace period the team still does not have the minimum number of players; the referee will suspend the game and report the failure of the team to take the field on the OYSAN Bothwell Cup game reports.
- e) The OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson may determine the game to be forfeited after examining the game report and conducting an investigation.
- f) In the event that any team is suspected of forfeiting a game with the design or purpose of controlling the advancement of any team from its own bracket or any other bracket, the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson may require such an advancing team to play another qualifying game against the next highest ranking team that would otherwise be eligible to advance.
- g) A team that fails to take the field because of withdrawal from the OYSAN Bothwell Cup (or game) after the deadline may be subject to sanctions levied by the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson, Bothwell Cup Committee, or the OYSAN Board of Directors.
- h) Any team that forfeits a game may not be allowed to continue to play in the tournament. (Such determination will be made by the Bothwell Cup Chairperson.)
- i) The score awarded to the winning team resulting from a forfeiture is 4 - 0.
- j) **PENALTIES: A FORFEITING TEAM WILL BE FINED UP TO \$500.00 PER GAME FORFEITED. Any team that does not pay the fine(s) will be placed in BAD STANDING and the team(s) will not be permitted to play in any future OYSAN Bothwell Cup games and OYSAN sanctioned leagues and activities until OYSAN receives the appropriate payment(s).**

LAWS OF THE GAME/RULES of COMPETITION

FIFA Laws of the Game will govern all games unless otherwise stated in the Bothwell Cup Rules listed below in the following rules of the game section. Refer to the OYSAN Small-Sided Games Guidelines for rules specific to the U9-U12 age groups.

9) GAME REPORTS

- a) The Home Team is always the first team listed on the schedule.
- b) The winning coach or team manager (or the coach or team manager of the Home Team, in the event of a tie) of each game shall **return the game reports to any OYSAN tournament official at the headquarters tent within 30 minutes following the game.**
- c) Failure to return the game reports to either of the tournament site headquarter within 30 minutes following each game may result in disqualification of the winning team (or the home team in the event of a tie) and/or a \$100 fine for each score not reported.

10) GAME DURATION

- a) Length of games are detailed below:

Age	Prelim. Game Length	Overtime	Semi Final Game length	Final Game Length	Format	Maximum Roster Size	Minimum Number of Players Required
U9 B & G	30 Minute Games	No Overtime	n/a	n/a	6 v 6 Festival	12	5
U10 B & G	25 Minute Halves	No Overtime	20 Minute Halves	25 Minute Halves	6 v 6	12	5
U11 & U12 B & G	30 Minute Halves	No Overtime	20 Minute Halves	30 Minute Halves	8 v 8	14	6
U13 & U14/15 B & G	35 Minute Halves	No Overtime	20 Minute Halves	35 Minute Halves	11 v 11	18	7

- b) If after two halves during a Semi-Final or Final game, the game is still tied, "Kicks from the Penalty Mark" will be conducted and the Laws of the Game shall apply.
 c) For all games, referees may determine that a game is complete at any time after the commencement of the second half, provided no team is at fault for the delay.

11) SUBSTITUTIONS

- a) For all games all age groups shall be permitted unlimited substitutions
 b) Either team may make a substitution with the referee's permission at any stoppage in play

12) UNIFORMS

- a) With the exception of the goalkeeper, each player shall wear differently numbered and similarly designed jerseys.
 b) Goalkeepers must wear colors that differentiate them from the field players.
 c) In cases of dispute over color, socks, or shorts; the referee will decide. The home team shall wear light jerseys and the visiting team shall wear dark jerseys

13) WARNINGS, SENDOFFS, AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- a) A team receiving three red cards (or more) or five yellow cards (or more) in one game may result in the team coach to appear before the OYSAN Board for review and/or sanctions.
 b) The OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson shall hold all pass-cards for suspended participants.
 c) Game suspensions received in "Cup Game(s)" will be served during the next "Cup Game(s)." "Cup Game(s)" refer to Preliminary, Semifinal, and Final games of the OYSAN Bothwell Cup.
 d) The OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson will decide on the length of suspensions.
 e) Minimum Disciplinary Sanctions:
 i) Player, Coach, or Team Official Striking an Official: will be suspended immediately, pending a separate OYSAN disciplinary hearing.
 ii) Player, Coach, or Team Official Ejection for Foul & Abusive Language: Minimum one game suspension (Number of games to be determined by the tournament director.)
 iii) Player Ejection for Violent Conduct or Serious Foul Play: Minimum one game suspension (Number of games to be determined by the tournament director.)
 iv) Player Fighting: Minimum two game suspension. (Number of games to be determined by the tournament director.)
 v) Coach Threats: Minimum one game suspension. (Number of games to be determined by the tournament director.)

