

## **Florida State Soccer Association** **National Cup Information and Policies 2009**

### **Application deadlines** (for all cups except U23):

#### Amateur/Open Cup deadlines:

Open and Amateur Cup qualifier entries due in FSSA office	February 13, 2009
Games played in Florida	March/April
State Winners Declared	April 27, 2009
Rosters due and frozen for Region III tournament	May 4, 2009
Deadline for all players to be rostered	May 12, 2009
Region III coaches meeting and schedule draw, Orange Park, FL	May 21, 2009 (Thursday)
Men's Region III competition, Orange Park, FL	May 22-25, 2009
Women's Cup Regional Championship, Orange Park, FL	May 23-24, 2009
USASA National Cup Finals, Orlando, FL	July 24-26, 2009

### **Entry fees**

	<b>Qualifier fees Due 2/13/09</b>	<b>Additional USASA Fees due at quarter/semi finals level</b>
Men's Amateur and O30 Cup	\$100 entry + \$200 bond	\$150 entry
Women's Cup	\$100 entry + \$200 bond	\$150 entry
Men's Open Cup	\$100 entry + \$200 bond	\$200 entry

State champions will pay an additional \$300 travel bond to participate at the Regional tournament (total bond for regional tournament is \$500).

### **All competitions – READ CAREFULLY – TOURNAMENT FORMAT HAS CHANGED**

#### **1) Tournament format**

Within Florida teams will participate in a national cup qualifier tournament to get to the quarter-finals or semi-finals depending on the number of teams in the cup. The fee to participate in the qualifier is \$100 entry fee plus a \$200 performance bond. Each team is guaranteed two games. Games may start March 1 depending on the number of teams in a cup.

Once a team has progressed to the quarter finals or semi finals (depending on cup) that team will immediately complete a USASA National Cups entry form and will pay the additional entry fee USASA national cups.

In each round of play competitors will play twice – a home game for each team – to determine the winner to move to the next round. Aggregate scoring will determine the winner of each round.

Aggregate scoring: Home goals count one point, away goals count two points. The first game of the two game round can result in a tie. In the second game, if the aggregate score for the round is tied at the end of regulation time, there will be two (2) complete overtime periods of 10 minutes each. If the aggregate score remains tied at the end of overtime, the winner will be determined by Kicks from the Penalty Mark as prescribed by FIFA. PKs count one point each.

## 2) Rules

All games will follow the USASA National Cup rules - read the National Cup rules before applying to participate in the cup ([www.fssa.org](http://www.fssa.org) then go to National Cups).

## 3) Game dates

**First games may be March 1, 2009** – draw will be conducted 2/14/09 - you will be notified by email immediately following the draw of the date of your first game. Beginning game dates will be determined by the number of teams in a cup. If you enter the national cup qualifier you must be prepared to begin play on March 1.

The default time for all games is 1:00pm on the game date specified on the draw unless both managers agree in writing to an alternate time. If the home team's field is not available at 1:00pm on the game date then the home team may choose another field in their area or we will schedule the game at the opponent's home field.

## 4) Player and team eligibility

See the USASA National Cup rules – this is VERY IMPORTANT as teams and players who do not meet the requirements will not be allowed to participate. Players must have international clearance (if required) to participate in games – any teams entering the national cup qualifier should request international clearances immediately as it can take up to 30 days to receive a clearance. (see further details below).

### **Player eligibility: This is a BIG deal so read carefully**

All players must have current season FSSA player passes and be registered correctly according to USSF rules. Players must have passes that show the correct name of the team. Each team must be registered to an FSSA affiliated league of at least 4 teams who are playing a regular season.

Pro players (not allowed in amateur cup) must be registered on pro registration forms and approved by USSF. Pro players can be reinstated to amateur status using the USSF Amateur Reinstatement Form (available at [www.fssa.org](http://www.fssa.org)). Allow at least 2 weeks for processing of pro registration and reinstatement.

