



Defender's Cup Varsity Soccer By-Laws – 2021 Hosted by Joint Base San Antonio - Lackland

- 1. Purpose:** To establish rules and guidelines for conducting the 2021 Defender's Cup Varsity National Military Soccer Tournament, 3 - 6 Sep 21. It is open to all base/post level teams. The following criteria are required to participate.
- 2. Eligibility:** Active Duty and their dependents, Reserve/National Guard, DoD civilians, personnel on TDY (30 days or more), DoD contractors, Veterans/Retirees with a valid ID or DD214. Exception – if you PCS and have a report NLT prior to the tournament start date, but not earlier than 1 August 2021, you may play for your previous location if they field a team; and if the coach of your gaining base/post, assuming they are in the tournament, releases you.
 - A.** All players must possess a valid DoD ID card, Veterans ID, or a valid DD214.
 - B.** Teams must consist of 75% AD assigned to the respective base/post, or in case of a Joint-Base/Post to one of the joint bases/posts for that locale. Joint Bases may field a team only if the bases that make up the Joint Base do not field a team individually. If there is base/post military to civilian ratio team issue, please call or email with explanation.
 - C.** All players must be at least 18 years of age. All teams must have a minimum of 14 players to play/register in tournament.
 - D.** AD, Guard, and Reserve players will be required to furnish valid DoD ID card to **verify** eligibility.
 - E.** Dependents and retirees will be required to furnish valid DoD ID card to **verify** eligibility. Veterans will be required to furnish valid DD214 or a Veterans ID card to verify eligibility.
 - F.** AD, Guard, and Reserve players must include the unit of assignment to **verify** eligibility (on roster).
 - G.** Any veteran with a valid DD214 is eligible to play.
 - H.** Any player that is in a 50-mile radius of a base will not be considered a guest player.
 - I.** By exception, and only by approval of the Tournament Committee, no more than two contractors may play on any team; and only if there are no other AD, Guard, Reserve, Dependents, Retirees, or DoD civilians that are willing and/or able to play; as certified by the base Athletic Director and the team coach as affirmed by their signatures on the team roster. Cutting locally assigned players to make roster room for contract players will result in the offending team's disqualification.

- J. All coaches must attend Coaches Meeting at the Enlisted Club on Lackland AFB on Thursday, 2 September 2021, at 7PM, or send a team rep in their place. If unavailable to be there, please inform Tournament Director before the coaches' meeting.
 - K. One team may be formed of Over-30 players. This team must be made of players that still follow by-laws in eligibility to play. Players may be from any base/post in tournament as long as base/post is not in need of player.
 - L. **All players must sign the Tournament Liability Waiver and turn it in to the Cup officials before the coaches meeting or before first game. If no waiver is turned then individuals will be ineligible to play.**
3. **Rules:** The Federation International Football Association (FIFA) will govern tournament play except where modified by these by-laws.
4. **Format:**
- a. Group Play to seed teams (World Cup Style).
 - i. No over-time.
 - ii. 30-minute halves.
 - iii. 5-minute halftime on Friday only; 10-minute halftime for the rest of the tournament.
 - iv. Unlimited substitutions, when you possess the ball (i.e. throw-ins, goal kicks), official's approval required to enter field. .
 - b. Subsequent Elimination Rounds.
 - i. 30 minutes halves except for semi-finals and finals, no overtime straight to penalty kicks, 10-minute halftime.
 - ii. Semi-finals and finals will be 45-minute halves, no overtime straight to penalty kicks, 10-minute halftime.
 - iii. Third place game will be played by penalty kicks.
 - iv. Unlimited substitutions, when you possess the ball during your throw-ins or your corner kicks. If both teams are lined up at the half-way line, and the team in possession wishes to sub, the other team is allowed to sub at that time. For both teams, subs also occur during goal kicks or after a goal has been scored. Wait to get permission to enter the field, indicated by the referee waving to the sub(s) to enter the field.
 - c. All teams are guaranteed 4 games.
5. **Entry Fee/Registration:** \$600.00. All teams must pay entry fee first before they register for the tournament. **Deadline** by 6 August 2021, to secure spot in tournament must have entry fee paid and registered on Tournament website. **Please note that \$200 of entry fee is non-refundable.**
- Payment will be accepted via:
- A. Government Card
 - B. NAF Disbursement Check, Individual Credit Card
 - C. The tournament is limited to the first 40 teams paid. Teams will be accepted in the order of date and time received.
6. **Rosters/Uniforms:** The coach is responsible for insuring rosters are accurate.