- vi) Coach Fighting: Minimum one game suspension. (Number of games to be determined by the tournament director.)
- vii) Player, Coach, or Team Official Ejection for Accumulation of Two Yellow Cards: Minimum one game suspension (Number of games to be determined by the tournament director.)
- f) If considered serious enough, a player, coach, or team official may face additional sanctions for other offenses as determined by the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson and/or by the Bothwell Cup Chairperson Designee.

14) SPECTATOR & COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) Coaches are responsible for the spectators that accompany his or her team.
- b) Spectators will occupy the side of the field opposite the side the teams are located.
- c) If it becomes evident that the spectator(s) become unruly and cannot be controlled, the field sidelines will be cleared of all spectators. If the spectators refuse to leave the field of play, the game will be suspended and perhaps forfeited upon an investigation by the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson.
- d) If a game must be replayed because of a spectator's behavior, no spectators will be allowed at the game site of the replayed game.
- e) Coaches should advise their team's spectators of the \$1,000 fine OYSAN may levy against a team as a result of unacceptable spectator behavior or referee abuse.

15) FIELD OF PLAY

- a) Teams will report to the "field of play" at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start of game.
- b) Both teams are to be seated on the same side of the field.
- c) All team personnel who are not players must have a VALID Soccer Pass and be listed on the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Game Report. All team personnel without a VALID Soccer Pass shall remain on the spectator side
- d) All players must have VALID passes at each and every game they participate in. Players or Teams that do not have their passes prior to the start of a match must receive the Bothwell Tournament Cup Committee's approval prior to playing in any match.
- e) On occasion, the Bothwell Cup Committee may move teams from one location to another or from one field to another to accommodate changes in schedules, because fields have (or will be closed) or in an effort not to damage fields.

16) FIELD STATUS

- a. Field status/playability is determined by the Host organization and the Bothwell Cup Chairperson.
- b. Prior to any decision to close fields, the host organization must consult with the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson. The Field Status determination is final.
- c. If the host organization approves the field for play, games may be cancelled and/or the fields may be closed at a later time if the host organization, the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson deems the conditions to have changed.
- d. The Referee and OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson may suspend games when he/she considers the field unsafe or unplayable.
- e. In the event of inclement weather, everything possible will be done to provide games to teams that traveled a significant distance. However, games cannot and will not be guaranteed. There are no refunds for games that could not be played due to inclement weather.
- f. In the event any match is stopped before full time, all players must remain available at the site until a resolution is determined. If the game is stopped during the first half, if time permits, the game will be completed. If time does not permit completion of a game that is not reached half-time, a tie will be declared, the score will be recorded as a 2-2 tie, and each team will receive 1 point towards advancing. If the game is stopped in the second half, the score of the game at that time stands.

17) METHOD OF DETERMINING BRACKET WINNERS & STANDINGS

- a) The standing of teams within a bracket or pool is based upon the number of points earned in the qualifying games. Team points shall be awarded as follows:
 - i) A maximum of three points for a win (including forfeits, but subject to the rule on forfeitures).
 - ii) One point for a tie.
 - iii) Zero points for a loss.
 - iv) The maximum goals OYSAN will record for each team in each game is 4.
 - v) The maximum goal differential shall be 4. (Goals scored less goals allowed with maximum of 4 goal differential.)

18) TIE BREAKERS (IN BRACKETS)

- a) In the event teams are tied on the basis of points earned during bracket or pool games, a team's advancement shall be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria:
 - i) Winner of head to head competition. However, this criterion shall not be used when more than two teams are tied in points for their respective pool.
 - ii) Winner of most games in their respective pool.
 - iii) Goal spread (goals scored minus goals against) with a maximum of four per game.
 - iv) Fewest goals allowed.
 - v) Kicks from the penalty mark.
- b) If more than two teams are tied in points in the pool of play, the sequence shall be followed until one or more teams are eliminated.
- c) Once one or more teams have been eliminated, the remaining teams still tied shall then restart the sequence above until the tie is broken.

19) WILDCARD TEAM SELECTION

- a) For age groups requiring a wild card for Semi-Final play, wild card qualification shall be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria:
 - i) Teams with the most points.
 - ii) Winner of head-to-head competition. However, this criterion shall not be used when more than two teams are tied in points.
 - iii) Goal spread (goals scored minus goals against) with a maximum of four goals per game.
 - iv) Fewest goals allowed.
 - v) Kicks from the penalty mark.
- b) If more than two teams are tied, the sequence shall be followed until one or more teams are eliminated.
- c) Once one or more teams have been eliminated, the remaining teams still tied shall then restart the sequence above until the tie is broken.
- d) Wild card placement shall be at the discretion of the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson.

