

The 2023 NIRSA National Soccer Championships will be held in Round Rock at the <u>Round Rock Multipurpose Complex</u>, 2001 North Kenney Fort Blvd., & Old Settlers Park, 3300 E Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, Texas. Congrats on being one of the 96 teams that will be attending.

Player Certification Form: Each team captain should have received this form by email from Lauren Carlson; if you have not received it, that means there are missing roster/waiver forms on IMLeagues from players. Contact <u>lauren.carlson@nirsa.org</u> to get the form. This form is an important step in registration and must be signed by all players, sport club rep, and college/university registrar to verify current enrollment. When you get your Player Certification form back from the registrar, please take a photo and upload to this <u>2023 NIRSA National Soccer Championships Player</u> Certification and Roster Forms by Friday Nov. 10 at 11:59 pm. Bring the original with you to Check-in.

<u>Roster Additions</u>: Will be allowed until 5:00 pm Pacific Time on Thursday, Nov. 9. Send an email to <u>lauren.carlson@nirsa.org</u> with the player's name and email. She will let you know when the player can go to <u>www.imleagues.com/nirsa</u> and fill out the required forms. Once forms are approved, a Player Enrollment Verification Form will be emailed to the team rep for the added player. Additions to your roster will be \$10 per player due at the time of team check-in (cash or card accepted). Dropped players will be handled during team check-in.

Tournament Schedule: Series Live will have a videocast on Nov. 10 with a schedule reveal on the NIRSA Championship Series YouTube Channel <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3S9IKrPyg-AiBd7OOniozw</u>. The tournament schedule will be posted online by Nov. 14. Any changes to that schedule will be updated and available online. The games start at 8:00 am on Thursday morning with pool play. Teams will play two (2) matches on Thursday and at least one match on Friday. The top qualifiers in each pool (varies depending on the division) will advance to playoffs on Friday, and winners will advance to semi-finals and finals on Saturday. Men's and Women's Open finals will begin at 1:00 pm on Saturday, with the Men's Championship final at 3:00 pm and the Women's Championship final at 5:00 pm.

Tournament Withdrawal: Directors are aware that plans can change, so please inform us immediately if you are unable to attend. Teams that canceled after Nov. 3 will receive a 1-year sanction (not allowed in the 2024 NIRSA National Soccer Championships). Teams that do NOT show up for scheduled games in Round Rock will receive a 2-year sanction (not allowed in the 2024 & 2025 NIRSA National Soccer Championships).



<u>Mandatory Team Check-in</u>: Mandatory check-in is on Wednesday, Nov. 15, from 4:00 - 7:00 pm at the Round Rock Multipurpose Complex, 2001 North Kenney Fort Blvd., Round Rock, Texas. Only one person from each team needs to check in their team. If you cannot make team check-in on Wednesday contact <u>nicole.jackson@nirsa.org</u> by Wednesday, Nov. 8 to make alternate arrangements to check-in prior to your first match on Thursday. Teams will have a \$140 late check-in fee if they don't check in on Wednesday night or make prior arrangements for late check-in.

The following will be collected before but are required to be verified at team check-in:

- Completed Player Certification form (Enrollment Verification) MUST be original copy!
- Cell number for team representative who is onsite.
- Verify the roster including light & dark jersey numbers.
- Local lodging and travel information for the team.

<u>Team Rep Meeting</u>: There will NOT be a team rep meeting this year. After reading this newsletter and the <u>Rules of Play</u> if you have additional questions, please contact Tournament Director <u>Nicole Jackson</u>, Co-Directors of Competition <u>Chris</u> <u>McAlpine</u> and <u>Laurel Hanna</u>, or Director of Officials <u>Erik Jaeke</u>. The directors will also be at team check-in to answer any questions.

<u>Practice Fields:</u> The fields will be available for practice from 2:00 - 7:00 pm (2 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM, & 6 PM time slots) on Wednesday, Nov. 15. Starting Nov. 1, you can fill out this form: <u>https://forms.gle/pGHZRQpjD3YnuZKB6</u> to reserve a field. The fields will be first come, first served.

From 5:00 -7:00 PM during practice on Wednesday, Nov. 15, we will introduce the **Longest Punt & Closest to the Center Line**. Try your skills out to win a prize!

Tournament T-shirts: Long-sleeved 100% cotton t-shirts, and dri-fit short sleeved t-shirts for \$22 and a limited supply of hoodies for \$35 will be sold on-site throughout the championships.

Tournament Results: Daily results of the championships will be posted on the <u>http://play.nirsa.net/soccer/national-</u> <u>championship/</u>. You can also follow along via @NIRSAchamp #NIRSAsoccer for Twitter (X) and Instagram fans. The Men's and Women's National Championship games will be live streamed on the NIRSA Championship Series YouTube Channel <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3S9IKrPyg-AiBd7OOniozw</u>

Fields: We will be using grass and turf fields (Men's Championship teams will play the first 3 rounds on turf, Women's Open will have assorted games on turf and grass) at two locations. The Round Rock Multi-Purpose Sports Complex, 2001 North Kenney Fort Blvd., Round Rock has ten fields (5 turf & 5 grass), and Old Settlers Park, 901 Harrell Parkway, Round Rock, about ½ mile away has 5 grass fields. The Tournament Desk will be at Round Rock Multi-Purpose Sports Complex between fields 4 & 7.

