

US Youth Soccer (USYS)

U12 National Championship Competition Rules (9v9)

Competition Overview

The U12 Championship is played in a 9v9 format and is governed by the current **USYS National Championship Rules** and **Presidents Cup Rules**, except as modified below.

Format

- Age Group: U12
- Format: 9v9 (8 field players + goalkeeper)

Field & Equipment

- Field: 70–80 yards long x 45–55 yards wide
- Goals: Max 7' x 21', Min 6.5' x 18.5'
- Ball: Size 4

Team Eligibility

- Teams must be registered and in good standing with their USYS State Association
- Teams qualify as State Champions or State-designated representatives

Rosters

- Max roster: 16 players
- Minimum 50% State Cup roster required
- Club pass players permitted with State approval if primary team eliminated

Minimum Players

- Matches require 6 players to start and continue
- 10-minute grace period before forfeit

Credentials

- Players and officials must carry valid USYS passes (physical or electronic)

Match Duration

- Two 30-minute halves
- Knockout matches tied after regulation proceed directly to penalty kicks

Substitutions

- Unlimited substitutions
- Three substitution moments per half plus halftime

Authority

All matters not covered are resolved by **US Youth Soccer**.