20) PROTESTS/APPEALS

- a) Any protest must be presented in writing to the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson within one (1) hour of the completion of the game in protest.
- b) All protests must be accompanied with a \$100.00 bond. The protest must include a specific statement acknowledging that the required \$100.00 bond will be submitted to the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson within 24 hours of the protest.
- c) If a protest is upheld, the bond will be returned.

- d) A Referee's judgment shall not be accepted as a basis for protests, however, misapplication of the Laws of the Game may be a valid basis for a protest.
- e) Although a protest may not be entertained by the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson due to the lateness of the filing of the protest, the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson may report any misconduct by any OYSAN player, coach or team, including the use of an ineligible player, during any portion of the OYSAN Bothwell Cup to the OYSAN Board of Directors or a higher authority for their consideration.

21) SPIRIT OF THE GAME

- a) If the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson determines that a particular action by a team or any of its members or spectators is deemed unacceptable for any reason, the team may be disqualified, sanctioned, and/or face forfeiture of one or more games.
- b) The Ohio Youth Soccer Association North (OYSAN), its Board of Directors, staff, employees, volunteers, Bothwell Cup Tournament Committee, Bothwell Cup Tournament Director and/or US Youth Soccer will not be responsible for any expense incurred by any team, club or person if the tournament is cancelled in whole or in part.
- c) By entering this tournament, your team and all participants agree to accept the jurisdiction of the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Tournament Committee and OYSAN. No official, coach, club, league, referee, player, team or their representative(s) may invoke the aid of the Courts of any political or governmental entity with the first exhausting all available remedies within the appropriate affiliated soccer organizations as set forth in these rules, the Constitution and Bylaws of OYSAN and of US Youth Soccer. For violation of this rule, the offending parties shall be subject to the sanctions of suspensions and fines, and shall be liable to OYSAN for all expenses incurred by these Associations and/or their officers as appropriate, in defending each court action, including but not limited to, Court costs, attorney(s) fees and reasonable compensation for all time and expenses.

22) ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL DRUGS

- a) Players and coaches in the OYSAN Bothwell Cup competition are prohibited from consuming alcohol or using illegal drugs.
- b) Players and coaches are also prohibited from using any form of tobacco at the playing site of the OYSAN Bothwell Cup competition. The penalty for violation by player and/or coach may be disqualification from the OYSAN Bothwell Cup competition.

23) ALL DECISIONS BY THE OYSAN BOTHWELL CUP CHAIRPERSON AND/OR THE OYSAN BOTHWELL CUP CHAIRPERSON DESIGNEE ARE FINAL AND SHALL NOT BE THE BASIS OF A PROTEST OR AN APPEAL NOR SHALL ANY SUCH DECISION BE THE BASIS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF A TEAM OR THE REFUND OF A TEAM'S APPLICATION FEE.

24) PROTEST OF OYSAN BOTHWELL CUP TEAM APPLICATION REJECTION

- a) If fines or discipline is involved, a letter will include proper steps to protest a fine or discipline. The Discipline and Appeals committee will hear all appeals.
- b) The protest must be postmarked within three (3) days of notification of rejection with a certificate of mailing to the OYSAN Bothwell Cup Chairperson and all involved parties.
- c) Notification of protesting a rejection will include the following:
 - i) Protest bond of \$300.00 (cash, certified check, or money order made payable to OYSAN).
 - i) A written statement describing the specific grounds for the protest.
 - ii) All information necessary to make a fair and just decision on the protest.

- iii) A clear and concise statement of the relief or action sought by the protesting party.
- iv) Copies of all documents relevant to the appeal.

25) THE OYSAN BOTHWELL CUP COMPETITION RULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE. THE COMMITTEE ALSO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DECIDE ISSUES NOT ADDRESSED OR PROVIDED FOR IN THESE RULES AS NECESSARY.

2011/2012 AGE GROUP ELIGIBILITY CHART:

AGE GROUP	BORN BETWEEN DATES	
UNDER 14/15	8/1/96	7/31/98
UNDER 13	8/1/98	7/31/99
UNDER 12	8/1/99	7/31/00
UNDER 11	8/1/00	7/31/01
UNDER 10	8/1/01	7/31/02
UNDER 9	8/1/02	7/31/03
UNDER 8	8/1/03	7/31/04

DATES TO REMEMBER:

BOTHWELL CUP APPLICATION DEADLINE	SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 AT 4:00 PM
ROSTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	OCTOBER 7, 2011 AT 4:00 PM Send to: OYSAN 3554 Brecksville Road, Suite 100 Richfield, OH 44286 Or, fax to: 330-659-0993
ROSTERS FROZEN	AT CHECK-IN (At least 45 minutes before team's first tournament game.)
PLAY DATES	OCTOBER 21 – 23, 2011
LOCATION	PLAIN TOWNSHIP, DIAMOND SOCCER COMPLEX