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Dear 2024 Midwest Regional Championships Team:

On behalf of US Youth Soccer, congratulations on qualifying for the 2024 Midwest Regional Championships! This is a tremendous accomplishment toward your goal of advancing to the 2024 US Youth Soccer National Championships in Orlando, Florida, and competing for a National Championship.

Work to host this event began several years ago. I have been working with the Local Organizing Committee in Kansas to help ensure an amazing experience for you in Overland Park and Olathe. The 20 turf fields at the two complexes (Garmin Olathe Soccer Complex in Olathe and Scheels Soccer Complex in Overland Park) are beautiful and ready for action in just a few short weeks. We are grateful for all the efforts of the Kansas Youth Soccer Association, as well as Visit Overland Park and the Olathe Convention and Visitors Bureau to help make this event possible!

Included in this team information guide are a variety of items to help prepare you for your upcoming trip to Kansas. In addition, for the latest information, please visit our website as schedule updates and other event-specific announcements may be posted at any time at: www.usyouthsoccer.org/midwest/midwest-regional-championships

Should you have any additional questions not answered in this team information guide or on our website, the first person to contact would be your State Association Representative. He or she should have identified himself or herself to you at your State Cup, in a packet, or via email for those teams qualifying through the National League's Midwest Conference or Great Lakes Conference.

I look forward to seeing you in Kansas in a few short weeks!

Sincerely,

Jonathan Meersman

Jonathan Meersman US Youth Soccer Midwest NCS Program Manager





### **PRESENTED BY**



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#### Important Event Information

#### **EVENT DATES**

- Friday, June 21 Group Play
- Saturday, June 22 Group Play
- Sunday, June 23 Group Play
- Monday, June 24 Day of Rest / TOPSoccer Event
- Tuesday, June 25 Semifinals
- Wednesday, June 26 Finals

#### **GAME SCHEDULE**

The schedule for the 2024 Midwest Regional Championships will be released following the completion of all qualifying conference matches and State Championships and verification of all qualified teams. A simple PDF grid version is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, June 11, at 5:00pm central time. The web-based version will be activated approximately 7-days prior to kickoff (after it is built in the GotSport system). Please note that schedule change requests will not be honored, so please plan accordingly.

- For Group Play, the first kickoff will be scheduled for 8:00am with matches scheduled to end by 6:00pm.
- For Semifinals, the first kickoff will be scheduled for 8:00am with matches scheduled to end by 3:00pm.
- For Finals, the first kickoff will be scheduled for 8:00am with matches scheduled to end by 1:00pm.

#### COMPLEXES

Games will be played on the 20 lighted and artificial turf fields at the Garmin Olathe Soccer Complex in Olathe and the Scheels Soccer Complex in Overland Park. Field maps are located at the end of this document.

- 13U, 14U, and 15U age groups (boys and girls) will play Group Play matches at the Garmin Olathe Soccer Complex in Olathe, KS (10541 S Warwick St, Olathe, KS 66061)
- 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U, and 19U (boys and girls) age groups will play Group Play matches at the Scheels Soccer Complex in Overland Park, KS (13700 Switzer Rd, Overland Park, KS 66221)

#### HOTELS

This is a Stay to Play event. Traveling Teams is our housing provider. Teams must utilize the hotel blocks provided. Your State Association, or league manager in the case of conference representatives, has already selected your hotel. You will be receiving information from them regarding your selected property. Please use the link provided to book your rooms. Do not contact the hotels directly.

Traveling Teams will work with each team on a reasonable cutoff date to allow the team enough time to make reservations however any teams that qualify and do not start booking until after June 1st may be required to book within 48 hours due to time constraints with the hotels. Time is of the essence. There are many other events in the area at the same time and hotels may not hold rooms, or they may not honor the block rates if you miss the deadline. Kansas City area hotels are unable to book for six nights (given that 75% of the teams will not advance). You will initially book rooms for the first three days of group play and then check-out of your hotel on Sunday, June 23. Traveling Teams will be on site at the <u>Scheels Soccer Complex in Overland Park</u> on Sunday, June 23, to assist those teams who advance to semifinals in booking new blocks.

