



CENTRAL JERSEY INVITATIONAL 2023

Boys & Girls / 8U through 15U
Friendship Fields, Bordentown NJ
Sawmill YMCA, Hamilton NJ
Mercer County Park, West Windsor NJ

Dear Coach / Manager:

Welcome! We expect you are reading this because your team has been accepted to the **CENTRAL JERSEY INVITATIONAL 2023**. Please review the following information carefully, ALL OF IT IS IMPORTANT! But what you will need to know is all here in one place!

All relevant info can be accessed from the Tournament Homepage:
<https://www.edpsoccer.com/central-jersey-invitational>

A) APPLICATION

Please note that your application is not complete until payment has been received. We will accept teams after their online application has been entered and their payment received.

Teams applying late or not accepted will be placed on a waiting list. If not ultimately accepted, any refunds will be issued after the event concludes.

B) LODGING

Teams staying overnight at EDP Soccer Showcases, Tournaments, or EDP-hosted events, are required to book their hotel accommodations through Titan Travel, EDP Soccer's official housing provider. Failure to comply with this requirement may lead to revocation of a team's acceptance in the tournament. It is a stay-to-play tournament for teams outside the daytrip area, as stated in the Application Information posted online.

Titan Travel is powered by EventConnect in providing its online accommodation process.

Within a few days of applying for the tournament in GotSport, team reps will receive an email from EventConnect with access to the accommodations portal. Follow the instructions in this email to block or reserve rooms and share them with your team/club. All rooms are to be reserved in EventConnect, and only applied teams can access accommodations.

For details on how to use this new booking portal, please visit the Support Library here:
<https://eventconnect.zendesk.com/hc/en-us>

For assistance creating your block, please contact EventConnect Team Relations at 1-888-723-2064 ext 823 or teamrelations@eventconnect.io.

For general assistance, please contact EventConnect Support at 1-888-723-2064 or support@eventconnect.io.

C) RULES & REGULATIONS

Rules of Play and conduct are accessed online from the Tournament Homepage. Your team is responsible for being familiar with the contents.

Major items: No smoking, no alcohol, no pets, no abusive behavior. Obey traffic directives. Please pick up your trash. Simple.

D) TEAM REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN

Teams are required to REGISTER ONLINE before the event, and have the relevant documents in their possession at the event.

All teams must have:

A copy of the team roster they can leave with HQ officials. Pencil in any Guest players being used.

Player Passes for all participating players, rostered and guest.

Authorizations for Medical Treatment, more commonly referred to as Medical Releases, for all participating players. The ones executed when the player was first registered with the team for the season are usually adequate. Remember, these documents are critical to ensure that a player can be admitted to an ambulance, clinic or hospital for treatment, especially in the absence of a parent or legal guardian in attendance. These documents have to show original signatures. (And preferably be notarized, as we have heard of clinics that questioned how they could confirm the signature was actually a parent's or legal guardian's.)

Permissions To Travel for those out-of-state teams using USYS passes from state associations that require a Permission To Travel.

This is an "unrestricted tournament", which means all USSF-accepted player passes can be used. The event has sanctioning from both USYS (NJYS) and US Club Soccer.

Remember: All players on your team must have player passes from the SAME governing body, whether USYS or US Club or AYSO, etc.

Proper check-in allows all parties to be fully registered, insured and eligible to participate in competitive play. Check-in procedures and deadlines are communicated multiple times to teams prior to each event and posted on various web pages and documents. EDP Soccer has a firm stance with regard to a team's failure to check in prior to an event.

Failure for a team to check in prior to an event will result in:

- Zero points being awarded for any ties or wins for any teams that play while they are not checked in. Example: If the team that did not check in wins a game 2-0, they will receive zero points in the tournament standings.
- If check in occurs after the team plays a game, all future games will be eligible to earn points towards standings. Past games will remain ineligible to receive points towards standings.

Failure to check in by the end of Day One will result in the following steps:

- All previously played games will be recorded as a forfeit (2-0 loss).

- If the team does not check in prior to the start of play on Day Two, all future games will be recorded as a forfeit (2-0 loss). Pattern repeats for day 3, day 4, etc.
- The team and club will be reported to their state association and/or governing body.
- The team will be ineligible to participate in an EDP event for 12 months.

If you are having problems with the Online Team Check-In procedure, please contact the EDP Tournament Group in a timely manner. EDP Soccer's goal is for all accepted teams to attend and all scheduled games to be played. Our staff will assist in any way possible. If any issues or roadblocks occur, your team must inform EDP Soccer. The first place to start is sending a detailed email to tournaments@edpsoccer.com describing your circumstances so we can assess your situation.

E) SCHEDULE OF GAMES

The schedule of games for the **CENTRAL JERSEY INVITATIONAL 2022** will be posted on the Tournament website, as separate schedules covering individual Age BRACKETS that you will be able to print out.

