

# 2025-'26 CVSA Cup & Copa Bruce Operational Guide

The 2025-'26 CVSA Cup and Copa Bruce will be conducted in accordance with Article III.B of the Bylaws of the Central Virginia Soccer Association, and Article XIII.A.3 of the Constitution of the Central Virginia Soccer Association.

## 2025-'26 CVSA Cup

- All teams properly registered in the CVSA are eligible for the CVSA Cup. All Fall '25 Premier, First, Second, Third, & Fourth Division teams are automatically entered. All Fall '25 Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Women's, Coed, & Veterans teams will need to opt-in by contacting the <u>Cups Chairman</u>.
- Any teams who forfeited out of the 2024-'25 CVSA Cup are ineligible for 2025-'26 cup competition.

### 2025-'26 Copa Bruce

- The tournament is open to all Fall '25 Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Women's, Coed, & Veterans teams.
- All Coed teams must maintain their 7:4 gender ratio. All Women's teams must remain all-women.
- All Veterans players must have a birthdate on or before December 31, 1985 for the fall session, December 31, 1986 for the spring session.
- Women's, Coed, & Veterans teams will need to opt-in by contacting the <u>Cups Chairman</u>.
- Players rostered on eligible teams, who are also rostered **at any time** on Premier, First, Second, or Third Division teams, in either the Fall '25 or Spring '26 seasons, are ineligible for the Copa Bruce.
- Players who were rostered on Premier or First Division teams in the Spring '25 season are ineligible for the Copa Bruce.
- Any teams who forfeited out of the 2024-'25 Copa Bruce are ineligible for 2025-'26 cup competition.

#### **Important Dates**

- Monday, September 15, 2025: First & Second Round Drawings, 6:30PM, Longdale.
- Sunday, September 28, 2025: First & Second Round Games.
- Fall '25: We will attempt to complete the Round of 16 by the end of the fall session. Round of 16 drawing will be announced at least a week ahead of time.
- Quarterfinal Drawing: to be held at the Spring '26 Organizational Meeting
- March & April 2026: target date for the Quarterfinals.
- **Semifinal Drawing**: the Semifinal Drawing will be announced at least a week ahead of time, to be held at Longdale.
- April & May 2026: target date for the Semifinals.
- Saturday, May 30, 2026: Finals, at Longdale.

#### Frequently Asked Questions

 We have players on our Copa Bruce team who moonlight for a Fourth Division team. They were bumped up to the Third Division for the spring session through an unearned promotion. Are those moonlighting players still eligible for the Copa Bruce?

Promotion & relegation are covered by **Article II.H** of the *Bylaws of the Central Virginia Soccer Association*. The terms "earned" and "unearned" appear neither in that specific article nor anywhere else in the *Bylaws of the Central Virginia Soccer Association* or the *Constitution of the Central Virginia Soccer Association*. The moonlighting players will need to make a choice, as the rule is very simple & clear.

• We're a Veterans team and usually play 9-a-side. Can exceptions be made, or special privileges be given, regarding adding players so we can beef up our roster?

No. Veterans and Women's teams are encouraged to carry more players if they choose to compete in the CVSA Cup or Copa Bruce.

• My team won the Fifth Division in the fall, and we're entered in the Copa Bruce. Will our promotion to the Fourth Division eliminate us from the Copa Bruce?

No. Teams are entered into the respective cups based on their Fall '25 alignment. Any Copa Bruce teams still alive for the spring session will not be promoted to the Third Division or above, unless they request the promotion. Of course, in this instance, such a promotion would eliminate them from the Copa Bruce.

• We're a lower division team that wants to find loopholes to sneak career Premier & First Division players into the Copa Bruce, as, for us, nothing is more fun than beating the hell out of a Seventh Division team by two touchdowns, round-after-round. Do you know of any loopholes we can exploit?

We think we've closed all of the loopholes to ensure that the Copa Bruce will remain a competitive home for the lower division player. But we know you'll keep trying.

• We need more cups. My team needs to have a cup competition where they'll have at least a 75% chance of success. The current set-up is too tough, and not fair, especially in this age where everyone gets, and deserves, a trophy. When will we be getting a third, or fourth, cup competition?

In the 2024-'25 session, the CVSA awarded 42 championships. If you haven't won one, try harder.