Teams who fail to utilize the selected rooms shall be subject to a fine of \$1,000 per team not using said rooms. Those teams may also lose eligibility to participate in the competition.



#### REGISTRATION

Team registration takes place in advance through GotSport prior to arrival in Kansas. There will be NO on-site team registration, other than the check-in conducted by the referees prior to each game.

#### **REGISTER & ROSTERS**

We will be using GotSport as our event management system. Teams will receive information from your State Association on how to register for the event and build your roster for approval prior to the deadline provided by your state association. Please work with your State Rep. Attention to details and deadlines will be critical. We ask that teams enter their uniform color information in GotSport to help prevent color conflicts and to aid in referee match preparation. Please ensure that there are phone numbers for each team representative (managers and coaches) in case we need to reach you.

#### SEVERE WEATHER INFORMATION

The Midwest Regional Championships staff and complex staff will be constantly monitoring weather conditions using multiple sources. They will be in constant contact if severe weather is approaching. Should it be deemed necessary to suspend games due to severe weather, it will be announced using warning horns and/or sirens. Do not seek shelter in the pavilion areas as these areas are NOT SAFE from lightning. There is simply not enough room in any structures... all must go to their cars and wait out the storm until the "all clear" is given. At that point players, coaches, referees, and fans may return to the fields. Schedule updates and other event specific announcements may also occur during a weather delay or at any time at: www.usyouthsoccer.org/midwest/midwest-regional-championships

#### WEATHER & OTHER CRITICAL ALERTS

We have created a WhatsApp Community called "2024 USYS Midwest Regional Championships" to be used for timely distribution of critical alerts at the event, including weather delays. This will be an announcement only group – not for 2-way communication. You must have the WhatsApp app installed on your device prior to joining the group. Please sign up now – do not wait until the first crack of lightning to attempt to sign up. At least one representative from each team should subscribe at: https://tinyurl.com/2024MWNCS

Please note that this is for team representatives (managers and or coaches) and not for every family on your team – you should continue to use the team communication method you would normally use.

#### US YOUTH SOCCER CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

Please be advised that after a player receives a completed US Youth Soccer Concussion Form due to displaying signs and symptoms of a concussion, that player may not return to play until a signed clearance form from a medical doctor or doctor of osteopath who specializes in concussion treatment and management has been received. Please refer to the form for further details. The form is available on our web site, listed above. *For clarification, whether an M.D. or D.O., the physician must specialize in concussion treatment and management.* 

The clearance must be on a document from the medical doctor's office stating that the player has been cleared to return to play and is clear of symptoms. The document must be signed by the official.

If a player is cleared during the event, please notify your **State Rep** and bring the signed clearance to the event headquarters. If a player is cleared post-event, please contact the US Youth Soccer National Office at 972-334-9300.

Note that the ATCs contracted for this event are considered primary and any team ATCs are secondary.



#### MEMBER PASSES AND BENCH PASS CREDENTIALS

Each player and team official listed on a team roster must have a valid physical US Youth Soccer member pass at the competition. The US Youth Soccer member pass must carry a current photograph of the player or team official. All member passes shall be laminated (or machine produced). Teams without US Youth Soccer member passes shall not be allowed to participate in the Midwest Regional Championships.

Bench Personnel are **limited to four (4) individuals** (this includes head coaches, assistant coaches, managers, club coaches, trainers, and/or any other team officials) per technical area per game. Each individual must have a valid US Youth Soccer pass and wear a "Bench Pass" credential, visible at all times while in the technical area. Bench Pass credentials are provided by your **State Rep**. Be sure to bring them with you as replacements will not be available from the Midwest Region at the event.

#### UNIFORMS

Each team must have at least two (2) uniform sets (one light color and one dark color).

- The home team (listed first in the schedule) is required to wear their light color jersey.
- The away team (listed second in the schedule) is required to wear their dark color jersey.