- A. Rosters must be submitted no later than 27 Aug 2021. (Address any questions prior to submitting)
- B. Teams may consist of up to 22 rostered players. All 22 players can be active and listed on the game card for each game.
- C. **Up to 3 guest players will be allowed!!!!**
- D. Any team may augment their roster with **4 players** in “Veteran/Retiree” status with a valid ID or DD214.
- E. A team **will not** be formed by combining installations. Exceptions will be only for bases/posts co-located where single MWR funding is utilized for both bases/posts; and for smaller size bases/posts or as otherwise stated/approved by Cup officials or otherwise approved by the Cup officials. Joint Bases may field a team only if the bases that make up the Joint Base do not field a team individually.
- F. Coaches must annotate the colors of jerseys. Each team is required to have two distinctive colors. Goalies must have two distinct colored shirts different from their team’s two colors. Home team, as indicated on the schedule, must change if there is a jersey conflict.
- G. Teams must wear socks of the same color. Color of any tape utilized on socks must be the same color of the socks.
- H. **ALL ACTIVE PLAYERS NOT ON THE FIELD OF PLAY WILL WEAR PENNIES THAT ARE A CONTRASTING COLOR TO THE JERSEY. THE PENNY WILL BE REMOVED ONCE THE PLAYER REPORTS TO THE SIDE OFFICIAL AND IS AT THE MIDFIELD MARKER. THE EXITING PLAYER MUST DON A PENNY IMMEDIATELY UPON LEAVING THE FIELD. TEAMS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING THEIR OWN PENNIES.**
- I. Game cards for each game will be handed out at coaches meeting. Coaches must complete the card with jersey numbers and submit to the officiating crew a minimum of 30 minutes before the start of each game. Two players on the same team cannot have the same number.
- J. Prior to the start of the first game, the coaches will validate each player’s DoD ID against the game card, which will be validated against the teams approved roster. All players must be dressed, at the field, and have their IDs available for validation at least 30 minutes before game time. If a player is not ready at game time, he or she will not be available to play in the match until the opposing coach can validate their ID at halftime.
- K. Any roster waivers must be asked for and approved by the Tournament Director no later than Friday, 27 Aug 2021, with the exception for a last-minute injury or player unavailability. **Roster waivers can only be asked for to exceed contractor and veteran limit.**

7. Player’s Pool:

- A. Established from individual players without a base/post team.

B. Entry fee will be \$50 due by 27 August 2021. Please note that if a player is picked up by a team and is not played, then that team will not be permitted to request players from the Player's Pool the following year or the next time that team is in this tournament.

C. Players can request to be in player's pool NLT 27 August 2021. On 30 Aug 21, there will be a "live" player pool draw for respective teams on the Tournament Facebook page.

D. Teams may **NOT** request individual(s) from the players' pool. Teams can request positions.

E. Order of selection will be based on number of players placed on the official team roster; lowest number first. This is an attempt to equalize each team's number of players. If player numbers are equal, then it will be based on standings from last year's tournament, lower ranking teams go first. **Teams that did not participate in last year's tournament will select last.**

F. **Any team that picks up a player from the player's pool will have to ensure that the player(s) plays a minimum 10 minutes per half. Pool player will be asked at the end of the tournament how many minutes they played. If player plays less than minimum time, then team will not be allowed to receive any players from players' pool for the next 2 years that the base is involved in this tournament.**

