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## EASTERN NEW YORK YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

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The Game for All Kids!

September 22, 2021

League Presidents,

As we start the 21/22 soccer season for the 90,000+ players with the Eastern NY territory, ENYISA would like to clarify which Tournaments and Competitions are sanctioned to operate during the ENYISA travel/recreational soccer season.

Today, the US Soccer Federation General Counsel confirmed that "ENYISA has the authority to determine what competitions get played in its territory subject to the U.S. Soccer Bylaws."

The following competitions are permitted by ENYISA to run concurrently with the ENY Travel/Recreation Soccer seasons:

- ENY State CUP
- ENY Challenge Cup
- USYS North Atlantic Conference (managed by EDP)

The following ENYISA Member League & Club Tournaments are permitted during the ENY Travel/Recreation Soccer seasons and listed on the ENYISA website under [EVENTS](#):

### What does it mean for ENYISA to Sanction games?

As the state association for youth soccer, our primary concern is making sure that over 90,000+ youthful soccer players have a safe place to compete during the soccer season. ENYISA works closely with our member leagues, our ENY State Referee Association and Assignors to ensure that our players and fields are safe, insured and that we have certified referees for our regular league matches within ENY.

ENYISA has a long-held policy of not sanctioning tournaments during the season that would conflict with league play. A primary purpose for this policy is to ensure that regular league matches are not compromised.

Currently, our referee numbers are down roughly 40% from two years ago, according to the ENY State Referee Administrator (SRA). The SRA also indicated that additional tournaments running concurrently during the ENYISA season would cause undue stress on an already over stressed referee community. This would impact ENYISA's ability to ensure that all league matches would have a certified referee and impact member league play.



Due to multiple factors, it means not every competition/tournament can be sanctioned to operate within the ENY region during the ENY soccer season.

**What does participating in a non-sanctioned event mean to a club or team?**

1. Non-sanctioned tournament games will not be recognized by ENYSA
2. Assignors will be notified that these matches are not sanctioned
3. Referees that choose to work non-sanctioned games do so at their own risk
4. Certificates of Insurance issued through ENYSA used to obtain field permits do not apply and therefore, the field permits do not apply. Teams that chose to play in non-sanctioned tournaments without getting new field permits jeopardize their existing COI and permits
5. Teams and clubs that choose to participate, do so at their own risk.

Unfortunately, a tournament called the “EDP League Cup” has been scheduled to run in the ENY territory concurrently with our ENY League Travel/Recreation programs, the ENY State Cup and ENY Challenge Cup. The format for this tournament involves games on multiple weekends during the 21/22 ENY Soccer season with games to be played throughout Eastern NY at the home team’s field competing for the same limited resources.

While this tournament indicates that it is sanctioned by NJ Youth Soccer, as confirmed by the USSF General Counsel, NJ cannot sanction competitions held within ENY. Therefore, ENYSA is not sanctioning the EDP League Cup and the ENY SRA has been notified confirming that these games are not sanctioned by ENYSA.

If you have any questions, please free to call the State Office at 516-766-0849.

Thank you,



Richard Christiano  
President

