



League News Online

WORLD CUP 2009

Entries to the 2009 World Cup Competition close next Wednesday, 7th October. The competition is an annual event that has the following aims:

1. It allows clubs to represent their nation or culture in a friendly post-season competition that mimics, as far as is possible, the FIFA World Cup format.
2. It allows clubs to try new players (players do not need to be registered Vicsoccer players)
3. It allows clubs joining us in 2010 to become part of the Vicsoccer family and to meet and compete against current sides
4. It gives member clubs the opportunity to meet and compete against clubs from Vicsoccer leagues other than their own.

COMPETITION FORMAT

This is a provisional format, which may need to be tweaked according to the number of participating teams.

Teams are divided into groups of four, and play three round-robin matches within the group. There is one match per week, so this phase runs over three weeks.

The 8 best performing teams then move on to a knock-out competition, with the eventual winner winning the World Cup Trophy.

RULES

The normal Vicsoccer rules of competition apply, with the following exceptions:

1. There is unlimited interchange allowed.
2. Players must be properly identified by a Vicsoccer ID card or other suitable identification such as a driver license or some other form of OFFICIAL

PHOTO ID. Persons without proper UD are not permitted to play.

3. Match official fees are shared equally amongst participating clubs.
4. Assistant referees (linesmen) are appointed to each game.

COSTS

The competition is run by Vicsoccer as a service to clubs. There is no cost to enter, however:

1. A \$200 security deposit must be lodged on application, and this is credited to the club's account at the end of the competition minus any disciplinary charges.
 2. Normal disciplinary charges apply:
 - (a) Send offs \$50 (\$100 for second)
 - (b) Causing a late start \$50
 - (c) Late team sheets and ID cards \$50
 - (d) Failing to complete a fixture \$200
 3. When a teams security deposit is eroded below \$100 by disciplinary charges it must top it up to \$200 again before being allowed to play again.
 4. Match officials fees are \$90 per team per game. This covers the referee and two assistant referees (linesmen)

GROUNDS

Conduct of the competition is conditional upon a sufficient number of grounds being available to host games. Host clubs stand to make good canteen revenue from this event. Any club hosting matches must be prepared to host either three or four matches each Sunday.

All canteen takings remain the property of the host club. Expressions of interest, stating whether you



have a ground available or not, should be sent to the office via email to info@vicsoccer.com

WORLD CUP 2009 REGISTRATION FORM

Club Name _____

Contact Details for this competition. (This is the ONLY person we will deal with.)

Name _____

Mobile Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

If you wish to declare your ground available you must be able to host THREE matches each Sunday, commencing at 11am, 1pm and 3pm.

Do you have a ground available for use during the competition? _____

Write YES or NO here.

This form is the ONLY way to enter the 2009 World Cup. You may do one of the following if you wish to enter:

1. Bring your completed form together with your \$200 security deposit to the office and drop it off in person. Call first to confirm, on 0418 120 050.
2. Post the completed form together with your \$200 security deposit to PO Box 1184, Doncaster East, 3109 to reach us by the deadline.
3. Email the completed form to info@vicsoccer.com and deposit your security deposit into our bank account.
4. Fax the completed form to (03) 9812 0448 and deposit your security deposit into our bank account.

If the competition does not go ahead due to lack of numbers or grounds your deposit will be refunded in full. If you enter, and then withdraw you will lose your deposit.

Signed _____ Dated _____



SURVEY RESULTS

Eight clubs responded to our Club satisfaction survey sent to all clubs over two weeks ago. Clubs were asked four questions, and were asked to respond with either POOR, AVERAGE, GOOD, VERY GOOD or EXCELLENT. Here, in summary, is what those who responded had to say:

How do you rate your club's overall satisfaction with the Amateur Soccer Federation? Responses ranged from poor to excellent, with the average response being **good**.

How would you rate our professionalism and friendliness of any assistance your club has been given? Responses ranged from average to excellent, with the average response being **good**.

How would you rate Amateur Soccer Federation Referees? Responses ranged from poor to very good, with the average response being **average**.