8. Forfeits: In the event a team forfeits a game for any reason, the team is disqualified from the tournament.

9. Scoring: The point system is 3 for a win, 1 for a tie, 0 for a loss. In case of any tie, the tie-breaker will be determined in the following order:

1. Head-to-head
2. Goal differential
3. Most goals scored
4. Goals against
5. Flip of the coin toss

If three teams are tied, the tie-breaker will be determined in the following order:

1. Goal differential first
2. Most goals scored
3. Goals against
4. Flip of the coin toss

If three teams are tied at the moment and one team is eliminated, then the tie-breaker reverts back to head-to-head defined in the 1st part of this paragraph.

A forfeit win in any situation is a 2-0 win, or a decision by the tournament director under special circumstances.

10. Conduct:

- A.** Coaches / team captains are responsible for the conduct of their players and fans before, during, and after the match. Player/fans involved in any altercation with referees, opposing players or coaches, or their teammates will not be allowed to attend the remainder of the tournament without prior approval from tournament director and/or JBSA-Lackland Chief Fitness and Sports if they are asked to leave.

- B. Ejected players are required to depart the confines of the field and will be suspended for the following match. Ejected athlete has 2 minutes to completely disappear; if not, then that team will forfeit (out-of-site, out-of-mind).
- C. **Anyone striking or threatening an official or player will be banned from further competition.**
- D. Coaches/team captains are the only people that are allowed to talk with the referee during a game.
- E. **All family, friends, fans, and non-suited players (if applicable) will sit on the opposite side of the field of the teams when the game is playing. This rule will be strictly enforced and no exceptions will be authorized.**
- F. After the final whistle of each game, teams must expedite their departure from the field prior to the next scheduled game in order to accommodate incoming teams/players. Friday games, vacate within 3 minutes after final whistle. Friday's schedule is very tight.

11. Yellow/Red Cards:

- A. Yellow cards will carry over into the next game during pool play. All yellow cards will be wiped out for the beginning of the elimination rounds. Yellow cards will carry over from game to game during the elimination rounds and are then wiped out again for the Semi-finals and Finals. Note: Two yellow cards in a round = one red card and a one game suspension.
- B. If an individual receives a red card, they will not be allowed to play the next game during pool play, elimination round, Semi-Finals and Finals. If a red card was received on the last game of pool play, then the player will not be allowed to play in the first game in the elimination round. If a red card is received on the last game of the elimination round, that player will not be allowed to play in the Semi-Finals.

12. Protest:

- A. Can only be made for player eligibility.
- B. Must be filed no later than the end of the game in which it occurred.
- C. Tournament Director(s) will make the determination prior to the next game.
- D. Violations of player eligibility will result in team expulsion from the tournament and follow-up with the sponsoring base Command. The entry fee will be forfeited as well.

13. Safety:

- A. **Blood Rule:** Players must be substituted for until the injury is covered with an appropriate bandage or outer garment. If there are no visible signs of blood, the individual may re-enter the match with the referee's permission. Clothing with blood stains must be replaced. Bring a couple of extra jerseys and shorts, just in case.
- B. **Injuries/Emergency Medical Treatment:** The coach / team captain will assess the situation and notify the tournament director of the nature of the injury. EMS will be requested when deemed necessary and player re-entry, if sent to the hospital, will require medical approval; therefore, a signed letter from a doctor, nurse or physician assistant. **All players must make hydration a huge factor while they are at the tourney.**

14. Lodging: Each team is responsible for obtaining their own lodging. If a host hotel is identified, then that information will be provided to all teams under separate cover.

15. Information: For clarification of rules or by-laws, contact the Tournament Director, Fred Koeller at (573) 979-0428 (cell) or by email at dcupnatlmilitarysoccer@gmail.com; or Gilbert Cornejo at (210) 977-2353 or gilbert.cornejo@us.af.mil. For payment/registration questions please call (210) 671-0854.

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