**Team Eligibility**
The Colorado Storm Spring Cup shall be open to all teams comprised of properly registered youth players (as defined by the rules of the affiliated organization) in all age groups indicated on the tournament application form, provided the team is in good standing with its youth association.

It shall be the responsibility of each National and State Association to certify the eligibility of its competing teams and to provide such teams with a certified copy of the roster, permission to travel if applicable, birth certificates and proof of insurance. Other Affiliates of US Soccer must provide the above plus copies of birth certificates at initial registration.

**Player Eligibility**
US Youth Soccer Players must be legally registered to US Youth Soccer through their respective State Association in accordance with US Youth Soccer registration requirements. All teams must have US Youth Soccer, or approved organization player passes, or the appropriate National Association pass to participate. Passes must be verified, photo attached, and laminated. Players may not play for more than one team in the tournament.

**Check-In**
At check in, teams are required to show tournament officials:
- Current laminated USYSA player card 2016/17
- State League Roster (2 copies)
- Medical Release (they will be returned to the team rep)
- Travel Papers- Official form from State Association or National Association providing permission to participate and certification of the team roster. (if traveling from outside of Region IV)

- At the field before each game by the Referee. The following will need to be presented before each game:
  - Current laminated USYSA player card, or approved US Soccer Affiliated organization equivalent (i.e. US Club Soccer, AYSO), or the appropriate national organization pass to participate.

In no event will a player be allowed to participate who has not been certified by the Colorado Storm Spring Cup Tournament Credentials Committee. A player who arrives late at the playing field after the pre-game credential checks may enter the game once the game official(s) verify the player is eligible and with the permission of the center referee.

**Games**
The first team listed is considered the home team and will need to change uniforms if there is a color conflict. Both teams will be on the same side of the field, spectators will be on the opposite side. A maximum of four (4) coaches/staff members are allowed on the team bench side. The U15-U18 can have twenty two (22) players on their roster but only (18) uniformed players are allowed on the bench (the other (4) players may be on the bench but may not be in uniform). All coaches/staff members and players must be registered with their home association and have a valid pass. It is the responsibility of the coach to make sure their spectators or fans are not on the team side of the field. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their team and supporters.

**Laws of the Game**
All games shall be in accordance with the FIFA "Laws of the Game", except as modified below.
The Ball U9-U12, size #4
Number of Players U9-U10 - Seven (7) per side
Number of Players U11-U12 – Nine (9) per side

**Substitution**
With the referee's permission, a team may substitute or re-substitute any number of players at the following stoppages:
  a. Prior to a throw-in, only by the team throwing in.
  b. Prior to a throw-in, by the non-throwing team, if the throwing team is substituting player(s).
  c. Prior to a goal-kick, by either team.
  d. After a goal, by either team.
  e. After an injury when the referee has stopped play, by either team.
  f. Between periods, by either team

With the referee's permission, a team may substitute for a cautioned player at the time of the caution.

**Player’s Equipment**
Player equipment must conform to FIFA rules. All players will wear shin-guards (under the socks). Teams will wear uniforms of matching design and color with numbers affixed to the back of the uniform shirt. No two players may have identical uniform numbers.
In case of similar team colors, the designated home team will be required to change to a color accepted by the referee.
The uniform of the goalkeeper must be distinctly different in color from the basic colors of the competing teams.

**The Referee**
Referees are required to submit a completed official USSF game report to the Site Director containing any information relating to any game incidents involving players/coach, spectator misconduct, or injuries.

**The Duration of all Matches**
Under 9 – Under 10 will play a 50 minute game with a 5 minute half time.
Under 11 – 12 will play a 60 minute game with a 5 minute half time.

**Playoffs: There is no overtime periods, in case of a tie, kicks from the mark will be done to determine the winner.**

**Post Game Procedures**
Manager/coach of both teams will ensure their respective sideline areas are clean and that all trash is in a container. The Referee will return all player passes and rosters to the coaches of the participating teams at the end of the match with the exception of any
players or coaches sent off. A completed game report will be submitted to the tournament director complete with supplemental report for any send offs, injuries or special circumstances that need explanation.

**Schedule**

All teams are guaranteed at least three games (weather permitting). Bracket size for each age group will determine format for semi-finals and finals where applicable. Single age brackets will be used where possible. The tournament committee will determine brackets.

- 4 team bracket – round robin with highest point team as champion
- 5 team bracket – round robin with highest point team as champion
- 6 team bracket – Two 3 team groups with consolation and championship games

**Determination of Group Winners**

In group play, there will be no overtime games. Standings in a group will be determined by:

- Game Points:
  - Win: 3 points
  - Tie: 1 point
  - Loss: 0 points
  - Goals: 1 point per goal (maximum 3 point per game)
  - Shut out: 1 point

In the event that two or more teams are tied in points at the end of the preliminary games, the following tie breakers shall be applied in the order given until a winner is determined:

1. Head to Head (if all teams played each other)
2. Goal Differential
3. Goals For
4. FIFA kicks from the mark

* In case of three teams tied with same points, when one team is determined as 1st place team, the tie breaker will start with Head to Head and so on.

**Forfeits**

Games should start at the given start time, there will be a maximum of five (5) minutes grace period before awarding the game to the opponent. A forfeit will be scored 3-0.

**Discipline**

It shall be solely the team’s responsibility to determine the status of its players. Any suspension from a tournament, local league, etc. is the responsibility of the team to notify the Tournament Director of this suspension at the time of the player’s check in.

- Red Card: Expulsion from current game and suspension for the next game. Committee reserves the right to impose a stricter penalty for fighting, foul language or any other major infraction. Any coach red carded will receive the player penalty for the same offense.
- Yellow Card: Any player receiving 2 yellow cards in one game will sit out the remainder of the game and the next game.

**Terminated Game**

Games terminated for other than inclement weather, i.e. violent or uncontrollable situations will not be replayed. The decision as to the score of such games and whether teams advance will be made by the Tournament Director after receiving reports from game officials. The decision of the Director will be final and is binding on all parties. Further disciplinary actions may be taken.

**Protests**

There will be NO PROTESTS. All disputes will be resolved immediately by Tournament Director. These decisions will be final.

**External Conditions, Weather, Etc.**

Regardless of weather conditions (unless for safety reasons), players and coaches must be on the field at the scheduled time, ready to play. The Tournament Director may reduce the length of matches due to weather conditions before the start of a match; all such matches will be considered official. The Tournament Director may also reschedule (time and location) a match before it begins. Only referees or Site Director can suspend a match already started due to weather conditions.

**Awards**

First and Second place medals will be presented at the conclusion of the final game of each bracket.

**General**

The COLORADO STORM Spring Cup, the Tournament Committee, Colorado Youth Soccer and/or the host affiliate will not be responsible for any expense incurred by any team due to the cancellation in part or whole of this tournament.

The tournament committee’s interpretation of the foregoing rules and regulation shall be final and reserves the right to decide on all tournament matters.

If not enough teams are realized within a specific age bracket, the Tournament Director shall notify the participants as soon as possible and the participants given the option to play up (if room is available) or to receive a full refund.

The tournament committee has the responsibility to uphold any previous suspension imposed by Colorado Youth Soccer, US Youth Soccer and/or affiliates of US Soccer; Colorado Storm Classic and/or Colorado Storm are not responsible for the behavior of players, coaches, and spectators off the field, or damages resulting from such behavior. Coaches and players committing breaches of the law may be ejected from the tournament at the discretion of the tournament committee.

Any situation not covered in the above rules will be resolved by the tournament director or their designated representative.