

## **Tournaments risks; a direct kick to safety.**

### **MISSION AND CHALLENGE**

Provide a healthy, safe and fair competition for all teams participating. Allow everyone the opportunity to participate in the activities, view the competitions and experience the spirit of the tournament.

### **WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?**

#### **1. *The Hosting Organization***

- a. State Association
- b. Clubs and Leagues

#### **2. *Tournament Officials***

- a. Tournament Director
- b. Tournament Committee
- c. Tournament Staff

### **WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

#### **3. *Security (Uniform Patrol)***

- a. Protect all players, spectators and participants
- b. Control traffic flow
- c. Monitor parking area for pedestrian safety

#### **4. *Grounds and Equipment***

- a. Soccer goals: inspect and anchor
  1. Inspect construction and sharp corners
  2. Inspect net installation - no metal ties
  3. Goals anchored securely
  4. Secure/anchor goals not in use
- b. Fields
  1. Inspect for foreign objects
  2. Check for pot holes, hills and ruts
  3. Sprinkler heads are seated and properly covered
  4. Restraining line 3 feet from touch line for spectators
- c. Inspect bleachers and seating
- d. Portable tents are securely anchored
- e. Vendors - inspect facilities and equipment
- f. Secure the maintenance facility and equipment for safety precautions
- g. Adequate restroom facilities
- h. Beware of the "attractive nuisance"

#### **5. *Transportation***

- a. Vehicle operators properly authorized and licensed
- b. Golf Carts - require seating for all passengers. **No standing on moving carts!**

#### **6. *Severe Weather***

- a. Monitor weather alert radio and lightning detector
- b. Provide emergency signal device to assist with evacuation of complex
- c. Instruct coaches on evacuation procedures

## **7. Medical**

Tournaments will provide paramedical facilities and qualified medical personnel shall be present at all playing sites during competition.

### **a. Trainers and medical personnel shall meet the following criteria:**

1. Be trained and equipped to treat trauma and perform CPR
2. Provide emergency first aid
3. Recognize and treat sport related injuries
4. Maintain communications with tournament HQ and EMS personnel
5. Medics are identifiable (badge/clothing)
6. Provide written directions to local medical facilities or hospitals
7. Provide written report to tournament director for each transported patient

## **REFEREES**

- Certified Referee Assignor
- Recommend Referee Assessors
- Certified USSF Referees
- Referee skills: match competition

## **TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS**

- Adequate tournament staffing
- Committee and staff identification
- Communications for staff
- Recognizable headquarters

## **GOAL...**

Most tournament risks can be avoided by developing a *Tournament Risk Management Program* that can substantially reduce or eliminate the likelihood of emergencies.

In the event of a tournament emergency or any critical situation, we hope the information presented here will assist you in minimizing the risk and maximizing your tournament's *SUCCESS*.