How would you rate the Amateur Soccer Federation Tribunal Process? Responses ranged from poor to good, with the average response being **average**.

Clubs were asked to answer YES or NO to these questions:

Would you be prepared to contribute to a RULES REVIEW process at the end of the season to review our Rules of Competition for 2010. YES - 7/8 NO - 1/8

Do you support active referees serving on the ASFV Management Committee? YES - 6/8 NO 2/8

Do you favour the compulsory production of ID cards for players (i.e. the NO CARD - NO PLAYRULE)? YES - 7/8 NO 1/8

Clubs were also given the opportunity to suggest how we could improve our service. While there were a number of general suggestions (such as improve the standard of refereeing) there was very little in the way of specific suggestions. One club suggested an alternate way of establishing player ID, using a process other than photo ID cards. Under this scheme, the office would email each club each week a list of its registered players complete with photograph, and these would be the only players permitted to be used for that week.

The suggestion has merit, and indeed we did trials of such a system during our software development earlier this year. There are several technical problems associated with such a scheme, the most significant of which is the size of the file that would need to be attached. For a two-team club it would need to include 40-50 player photos. The transmission time is currently prohibitive, and many email servers do not allow attachments of that size anyway. It would also rely on every club having access to a color printer each week, and would further need a reliable internet connection.

It was a nice thought, and we did extensive trials in May - June 2009. But for now, it's not an op-



RULES REVIEW

Each year we have a review of our rules of competition. Each year we ask clubs if they want to be involved in that process. Each year most clubs say no, but a few say yes, and each year those that said yes don't turn up when the time arrives. It makes you wonder why we bother. But we do, and we will again. So here goes:

Any club wishing to participate in the 2009 Rules Review Committee are invited to register their interest by emailing the Vicsoccer office at info@vicsoccer.com. Please include the words RULES REVIEW in the subject line of your email message. Persons participating should be either one of the nominated club officials (president or secretary) or a club member nominated by the club to represent them.

We generally have several "email meetings" where topics and suggestions are sent back and forth between members of the Rules Review Committee, then we host several workshops where we all meet and thrash out any proposed changes. I look forward to receiving expressions of interest.

Just to put you in the mood, here are several items that have been raised during the year that may be up for review:

What happens when a team withdraws from a competition?

At present all match records are expunged, i.e. each match the team has played in is changed to no goals for or against, and no points awarded. It is as if the team had never existed, and had been a bye from the start of the season.

Several alternatives have been suggested, each with its good points and bad points. Got an opinion? Join the Rules Review Committee and have your say.

What happens when the official appointed referee does not turn up?

It shouldn't happen, but it does. It is inevitable that sometimes an appointed referee will not arrive. At present the home team appoints a referee, and that person referees for the entire game.

There have been some interesting suggestions about what should happen here. Has this problem affected you this year. Got a suggestion? Join the Rules Review Committee and have your say.

Do you have any other issues with our rules? Do you think clubs that cause a match to start late should be penalised more severely? Do you agree with the No ID Card - No Play rule? Maybe you have a better idea, or a compromise.

If so, we would welcome your participation in the 2009 Rules Review Committee - our way of putting YOUR rules of competition back into YOUR hands. Take us up on the offer, or don't grumble in 2010 when the rules don't suit you!

REFEREE IN 2010

Vicsoccer is to commence a referee training course soon, to prepare a new batch of referees to join our ranks in 2010. The new candidates will be trained in refereeing theory and practice, and on successful completion will be awarded a certificate in The Laws of Association Football. Practice matches will be available during the 2010 World Cup competition.

Referees in Vicsoccer earn tax-free cash each Sunday. Current fees are \$90 per senior match, or \$110 for Premier League matches. Reserve matches pay \$60, and assistant referees are paid half of the referee fee for the match in question.

Training is provided free of charge at our office in Caulfield. So if you would like to give it a try, jump onto our website at www.vicsoccer.com and follow the link to the referee page for details on how to register.