



National Cup Policy Changes

10-01-2025

Current Policy

203 Player Pool

203-1. A Player Pool of no more than 30 players for any team shall be entered into the USASA Registration System no less than 14 calendar days (“days”) prior to that team’s first match in the National Cups.

Proposed Change

203-1. A Player Pool of no more than 30 players for all teams shall be entered into the USASA Registration System no less than 14 calendar days (“days”) prior to that team’s first match in the National Cup competition. The National Cup competition shall be described as the Regional, or National rounds of the competition.

Rational: The proposed change clarifies when the player pool starts for all teams and when it reaches a maximum number of players.

203-5 (new policy) When the team player pool reaches a maximum of 30 players it is frozen. A team can add up to the maximum of 30 players anytime during the competition provided they are following the 14-day advance notice. If a team advances to the National Cup final weekend and they have reached a maximum of 30 players, that team can swap out a maximum of 5 new players. The swapping of players must happen at least 14 days prior to the first game in the final weekend.

Rational: Since some regions start national cup playdown in the fall, they may have to max out the player pool if they make it to the finals. This change will allow a team to swap out 5 players to help them have a full roster at the finals.

Current Policy

203-2. A team’s Player Pool may be changed during the course of the National Cups competition but not less than seven (7) days before any match.

Proposed Change

203-2. A team’s Player Pool may be changed during the course of the National Cups competition but not less than fourteen (14) days before any match.

Rational: Change 7 days to 14 days to keep consistent with other policies.



Current Policy

304 Playing Rules

304-1(c) A maximum of seven substitutions shall be allowed in each game of all competitions, unless modified by the regional council for regional rounds of competition or by the national state association, USASA League, or USASA Affiliate for their respective rounds of competition. PLEASE NOTE: Modification for Women's competition. Teams are permitted unlimited substitutions in each game. A team may substitute a player at the following times: (i) During a goal kick or at a restart after a goal by either team, (ii) at half-time, (iii) during a throw-in, but only by the team in possession of the ball, (iv) during a throw-in by the team not in possession of the ball, but only if the team in possession of the ball is making a substitution, (v) in the event of an injury, and (vi) at any other time at the discretion of the referee.

Proposed Change

304-1(c) A maximum of seven substitutions shall be allowed in each men's game of all competitions, unless modified by the regional council for regional rounds of competition or by the national state association, USASA League, or USASA Affiliate for their respective rounds of competition. ~~PLEASE NOTE: Modification for Women's competition.~~

~~Women's teams are permitted unlimited substitutions. Women's substitutions can occur in each game at any stoppage of play. A team may substitute a player at the following times: (i) During a goal kick or at a restart after a goal by either team, (ii) at half-time, (iii) during a throw-in, but only by the team in possession of the ball, (iv) during a throw-in by the team not in possession of the ball, but only if the team in possession of the ball is making a substitution, (v) in the event of an injury, and (vi) at any other time at the discretion of the referee.~~

How it would be changed

304-1(c) A maximum of seven substitutions shall be allowed in each men's game, and women's teams are permitted unlimited substitutions at any stoppage of play, unless modified by the regional council for regional rounds of competition or by the national state association, USASA League, or USASA Affiliate for their respective rounds of competition. Substitutions are at the discretion of the referee.

Rational: We need to keep unlimited substitutions for the women's game, however, to make game management easier for the officials the substitution will occur at any stoppage of play. The referee is also responsible if a team abuses the substitutions as time wasting.



Current Policy

304-1(d) In any National Cups competition, a player who has been replaced by a substitute may not re-enter the game at any time. PLEASE NOTE: Modification for Women's competition. A player who has been replaced by a substitute may re-enter the game without restriction.

Proposed Change

304-1(d) In any men's National Cups competition, a player who has been replaced by a substitute may not re-enter the game at any time. In any women's National Cups competition, a player who has been replaced by a substitute may reenter the game without restriction.

Rational: To clarify that once a male player is substituted, they cannot re-enter the game. However, in women's games, it is unlimited re-entry.

Current Policy

304-2. Each team will be allowed to select not more than 18 players from its player pool to participate in any game. Prior to the start of the game, each team will provide the referee and the other team a game roster designating not more than 11 starting players and the other players from the player pool list as the 18 players from which substitutions may be made.

Proposed Change

304-2. Each team will be allowed to select not more than 20 (twenty) players from its player pool to participate in any game. Prior to the start of the game, each team will provide the referee and the other team with a game roster designating not more than 11 starting players and the other players from the player pool list as the 20 (twenty) players from which substitutions may be made.

Rational: This change will bring the national cups competition in line with leagues and national competitions.