

**OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF
2020 UNIT SOCCER LEAGUE AND CHAMPIONSHIP
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA
MARCH - APRIL 2020**

1. **REFERENCES:**
 - a. AR 215-1, 28 June 2004 Non-appropriated Fund Instrumentalities and, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Activities.
 - b. DA PAM 385-5, 15 Nov 81, Fundamentals of Safety In Army Sports & Recreation.
 - c. 2020 FIFA / USSF Rules.
2. **WHAT:** 2020 Fort Benning Unit Level Soccer League and Championships.
3. **WHEN:**
League: Pre-Season March - April, 2020.
Championship: April 2020
4. **WHERE:** Site, Doughboy Stadium Fort Benning, GA.
5. **ENTRIES:**
 - a. Units are authorized to enter an unlimited number of teams.
 - b. Minimum of four for CC Cup points awarded for this program.
 - c. If a unit / company / battalion and or regiment are submitting more than one team, a team player roster must be submitted at the Coaches Meeting along with their alpha roster. These players will be locked in for the duration of the tournament, league and championships to that one team. If a team folds from the tournament, league or championship, no players on other previous rosters may cross over to any other teams for any reason.
 1. Rosters may include as many names as the unit wants on their submission as long as they are not included on a 2nd roster.
6. **Intramural Team Entries:** Teams that do not meet the Commanders Cup Eligibility requirements, are eligible to enter teams into the Intramural Division. All rostered players must possess a valid Government issued ID Card.
7. **TEAMLIGIBILITY:**
 - a. All Active Duty personnel (male and/or female) are eligible to participate in the Unit Level Soccer League.
 - b. Members of Units that do not generate enough interest to field a team may participate as a free agent within the league that the Unit is assigned and participate as a member of an unassigned unit. However, the individual requesting to participate outside of unit assignment must request the lateral by memorandum with the written approval of the unit commander and be approved by the Sports Director in advance.
 - c. Personnel transfer refers to movement of personnel after the league begins. The only personnel transfer authorized will be determined by the Sports Director. Consideration will be restricted to military commitments resulting in lack of personnel to constitute a team and reassignment to another unit. No personnel will be allowed to transfer to another unit/team for any reason after the initial participation exceeds 50% of the league schedule by a team, unless the individual has not participated in league play for the originally assigned unit.

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d. Championship: Transfers will be allowed (if only one team is originally entered per regiment) only if the unit transfers has taken place

During league play with authorization through the Sports Director. Minimal participation during league play to constitute a transfer is two full games. If an individual has not participated in league play at Fort Benning, a written request and approval through the Sports Director must be granted before participation may take place.

e. All questions concerning personnel eligibility must be submitted in writing through the sports office with approval from the Sports Director. Any personnel who are not assigned to a company/unit as determined by permanent orders for quarters, rations, and administration must be addressed through the Sports Director prior to participation in league or tournament play. Ineligibility rules will apply in accordance with this supplement.

Intramural League. DoD, Family members (that are no longer eligible of age to compete in the Youth Sports / School age programs), Spouses, ID card holder are eligible to participate in the Intramural sports program. Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer and Softball are the only sports programs teams will be allowed to participate in and must follow all rules in the governing Commanders Cup MOI.

8. CC / Intramural Format:

a. The Commanders Cup and Intramural teams will compete against each other in pre-season, league and Championship play. 2 sets of stands will be kept in order to crown a Commanders Cup Champion and an overall Champion.

b. Intramural teams cannot win the Commanders Cup and are not eligible for Commanders Cup points.

9. TEAM ROSTERS:

a. League: Complete League Rosters and Unit Alpha Rosters are due at the Pre-Season Tournament to the League Director by TBD March, 18.

b. Championship: Updated complete Championship Rosters and Alpha Rosters are due to the Tournament Director at the Post Championships Coaches Meeting, date TBD.

c. No more than 12 players, 1 non-competing head coach, and 1 non-competing assistant coach or manager may participate in each game.

10. ROSTER / TEAM CHECK:

a. 100% Mandatory ID Card / Roster check. All players / teams are required to have their I.D. Cards checked prior to participating in their 1st game. The Fort Benning Sports Staff may check I.D. Cards at any time during the course of the season and/or Championship.

b. Failure to provide their I.D. Card upon request will result in that team forfeiting that game and that player will be banned from any further participation until their eligibility is verified.