If, in the opinion of the referee, there is a jersey color conflict, the team causing the conflict must change. The referee's decision is final. Any failure to comply may result in the team forfeiting the match.

Each player shall have a number on the player's jersey (goalkeeper number is optional). The number shall be affixed to the back of the jersey and shall be clearly visible. Each player on a team must wear a number different from the number of every other player on the team. **No duplicate and/or taped or altered numbers will be allowed.** 

Each team who qualified for the Midwest Regional Championships as a State Champion shall wear the "State Champion" patch presented to them at their state championships on the right sleeve of one (1) set of jerseys.

#### **UNIFORM LOGOS, MARKINGS & SPONSORS**

A player or team official at a game site to participate in a game or associated activity of the competitions may only have on the outerwear of the player or team official a name, logo, or other identifying mark of a youth soccer organization that is US Youth Soccer, a State Association or other member of US Youth Soccer, a member of a State Association, or an organization that is a member of an organization that is a member of a State Association. A name, logo, or other identifying mark of any other youth soccer organization must be removed, replaced, or covered before the player or team official may continue to remain at the game site for the game or associated activity.

If a team chooses to not remove a name, logo, or other identifying mark of any other youth soccer organization, it must be completely covered by a sewn-on patch. American flag patches are perfectly suited for this purpose. **Covering non-conforming patches or logos with tape will not be accepted.** 

Per the US Youth Soccer Policy on Players and Playing Rules Rule 304, Section 2: "A team member is not prohibited by US Youth Soccer from having a mark or name, or both, on any part of the team member's uniform being worn at a game if the mark or name is related to an item or service that is appropriate for youth... Any inappropriate mark or name on a team member's uniform must be removed, replaced, or covered before the team member may continue to participate in the game."

Examples of inappropriate marks or names would be tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, etc. If there is any question about a logo, marking or sponsor, it is strongly suggested that you inquire well in advance of the start of the event in order to avoid an issue at the field.



#### REFEREES

Just as teams earned the right to compete at the Midwest Regional Championships, the referees have also earned their place, based on recommendations and accomplishments from within their state. At this competition, referees compete to earn the honor of attending the National Championships based on their performance. The referees are supported by senior referees, referee coaches, and mentors who contribute to their development by guiding them in post-match reflections. Please refrain from criticizing the officials throughout the competition.

#### **SPECTATORS**

Parents and/or spectators who can reasonably be considered to be affiliated with a team are considered a part of that team, and the actions of those individuals are the responsibility of the credentialed team officials appearing on the roster. No spectators are permitted anywhere behind the goal line or team side of the field during a match. The spectator area is located on the opposite side of the field from the technical/bench area.

Technical instruction from any part of the spectator area, provocative or unsportsmanlike behavior by any spectator may result in 1) their removal from the complex or 2) clearing the sideline and removing all spectators from the match, either from one or both teams. Any spectators asked to leave by law enforcement, security, referee or any other event official must immediately depart the field area and remain out of sight and sound of the match until the teams have departed the field of play and are no longer the responsibility of the referee. Any individuals removed may not return to the field at the end of the match.

#### **PARKING / TRAFFIC**

The local organizing committee is not charging for parking!

#### ANIMALS

Animals are NOT allowed at the complexes (exception: service animals with proper documentation)! No animals are allowed on any artificial turf surface at any facility.

#### **TOBACCO & ALCOHOL**

Please note that BOTH Soccer Complexes are NO-Smoking facilities. Furthermore, alcohol may not be brought into the premises. Please be respectful of those around you. This is for the kids.

#### **HYDRATION**

We will be operating with team-supplied water. Players/teams must bring their own water for their hydration needs. US Youth Soccer will not be providing water jugs/cups in the team bench areas, as seen in previous years. We will have hydration stations that players can use to refill their own bottles.

#### MEDICAL

Medical services will be provided by the local organizing committee. Athletic trainers will be on site along with EMTs. Preventative taping services will be provided for free; however, medical issues and injuries have priority.