<u>Rules of Play</u>: The tournament will use modified NCAA rules, you can download from <u>2023-nirsa-national-soccer-</u> <u>championships-rules-of-play-231003.pdf</u>

Photo ID required: Each player is required to show their school or government-issued photo ID before each game. A player is permitted to use a College/University ID, Driver's license/State ID, or passport. No photographs of IDs will be accepted. No ID no play.



<u>Team Uniforms</u>: Be sure that the numbers on all players' uniforms are consistent with the numbers submitted on the team registration form, particularly in switching from light to dark uniforms. All teams are required to have matching light and dark uniforms, with no duplicated numbers. All jersey numbers must be permanently attached to the jersey. All substitutes must wear a colored jersey/vest that distinguishes them from the other field players.

Spectator Admission Fee: Please inform family and friends coming to Round Rock that we will have an admission fee for all spectators; Adults: \$10 per day or \$25 for the weekend. Seniors (60+) \$10 per day or \$15 for the weekend. Kids 12 and under are free. Pre-sales will occur this year, a link will be shared with all teams/players on Nov. 1. We encourage pre-sales to be picked up at team check-in on Nov. 15.

Exam Proctor: NIRSA has been providing a proctor for the student-athletes to take exams during NIRSA National Sport Championships for the past 14 years. Clint Jones, Director of Recreation & Wellness, St. Edward's University, will oversee the exam proctoring this year. Feel free to pass along Clint's email <u>tournamentproctor@nirsaleaders.org</u> to professors so he can get the pertinent information to administer the exams.

<u>Juggling Contest</u>: The fun contest returns! Challenge your skills on Friday nearest the tournament desk to see how many times you can juggle a soccer ball. Open to all rostered players.

Hotels: Check for a hotel list on the website: <u>http://play.nirsa.net/soccer/national-championship/</u>

<u>Transportation</u>: Teams are responsible for their own transportation to and from the hotels/airports/fields. Plan your departure time from your hotel accordingly considering morning traffic/parking issues.

<u>Athletic Trainers:</u> There will be athletic trainers available on site during the tournament (no trainers during practice time). Players must bring their own pre-wrap and tape for preventative taping.

<u>Referees</u>: Referees for the Championships are endorsed by NISOA (National Intercollegiate Soccer Official's Association) and ECSR (Elite College Soccer Referees). Expect quality officiating throughout all the games from referees around the country.

<u>Water</u>: Water coolers will be available on each field. Bring your own water bottle, as no cups will be provided. Teams are encouraged to bring their own water to the venue. Please note that there will be limited seating available at the fields. Spectators should be prepared to bring their own seating or sit/stand on the grass.

Soccer Ball: The tournament will use SELECT Numero Ten.

Inclement weather: Please note that the tournament format, number of games, and game length may change due to a team not showing up or circumstances beyond our control (weather). There are NO back-up fields. Under extreme weather conditions, the tournament could be cancelled.

Concessions: Concessions will be sold on-site for the duration of the tournament. In addition, there are several restaurants within a few miles of the complex.



<u>Awards</u>: All 1st and 2nd place teams will receive awards as well as the All-Tournament Teams and MVPs for each division. A Team Sportsmanship plaque will be awarded to both the men's and women's teams.

- Women's Championship immediately following the Women's Championship match
- Men's Championship immediately following the Men's Championship match
- Women's Open half time of the Women's Championship match
- Men's Open half time of the Men's Championship match

Evaluations: All participants will be invited to complete an online tournament evaluation via email after the event.

<u>Code of Conduct</u>: Please remind all players they signed a Code of Conduct. Remember you represent your school. Respect the quiet hours at the hotel and practice positive sporting behavior on the field.

Sporting Behavior Statement: We wholeheartedly embrace the position that, for positive sporting behavior to prevail, coaches, student-athletes, and fans must display respect, fairness, civility, honesty, and responsibility before, during, and after all athletic contests. The NIRSA Championship Series is committed to holding tournaments in a safe and inclusive environment free from bullying. Offensive language including profanity and/or derogatory remarks of any kind directed at officials, event staff, student-athletes, coaches, or team representatives will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the competition site.

<u>Thanks to the Regional Coordinators</u>: Region I: Kristen Sullivan, Shane Conti & Jeff Gontarek; Region II: Laura Shively & Shawn Conboy; Region III: Keith Woolems & Bailey Kenney; Region IV: Mario Rios; Region V: Angie Adame & Emilee Howard; Region VI Alex Sanchez & Courtney Sherwin; National Directors of Competition: Chris McAlpine & Laurel Hanna; Soccer Work Team Chairs: Max Miller & Jessica Cuadra

<u>Thanks!</u> City of Round Rock and the multipurpose complex for hosting. Thank you to our sponsors Protector Whistle – the Official Whistle of the 2023-2024 NIRSA National Championships Series and Select Sport America, the Official Ball sponsor for the 2023 National Soccer Championship.

