

2012 Manchester United Premier Cup Application

Manchester United Premier Cup U.S. Finals 2012 - General Format

- The Manchester United Premier Cup 2012 U.S. Finals will take place May 24-28, 2012 in Beaverton, Oregon on the campus of NIKE World Headquarters.
- Age group: U14/15 Boys - born on/after 1/1/1997; U14 Girls born on/after 8/1/1997. A January 1st age category cut-off deadline is instituted for the boys for the U.S. Finals because the World Finals for the boys has an age category deadline of born on or after **January 1st, 1997** as well. Girl's teams should note that the Gothia Cup has an age category cut-off date of born on or after January 1st, 1997. Therefore, for the Gothia Cup, the winner of the girls Manchester United Premier Cup US Finals can add players to their roster for the Gothia Cup as long as they are born on or after January 1st, 1996.
- 20 teams per gender (40 total) from across the U.S. will participate! Teams will need to apply for the tournament and the best 20 teams from across the nation (determined by a tournament committee) from both genders that apply will be invited to participate. Please note that teams that are sponsored by any athletic apparel brand can apply.

For both genders, the 20 teams will be divided into 4 groups with 5 teams in each group. The first and second place teams of each group will advance to the Round of 8/Quarter-Finals, with winners of the Quarter-Finals advancing to the Semi-Finals and the winners of the Semi-Finals will advance to the Finals. Placement games will be played to determine places 1-8. Teams that don't advance to the Quarter Finals after group play is over will be able to play a maximum of 2 friendly games after the group games.

All teams will play a minimum of 6 games throughout the tournament and a maximum of 7 games (for Finalists). Group games will take place Friday and Saturday. Quarter-Final games, placement games and friendly games will take place Sunday. The Finals, final placement games and last friendly games will be played on Monday. A detailed tournament schedule will be provided in the tournament acceptance package. We will do a tournament draw, similar to the World Cup draw, at the opening ceremony the night before the tournament to determine which teams will play each other.

Team Invitations

Top teams from all over the United States will be invited to apply for the tournament. Teams will be asked to fill out an application form and send in a team resume as well. After receipt of all application forms and team resumes, a tournament committee will then decide which 20 teams per gender will be accepted into the tournament. All boys' teams that are applying should include information on both the club's U14 and U15 teams because that information will be considered in the selection of teams if those teams are planning on using players from both age groups of that club.

By inviting you to apply to participate in this prestigious event, we recognize the successes that your team has accomplished. We want to provide you with an opportunity that can be found nowhere else in the United States. This opportunity extends beyond that of being able to compete with top youth teams

from throughout the United States, and potentially the world, it is also an opportunity for the young player to shine.

Team Requirements

- The Manchester United Premier Cup U.S. Finals tournament requires that all participating teams must consist of players who are a member of that team's club, and those players participate as a member of the club on a team registered to the club in club competition including National/State Cup, United States Soccer Development Academy or ECNL competition , with the exception of 3 guest players. Each team is allowed 3 guest players who are not registered to the club.
- Players must be born on or after January 1st, 1997 on the boy's side, and players born on or after August 1, 1997 for the girls.
- Rosters:
Boy's team rosters may consist of 20 players for the tournament, of which only 18 players of the 20 can be on the game roster for each game.
New for 2012: Boys team rosters may now consist of players who are United States Soccer Development Academy (USSDA) full time players or USSDA Developmental Players. Girl's team rosters may consist of 18 players for the tournament, and for each game. Teams must designate before each game – on the official tournament lineup card – which 11 players will be a starter for that particular game and which players will be substitutes. Guest Players: All teams are allowed 3 guest players, who do not have to be a member of the club, on the roster for the tournament.

Please note: For the Boys World Finals, teams are only allowed to roster 16 players for the tournament!

- Teams accepted to participate in the Manchester United Premier Cup will be required to pay a team entrance fee of \$ 500.00 per team.
- All transportation to/from/during, as well as accommodation and meals during the Manchester United Premier Cup U.S. Finals, is at the expense and provision of each individual team. Upon acceptance into the tournament, accommodation information will be given in a team acceptance/confirmation package. Teams that are accepted into the tournament must also commit to booking their hotel rooms at one of the official tournament hotels.
- Teams that are accepted into the tournament must commit to booking their inbound flights on May 24 (arrival in Oregon prior to 6pm), and booking their return flights no earlier than Monday, May 28, 7:00 pm because of the tournament schedule.

Next Steps

- Read through this packet to fully understand the requirements of this tournament.

- Fill out the application form and Manchester United Premier Cup roster form, by February 10, 2012 Applications turned in after this date will be put on a wait list.
- Premier International Tours will notify all teams if they have been accepted to participate by February 17, 2012.
- Teams will then need to confirm their participation by sending in a team confirmation with the \$ 500.00 team entrance fee by February 29, 2012. Checks for the team entrance fee should be made payable to Premier International Tours and sent to the following address:

Premier International Tours
C/O Manchester United Premier Cup
288 Clayton St. - Suite 305
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Contact Information

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