CJI schedules are accessible from the Tournament Schedule Homepage.

https://system.gotSPORT.com/org_event/events/22494

Please check and re-confirm the dates, times and fields of your games as soon as possible after they are posted. Within two weeks of the Tournament, any teams affected by changes in schedule will be notified by email. Team Contacts (as provided on your application) are responsible for checking their emails on a regular basis, especially the last week before the event, to ensure that no last minute communications are ignored.

If you have any comments about the schedule, please use the **Request Form** which will be posted on the Tournament Homepage, and included in mailers once the schedule is posted. Do not email or phone with these comments. The Request Form is quick to fill out and ensures that all relevant information is provided. It also allows the small crew working on scheduling issues to easily share the same database of requests.

F) AWARDS

Medals will be presented to each Bracket Champion and Finalist player. Please come to the field HQ after your last game for a presentation if your team qualifies!

G) FIELDS & TRAVEL DIRECTIONS

Current travel directions and field layouts can be accessed from the Tournament Homepage.

H) WEATHER-RELATED ALERTS

We avoid cancelling games due to adverse weather if at all possible, and choose venues that have a high resistance to adverse conditions. So do not assume games are being cancelled without firm confirmation. Also, do NOT assume that the weather conditions outside your window are the same at the gamesite fields; experience has shown that weather patterns in our area can be highly localized.

In the event of lightning, we will cease play immediately. We may also suspend play in the event of a substantial downpour. Games in the second half will likely be declared as completed. Please have your team get to shelter, and have a system for contacting each team member. Twenty minutes after a stoppage, send ONE team representative to HQ, where we will inform all affected teams of the current status of play, and when we expect to resume.

The primary online site for information during the event is the Tournament Schedule Homepage, where weather updates will appear as warranted.

We will also send alerts regarding updates when possible via TWITTER. Follow us at @EDPsoccer.

In the event of precipitation or wet fields, there will be NO WARM-UPS within the four corners of the field, including Keeper warm-ups. The fields will be used strictly for game play.

Finally, if games are halted for lightning activity, then so are warm-ups on the field. Some past teams have exhibited a bizarre notion that lightning can strike during a game, but won't hit teams merely warming up on the same field before the "all clear" signal is given.

I) REFRESH YOUR WEB BROWSER / CONTACT MOBILE PHONE# / MESSAGING

Whenever checking your online information, click REFRESH on your WEB BROWSER. This ensures you are seeing the actual information available online, and not a previously-memorized page being stored in your computer cache. (Failure to do so is the most common reason teams discover they have incorrect information.)

Please check your team account on www.GotSport.com and make sure there is a valid mobile phone number listed for the TEAM CONTACT PERSON INFORMATION. This will be the first number called if there is a scheduling or weather problem at the fields.

Also, make sure you avoided using corporate or government email addresses for your team contacts entered in www.GotSport.com. These networked computer systems tend to have strong firewalls and spam filters that invariably prevent group messaging functions such as we rely upon from operating. Please provide email addresses from residential accounts (AOL, Yahoo, Gmail, Hotmail, Comcast, Verizon, Optonline, etc.)

Finally, do NOT list the same person for coach, manager and team contact. If there is a problem in communicating with that individual, it is useful to have alternatives. That is the whole point for the system allowing multiple contact listings.

Some simple rules for each facility we use:

- Park only in designated spots. Do not park just anywhere. You may get ticketed! Or towed!
- No pets, on a leash or otherwise. Service animals must be clearly marked.
- No smoking or alcoholic beverages anywhere near the fields.
- Please pick up your trash. The pitch is sacred ground, and shouldn't be buried in discarded water bottles and wrapping tape.
- Any tents or canopies must be properly anchored.
- No BBQs or other open flames.
- Cooperate with tournament officials and field marshals.

Anyone caught abusing the above items will be evicted from the premises, and it may lead to early termination of an offending team's participation.

Sorry to sound restrictive, but there is no reason to feel constrained if everyone uses common sense.

Teams participating in this event acknowledge that all players, coaches, managers, parents and affiliated parties have been advised of the contents of the following items, and will abide by the directives and provisions contained therein:

- INFO LETTER TO ACCEPTED TEAMS (this document)
- EDP TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS (Accessed from the event Homepage)
- EDP TOURNAMENT PAYMENT & CREDITS Policies (www.edpsoccer.com/payments-and-credits)
- EDP PHOTO/VIDEO/AUDIO POLICY (www.edpsoccer.com/photovideopolicy)
- EVENT DETAILS / APPLICATION INFORMATION (Accessed from the EVENT DETAILS & LINKS tab on the Event Homepage)

- Any emergent matters posted on the EVENT SCHEDULE Homepage or emailed to Team Contacts

EDP Soccer events follow all local, state, and federal government COVID-19 guidelines, as well as all State Soccer Association and facility protocols. By registering for and attending EDP Soccer events, all participants and their entourage agree to comply with these requirements.

Thanks for your cooperation. We are looking forward to an exciting tournament.

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