#### PRACTICE FIELDS

Practice fields will be available at <u>Scheels Soccer Complex in Overland Park</u>. Half fields will be available in 60-minute time slots on Thursday, June 20, from 2:00pm until 9:00pm. Additional slots will be available on Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00am-12:00pm, for advancing teams (please do not attempt to schedule Monday slots until after you have qualified for semifinals). Times and availability are first come, first serve. Visit our event webpage for a link to sign up:

www.usyouthsoccer.org/midwest/midwest-regional-championships









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## **KANSAS STATE YOUTH SOCCER**

www.kansasyouthsoccer.org

"The purpose of the Kansas Youth Soccer Association is to promote, foster, and perpetuate the game of soccer throughout the State of Kansas."

May 28, 2024

#### 2024 USYS Midwest Regional Championship participants and families:

Kansas State Youth Soccer Association is honored to host the 2024 US Youth Soccer Midwest Championships in Overland Park & Olathe, Kansas! Congratulations to all teams for their success at the State Championships and/or National League!!

All matches for the 2024 USYS Midwest Championships will be hosted at Scheels Overland Park Soccer Complex (13700 Switzer Rd, Overland Park, KS 66221) and the Garmin Olathe Soccer Comple (10541 S Warwick St, Olathe, KS 66061) The Scheels complex features 12 lighted turf fields, free parking, and free Wi-Fi. The Garmin Complex features 9 lighted turf fields and free parking as well. Both Complexes annually host some of the most competitive and highly attended tournaments in the Midwest. We are certain the facilities will match the incredible play on the fields.

Our dedicated staff and team of volunteers are ready to make this the most successful National Championship to-date. Please do not hesitate to ask a staff member or volunteer for assistance or local recommendations.

Hosting multiple USYS Midwest Regional and National events is a tremendous privilege for our State Association, the state of Kansas. While in Overland Park and Olathe, please be sure to take advantage of our wonderful restaurants and attractions. It's only a short drive to downtown Kansas City and don't forget about the BBQ!

Above all, please enjoy your time in Kansas and play hard!

Yours in Soccer,

Joe Burger Executive Director Kansas State Youth Soccer Association

Kansas State Youth Soccer Association 10529 South Warwick St. · Olathe, Kansas 66061 · Telephone (913) 782-6434



June 21, 2024

United States Youth Soccer Association

Dear Coaches, Competitors and Officials:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2024 USYS Midwest Regional Championships in Overland Park, Kansas. On behalf of the entire Visit Overland Park staff as well as the City of Overland Park, our residents and business community, we are so glad to have you here and excited to have you compete on the fields at the Scheels Overland Park Soccer Complex.

We have so much to offer and do in Overland Park. I hope you have a chance to visit and experience all of what Overland Park has to offer including hundreds of restaurants, shops, attractions, galleries, and green spaces.

Congratulations for qualifying for this prestigious tournament. We wish all of you the best of luck! As a former collegiate soccer player, I understand first-hand the hard work it takes and the pride you must feel in getting to this place.

Once again, welcome to Overland Park, and I hope you have an enjoyable and memorable tournament and visit to our community.

Best regards,

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Warren R. Wilkinson President & CEO Visit Overland Park

#### Scheels Soccer Complex - 13700 Switzer Rd, Overland Park, KS 66221

- 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U, and 19U (boys and girls) age groups will play Group Play matches here
- All Semifinal and Final matches will be here



#### Garmin Olathe Soccer Complex - 10541 S Warwick St, Olathe, KS 66061

• 13U, 14U, and 15U age groups (boys and girls) will play Group Play matches here





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*TEAM IP, AS THE US YOUTH SOCCER ONLINE AND ONSITE OFFICIAL MERCHANDISER WILL BE SUPPORTING THE US YOUTH SOCCER SCHEDULE FOR 2023-2024 ALONG WITH ITS OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE WEBSITE AT SHOPUSYS.COM* 



SHOPUSYS.COM I TEAMIP.COM