



## Competition Standard Operating Procedure

**Purpose:** To provide a system of competition which allows for the maintaining of the integrity of competition at all levels, and to establish a means to support the future growth of the sport.

- The member teams are broken out into groups of teams called Conferences.
- Conferences can be no larger than 10 teams.
- There will be two types of conference teams: Conference Cup teams and Non- Conference Cup teams.
- Conference Cup Teams have a 12 sanctioned-game\* requirement to qualify to participate in their assigned Conference Cup, a post-season tournament played by each conference's teams.
- A Non-Conference Cup team may play sanctioned games but has no commitment to a 12 sanctioned-game requirement and there will be no Conference Cup at the end of the season. Sanctioned games between Non-Conference Cup teams and Conference Cup teams in good standing will count towards the Conference Cup team's 12 sanctioned-game requirement.
- Teams must choose to be a Conference Cup or Non-Conference Cup Team at the time of registration.
- The USPSA will collect a Conference Cup deposit from each Conference Cup team. This deposit is not refundable and will be applied to the team's Conference Cup registration fees.
- The Conference Cup deposit will be due at the time of registration
- Any Conference Cup Team not paying their Cup deposit on time will be assessed a late fee to be determined by the Executive Board.

- All Conference Cup teams must play a minimum of 12 sanctioned games prior to April 30 of the current season to be eligible for their Conference Cup.
- Two (2) of the 12 sanctioned games must be with teams in the same conference or any higher conference.
- Any team who plays a game with a non-registered player(s) will forfeit the match and the game(s) will not count towards their required number of games. The opposing team will be allowed to count the games however no stats from the match will be recorded. The match will show as a win 3- Goals will be considered “own goals”.
- A Non-Conference Cup team wishing to move into Conference Cup play must have played at least six (6) sanctioned games in the previous season.
- Conferences Cup may be announced after on time registration has passed.
- The results of the previous years conference cup plus and minus promotions and relegations will be considered in making the Conference assignments.
- The top ten teams will make up the Premier Conference, the next 10 will make up Champions and so on.
- A minimum of 6 teams will be required in a conference to hold a Conference Cup.
- At the end of each season, the bottom two teams from each Conference Cup may be relegated down to the next lower conference.
- At the end of each season, the top two teams from each Conference Cup will move up one Conference, with the exception of the top conference.
- A wait list will be created for all new teams with more than two active players and team splits. The team registration date will be considered to make priority decisions between teams. The Executive Committee will apply their discretion based on the good of the sport and the organization for the ultimate Conference placement of new teams.
- New teams are defined as teams made up of players who have not previously been rostered on a USPSA team. New teams will also include those teams made up of not more than one active/inactive player.
- New teams made up of two or more active/inactive players will not be required to play 6 games in the previous season and **may** be placed in the lowest Conference Cup the first year.
- New teams with one active player or less must play their first year as a Non-Conference team.

- Team splits: one team may remain in the conference and the other team will drop to the lowest Conference Cup.
- Teams who do not complete their 12 sanctioned games as required will not be eligible for the Conference Cup and will be relegated to the next lower conference.
- Teams who complete their 12 sanctioned games as required but do not attend the Conference Championship Cup will be relegated to the next lower conference.
- A team that fails to meet its Conference Cup requirements twice within any five-year period of Conference membership is relegated to Non-Conference status the following season. A team relegated for this reason that wishes to rejoin Conference play must meet the eligibility requirements for a new Conference team and will re-enter in the lowest level conference subject to Board Approval.
- Teams who allow their membership to lapse for more than one year will be considered a new team and must meet all new team requirements.
- All Championship Conference Cups will be held between June 1 and July 31.
- All forfeited deposits for Conference Cups will be paid to the host.
- Hosts who cancel will be assessed a \$500 fee and must return any deposits paid to them by the USPSA.
- The number of Conferences will be determined after on time registration.
- The conferences will line up in the following order, top to bottom:

Conference

- 1: Premier Conference
- 2: Champions Conference
- 3: Presidents Conference
- 4: Founders Conference
- 5: American Conference
- 6: National Conference
- 7: Non Conference

Additional Conferences may be added as needed.

*\*"Sanctioned game" is a game between two USPSA member teams in good standing, played by current USPSA rules, and officiated by USPSA approved referees.*

Prepared By: United States Power Soccer Association Executive Board