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c. If a player is found to be ineligible, all games in which he/she participated in (entered into the official game book) will be forfeited.

11. **COACH'S MEETING:**

a. Unit Level League Coach's Meeting: an Pre-Season Tournament on TBD Mar 12, 1300 @ Doughboy Stadium

b. Championship Coach's Meeting: Pending season conclusion.

12. **UNIFORMS / GENERAL:**

a. 2019 FIFA / USSF Rules apply.

b. No tobacco or alcohol products are permitted within the bench, dugout or playing area.

c. Players / coaches / managers will not consume any alcohol before or during the game.

11. **GAME FORMAT:**

a. All games will be played by:

1. 6 v 6 (players on the field).
2. Unlimited Substitutions

b. Games Times: 2, 20 Minute Halves.

c. Championship: A Coin-Toss will determine the Home team throughout the competition, except for the Championship Game. The Home Team for the Championship Game and "if" games, will be the team in the top half of the bracket.

13. **OFFICIALS:**

a. All games will be officiated FIFA (Federation International de Football Association) / USSF (United States Soccer Federation) certified Soccer Officials for the Adult Soccer Sports Program.

14. **LEAGUE TIE-BREAKERS:**

a. In case of ties for advancement / seeding, the following format will be used as tie-breakers in order until the tie is broken:

1. Head to Head.
2. Defensive Goals Allowed Head to Head (Team allowing the fewest Goals advances).
3. Offensive Goals Scored Head to Head (Team scoring the most Goals advances).
4. Average Goal differential for all games played (Team with the highest Goal differential / margin of victory advances).
5. Coin Toss.

15. **CHAMPIONSHIP/QUAL
FORMAT:**

a. All teams with a .500 league record or better, will advance to the post Championship.

b. Championship play will be a Double Elimination style format.

16. **AWARDS:**

Championship: Team Awards: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams.
Individual Awards (12): 1st and 2nd place.
Intramural league: 1st Place Team and 1st Place Individual

17. **AWARDS CEREMONY:**

Both the Commanders Cup and Overall Championships Awards ceremony will take place upon conclusion of the last game of the Championship at Gowdy Stadium

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18. **FORFEITS:**
- a. 2 no-show forfeitures during league play constitute elimination of the team for the season and tournament competition.
 - b. Cancellation or rescheduling of games are only authorized for a Military commitment and will not be counted as a forfeit. A justification memorandum must be submitted to the League Director within 24 hours of the cancellation / reschedule request.
 - c. Teams not checked in by the referee by the scheduled game time will be given a forfeit. A 10 minute grace period may be granted on a case by case basis, only from the supervising Sports Staff.
 - d. If a player is found to be ineligible, all games in which he/she participated in will be forfeited.
19. **PROTESTS:**
- a. All protests will be settled in accordance with the governing rules of FIFA / USSF Soccer, unless a player is declared ineligible during or after League and/or Championship play.
 - b. All protests will be resolved on site by the supervising Sports Staff and or game official.
 - c. An Officials judgment is not a protest-able offense.
 - d. If a further review of a protest is required, the supervising Sports Staff will submit all pertinent information to the Sports Director for a final ruling.
20. **SPORTSMANSHIP:**
- a. Players/Coaches/Managers or other team members will not make disparaging or insulting remarks about opposing players, officials, or spectators, or commit other acts of unsportsmanlike conduct. (Examples: profanity, spitting, or acts that may cause injuries to opponents.)
 - b. The penalty for violation of the above by a player, coach, or manager is at a maximum disqualification.
 - c. Disqualified players, managers, or coaches must leave the gymnasium grounds for the duration of the game being played.
 - d. The penalty for a player, manager, or coach committing flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspension for the remainder of the current game and the next game, conclusion of league play, or the remainder of the season if requested by the officials association and determined by the Sports Director.
21. **LEAGUE DIRECTOR:**
- Willie Spann, Intramural Sports Coordinator, 706- 984-1994
Or Willie.j.Spann6.naf@mail.mil
22. **SPORTS DIRECTOR**
- Lori Smith, Sports & Fitness Director at Tel: 706-527-2393
Or lori.m.smith38.naf@mail.mil

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Lori Smith
Director, Sports & Fitness

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