

MEMORANDUM FOR

AREA SPORTS COORDINATORS (ASC)

ATHLETIC AND RECREATION (A&R) PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Fort Liberty Sports Program, 2025 Commander's Cup Soccer

1. Reference Army Regulation 215-1, Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Non-appropriated Fund Instrumentalities, 24 September 2010.
2. Purpose. To provide policies and procedures to assist ASCs and A&R personnel with the implementation of the 2025 Fort Liberty Champions Cup Soccer Tournament
3. General.

a. 2025 Fort Liberty Commander's Cup Soccer **March 31st - May 1, 2025**, at Hedrick, Towle and Hercules Fields. To enter, teams must register by submitting their team/unit information the Sports Office (Bldg. 190, 3725 Rock Merrit Rd) by the deadline **March 21, 2025**. Coaches/Rules Clinic will be March 27, 2025 at Hercules PFC's Conference Room at 1800.

b. Player eligibility.

(1) All **active-duty military** personnel assigned or attached to units physically located at Fort Liberty are eligible to participate. Personnel will participate with their **assigned unit** and must be so identified on the unit's Zero Balance Sheet.

(2) 1-Game Player Addition Form: If a player is new to the unit or not included on the original roster, they are eligible to participate in one game. They **will not** be allowed to participate in any subsequent game **until an updated team roster signed by the commander is submitted**. Any player that is temporarily being added to the roster via 1-Game Player Addition form will be required to produce a copy of their military orders to validate their eligibility to participate with that respective unit.

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(3) If a protest results from the alleged use of an illegal player during league competition, and the protest is upheld, the offending team will forfeit the game in question. If a protest is upheld on a second eligibility offense during league Tournament. If a protest results from the alleged use of an ineligible player during the post tournament, and the protest is upheld, the offending team will be eliminated from the tournament.

(4) For all games, team members **must have** their **military identification (ID) card**. All participants ID cards **WILL BE** checked against the roster prior to every game to confirm player eligibility. Players who fail to present their military ID card **WILL NOT** be allowed to participate.

c. Protests.

(1) Player eligibility will be the **ONLY** grounds for protests.

(2) During play, eligibility protests not resolved satisfactorily at the game site, must be submitted in writing to the League Coordinator NLT 1000 the first duty day following the game. The Tournament Director/Commissioner will review all protests to determine whether or not further action is required.

(3) During tournament play, eligibility protests must be brought to the attention of game officials and/or the site supervisor prior to the conclusion of the game in question. At that time, game officials and/or the site supervisor will gather the pertinent data from the player or players in question (check ID card and confirm name, rank, and SSN).

d. Forfeits.

(1) A team not present at the scheduled tournament game time will forfeit the game.

e. Medical Support Personnel/trainers:

(1) MWR Sports staff will have a first aid kit on site. It is the responsibility of all units participating in the intramural sports program to provide their own medical support i.e. trainers or medics.

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4. Rules: Current United States Soccer Federation Rules and the following amendments will govern all intramural play;

(1) The duration of the game shall be two periods of 25-minutes each. The clock will stop only in the event of serious injury or for any other appropriate circumstance at the discretion of the referee. The half time interval will not exceed 5-minutes.

(2) Teams shall consist of not more than 11 players, 1 of whom shall be the goalkeeper. A team will be **allowed** to start a game **with 7 players**. Any team not having at least 7 players at the start of the game will forfeit.

(3) Unlimited substitution will be allowed throughout the game with the exception of the final 2-minutes. Both teams, regardless of which team has possession of the ball, will be allowed to substitute during any stoppage of play. Stoppage of play occurs during injuries, goal kicks, corner kicks, and throw-ins. During the game's final 2 minutes, substitutions **will only be allowed** for an injured player.

(4) When a game ends in a tie, teams will alternate taking three penalty kicks. Each kick will be attempted by a different player. If the game remains tied after the initial series of kicks, the game will go into sudden death. In sudden death, teams will alternate taking one kick each until a winner has been determined. Sudden death kicks will be attempted by those players who were not involved in the initial series of three kicks. Therefore, a player may not attempt a second penalty kick until each player who was on the field at the conclusion of regulation play has had an attempt.

(5) Only shoes with a smooth sole, or shoes with molded cleats of plastic or rubber with canvas, cloth, or leather uppers, will be allowed.

(6) Units are **responsible** for **providing their own** jerseys or shirts to be of the same color. Goalkeepers are to wear contrasting jerseys.

(7) During post tournament play, the home team will be determined by a coin toss administered prior to each tournament game.

(8) **Consumption of alcoholic beverages or drugs by team members is prohibited before or during games.**

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(9) Any player or coach who intentionally makes physical contact with an official will be subject to immediate suspension for an indefinite period. Such an occurrence will be investigated by this headquarters and facts pertaining to the incident will be forwarded to the Garrison Commander for review.

5. Tournament Play:

a. Team rosters.

(1) In order to participate, personnel must be identified on a legal, acknowledged by the sports office, completed roster. Noncompliance will result in forfeiture of the game.

(2) Team rosters must be submitted to the Sports Office prior to tournament participation. **All participants must be military ID holders**. Rosters must include the following: name, rank, unit, and team POC to include duty phone number and e-mail address. Teams that fail to submit a legal completed roster prior to league participation will forfeit their initial game. A second forfeit will result in expulsion from the tournament. Team rosters are not limited to 18 players, 2 Coaches. Therefore, **all potential players should be listed**. Rosters may be submitted up to **April 5, 2025**. Once rosters are turned in no additional players can be added.

(3) Once a player starts with a team, he/she **must remain** with that team during all intramural soccer competition. Should a team fold, players **MAY NOT** join another team. Should a player play for more than one team, he/she **WILL BE** deemed an illegal player and will be disqualified from further participation in the 2025 Commander's Cup Soccer League/Tournament.

6. Tournament Format:

(1) Tournament format is double elimination. Units failing to notify the League Coordinator of their unavailability to play **prior to 1400** on the day of the scheduled game, **will forfeit** the game in question and the game **WILL NOT** be rescheduled.

(2) Teams forfeiting two games will be dropped from further competition.

(3) For any tournament game, a team will be allowed 18 members. The 18 members may include 2 coaches who may or may not play but must be designated as such on the tournament team roster.

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7. Awards. The Sports and Fitness Branch will provide awards for both first and second place post tournament teams.

8. For more information please contact the FMWR Sports Office at 910-396-1217 or 910-396-1218.