**International Clearance – request these immediately upon entering qualifier:** Any player who comes to the US on or after the player is 12 years of age must request and receive an international clearance from USSF. If a player has played outside the USA at any time his/her international clearance may have been sent to the other country and need to be requested. Players arriving in the US before age 12 must have proof of such or must request an international clearance.

It can take up 30 days to receive an international clearance. **If you even suspect a player fits into one of these categories have them complete an international clearance request** and turn it into USSF at least 32 days prior to your first national cup game. It's free - apply NOW if you are even considering entering the national cup and any of your players need it or you even think they might need it. If even one player on your team plays one game in the competition and is not properly registered or have an international clearance your team will be eliminated from the tournament. This has happened to at least one Florida team each year for the past 3 years – don't let it happen to you!! The form is available at [www.fssa.org](http://www.fssa.org) under national cups.

## **5) Rosters**

A copy of your team roster is required to be in the FSSA office a minimum of 10 days prior to each game.

## **6) Travel**

There will be no neutral site games – this is a travel tournament so be prepared to travel. The regional tournament is a round robin format in the Jacksonville area the end of May. The USASA finals are single elimination in the Orlando area the end of July. The FSSA web site will be updated after each round ([www.fssa.org](http://www.fssa.org)).

## **7) Referee Fees**

Referee fees for national cup games are \$60 center and \$35 for each assistant. Referee fees will be split between the teams and are payable in cash prior to the start of the game. At cup final games we will likely have a 4<sup>th</sup> official who will also receive \$35 (also to be split between the teams). Referees for all national cup games are assigned by the State Referee Administrator.

## **Men's Open Cup**

Florida can send two men's teams to the regional tournament for the US Open Cup. The Florida Open Cup Champion will be listed as team A for the purposes of the Region Cup draw, the Florida Open Cup finalist will be listed as team B for the regional draw. Regional Champions will go to the USASA National Cup finals and begin their participation in the US Open Cup regional rounds of play.

## **Women's Cup**

Florida can send two teams for the women's cup to the regional tournament. The Florida Women's Cup Champion will be listed as team A for the purposes of the Region Cup draw, the Florida Women's Cup finalist will be listed as team B for the regional draw.

Information and forms can be found at [www.fssa.org](http://www.fssa.org), [www.usasa.com](http://www.usasa.com) and [www.region3adultsoccer.org](http://www.region3adultsoccer.org).

If you have questions contact: Jennifer Weston, 2108 S. Cortez Avenue, Tampa, FL 33629  
Phone: 813-251-6483, Fax: 813-254-2283, [jenweston@verizon.net](mailto:jenweston@verizon.net)

## FSSA National Cup Qualifier Entry Form

**Competition format has changed – all teams will play a minimum 2 games, one home, one away!**  
**Read the National Cup Rules and FSSA Policies before you complete this application.**

Application deadline: February 13, 2009  
No applications will be accepted after this date!

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

League: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Cup Competition – please circle one (see attached sheet for descriptions)

Men's Amateur Cup	\$100 entry + \$200 bond	<i>Men Amateur Status players only</i>
Men's O30 Cup	\$100 entry + \$200 bond	
Women's Cup	\$100 entry + \$200 bond	<i>Open to Women Pro &amp; Amateur status players</i>
Men's Open Cup	\$100 entry + \$200 bond	<i>Qualifies Teams for the US Open Cup</i>

**\$200 Performance Bond must be included with application or application will not be accepted.**

Team Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email (**required**): \_\_\_\_\_

Uniform Colors      Shirt: \_\_\_\_\_ Shorts: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Field: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a cashier's check/money order in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (include application fee and performance bond. Make check payable to **FSSA** (personal checks not accepted).

**Changes have been made to the National Cup policies/rules/tournament format. Your signature below indicates you have read the National Cup Rules and FSSA Policies 2009.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Team Manager*

**Return to:** Jennifer Weston, 2108 S. Cortez Avenue, Tampa, FL 33629  
Phone: (813) 251-6483 Fax: (813) 254-2283  
Website: [www.fssa.org](http://www.fssa.org) Email: [jenweston@verizon.net](mailto:jenweston@verizon.net)