

**ADMINISTRATIVE & OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING
FORT BLISS - COMMANDER'S CUP SOCCER 23 March – 7 May 2026**

<u>REFERENCES:</u>	AR 215-1 Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Non-Appropriated Fund Instrumentalities (24 September 2010) 2025/2026 IFAB Laws of the Game
<u>WHAT:</u>	Commander's Cup Soccer
<u>WHEN:</u>	Coaches Meeting: 18 MAR 2026 / Aquatic Training Center / 1800 Officials Clinic: 16 – 19 MAR 2026 / Aquatic Training Center / 1800 Regular Season: 23 MAR – 30 APR 026 Post Championship: 4 – 7 MAY 2026
<u>WHERE:</u>	ATC Field
<u>LEAGUE STRUCTURE:</u>	The regular season is six weeks, followed by a one-week post championship tournament. Games will be played MON-THUR starting at 1800. League play will be dependent upon number of teams registered.
<u>ELIGIBILITY:</u>	Active-duty military personnel, Army Reserve, and National Guard service members in an active status assigned or attached to Fort Bliss. Team rosters will be limited to 21 players, and one non-playing coach. Rosters must be submitted prior to the first scheduled game. Rosters must be in memo form with members first and last name and a contact phone number of the coach or team representative. Rosters must be signed by Commander, First Sergeant or CSM of the battery/company/troop/battalion. BATTALLION teams ARE acceptable. BDE teams are not acceptable and will result in a forfeit. Soldiers must play for their battalion, and in the instance their battalion does not have a team, they must contact their sports coordinator to be placed on a team. If placed on another team, their Commander or First Sergeant must sign a memorandum releasing them to play for another battalion. The receiving company Commander or First Sergeant must sign a memorandum acknowledging that they accept the player onto their battalion team. To be eligible for post tournament play, no more than two non-battalion players can be placed on a team. Players cannot play with multiple teams. Once they play for a team, they cannot change teams. This will result in a forfeit for the second team.

Military IDs will be checked against the roster prior to games. Lack of military ID will result in the player not being eligible to play that game.

LEAGUE PLAY:

Play will be conducted in accordance with the 2025/2026 FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game unless otherwise covered by these by-laws:

If there is a tie in the league standings, at the end of league play, and the tie influences the Championship Tournament seeding, the following tiebreakers will be used:

- (1) Head-to-Head Play
- (2) Goal differential
- (3) Goals scored
- (4) Goals against
- (5) Coin Toss.

The length of game will consist of two, 20-minute halves, and a three-minute half-time period.

Yellow cards will not accumulate from game to game.

Play will begin with each team a minimum of 9 players for each team. Each team must finish the game with 9 players.

Red card ejection suspensions will be dependent upon severity and will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

All players must remain seated on the bench during matches. Exception is allowed for warming up to enter the match.

FORFEITS:

There will be a 10-minute grace period for the 1800 game only. All other games game time will be forfeit time.

Forfeiture of two games during league play will result in disqualification from the league play and the Championship Tournament. All remaining league games may be considered a win for the opposing teams. are then not eligible to participate with any other teams.

EQUIPMENT:

No pockets. No zippers. The use of military issued shorts are acceptable. Military uniforms/boots are not allowed.

Leg/arm braces must be wrapped in tape (No metal showing).

Shin guards must be always worn.

No metal cleats or screw-ins of any kind. Rubber molded cleats, turf, or tennis shoes are acceptable.

No jewelry is allowed. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Players must have coordinated jerseys with different numbers. If jerseys are in question players will be required to wear reversible jerseys provided by MWR. Numbered jerseys are to be worn and tucked in. Undershirts do not have to match.

Teams and spectators are not allowed to use electronic communications devices to communicate with players during the game.

PROTESTS:

A protest concerning **eligibility** must be submitted in writing to the League Coordinator by 1300 hours the following working day. A ruling will be decided before the team's next scheduled game.

POSTPONEMENTS:

Postponements will only be granted when unit duty commitments warrant. Notification must be submitted to the respective Sports Coordinator **48 hours** prior to scheduled game. There is no guarantee that postponed games will be rescheduled. Inclement weather postponements will be determined by the Sports Office Representative on site.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

Swearing and abusive remarks: Whether directed towards opponents, team members, officials, fans or supervisors or indirect frustration about self-performance are behaviors which cast a negative atmosphere over intramural play and may lead to more serious problems. Officials may penalize such behavior and all cussing with a yellow card penalty.

A player or coach being ejected from a game will result with a warning being filed. The second ejection in the season will result in a meeting with the Sports Coordinator for a possible suspension. The third ejection will result in an automatic expulsion from the league. **Player or coach that has been ejected must leave facility to include the parking lot.**

A player, coach, spectator or the entire team may be asked to leave the playing area if displaying unsportsmanlike conduct. Any contest may be forfeited by the administrator or official of the activity when a team, a team participant, captain or coach exhibits unsportsmanlike conduct or disruptive behavior during the contest. Team captains or coaches may be warned prior to forfeiting the contests. However, it will be at the discretion of the

administrators to forfeit that contest if deemed necessary to avoid a violent confrontation. Players/Coaches ejected for a first offense may be suspended indefinitely from participating in sports activities, depending on the severity of the offense. Taunting will be penalized with a yellow card.

ALCOHOL/TOBACCO:

Alcohol, smoking, vaping, or chewing tobacco is not permitted in the facility. Any player or coach under the influence of alcohol will not be permitted to enter the playing area.

OFFICIALS CLINIC:

16 -18 MAR 2026 at the Aquatics Training Center (ATC).

COACHES MEETING:

A Coach's Meeting will be held on 16 MAR 2026 at 1800 at the Soldier Activity Center. This meeting is mandatory for all coaches or team POC. The season will begin on 23 MAR 2026.

PETS:

Pets are prohibited from being at ALL MWR athletic fields. All owners will be asked to remove the dog promptly from the facility area regardless of size. IAW USAG 190-4 Sec. 1-10.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

During league play, the manager or coach is responsible for ensuring that:

- (1) All members of the team are familiar with the MOI.
- (2) The team is fully equipped and properly attired.
- (3) No illegal players participate in games.
- (5) Team roster is submitted prior to the first game.

PARTICIPATION POINTS:

Major commands will receive 10 points for each subordinate unit team that participates in league play. Maximum 50 points awarded.

LEAGUE DIRECTOR:

Anna Sutton, 915-744-5793

Samantha Stukes
Sports Coordinator
USAG Fort Bliss MWR