

Tom West – State Soccer Chair

10 Orchard Drive
Charleston, IL 61920
(217) 246-4468
twest54@hotmail.com

KofC Soccer Challenge
State Finals – Saturday, November 10th, 2018
Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois

Registration will begin at 11AM. The competition will get underway at 12PM noon. If participants are running late, a courtesy call to Tom West at 217-246-4468 would be appreciated. We will make every effort to allow each child to participate, but must be certain that any delay will not disrupt the flow or fairness of competition.

It is urgent that your child's score sheet/score card is available at registration. Most score sheets are mailed in by the regional host, but if you were given your child's score card, make sure you bring it with you and present it when registering.

The competition is scheduled to be held outdoors at the SRC softball complex, located on the Southwest part the campus (see the EIU map attachment). If the weather conditions are not safe, we may postpone the start time of registration and competition. Feel free to call Tom West at 217-246-4468 Friday evening or Saturday morning for clarification of any changes.

Special Accommodations

Should anyone need handicap accessible accommodations, please **call me right away**. EIU can prepare things for us ahead of time if I contact the folks at EIU. It's a long walk from the parking lot to the fields so we have been granted permission to allow vehicles with elderly and/or handicapped occupants to park near the fields. If you do not have someone in your vehicle that is handicapped, please park in the parking lot and not take advantage of the college's good will.

Do not park at/near the site. Please allow the elderly and handicapped to park along the lane leading to the fields and nobody except helpers should park near the fields.

Hotels

For those interested in accommodations for Friday and/or Saturday, contact Jackie Tucker at Suzie Davis Travel at (217) 235-3737 as soon as possible. **Use my name**, Tom West, and she can reserve room for you in either Charleston or Mattoon.

Church Services

For those interested in attending Mass Saturday evening, the local Parish, St. Charles Borromeo, has Mass at 5PM on Saturday evening. We can give directions to the Church to anyone interested. There are also Masses on Sunday at St. Charles and the Newman Center on the EIU campus. I would be glad to also give anyone the name and number of the Church or their choice in Charleston or Mattoon.

Directions

For those of you wanting to use MapQuest or another GPS service, Eastern Illinois University is not listed with an address, so I have an address that will get you to the intersection listed on "Step Four" in the directions. It is: Jerry's Pizza, 1508 4th Street, Charleston, IL 61920.

Also, there is parking available just South of the fields at the United Wesley Methodist Church at 2206 4th St., Charleston, IL 61920.

1. From I-57, take exit 190-A for Route 16 East.
2. Stay on Route 16 and you will be in Charleston after traveling 6.5 miles. Watch your speed. As you come off the ramp, the speed limit is 45 mph and only 55 mph after you go through the first light.
3. Once in Charleston, Route 16 becomes **Lincoln Avenue**. Go through about 4 lights (the 4th one will be at McDonald's, and then the 5th light should be 4th Street. (This is the intersection referred to above.) ***Soccer Challenge signs will be posted on the right at this intersection.***

4. **Turn right on 4th Street.** You will be traveling South through the Northwest edge of the Eastern Illinois University campus. **Refer to the EiuMap attachment.** You will see older campus buildings on your left and some houses that the university owns on your right. There is a Jimmy Johns on your left.
5. **At the 3-way stop sign at Grant Street, you will see McAfee Gymnasium on your left, Marty's on your right** and some dorms to your right across from Marty's.
6. **Stay on 4th Street and go straight.** As you continue down 4th Street, you will be less than a mile from the fields. Go past the softball and rugby fields on your right. *A Soccer Challenge banner will be posted at the entrance to this parking lot.*
You will park at the back of the parking lot located on your right just past these fields. There will be 2 dorms to your left as you get to the parking lot. *If anyone has handicap issues, call me so that I can arrange for you to park closer to the fields.* We have limited parking near the fields.
7. There is about a 2-300 yard walk down a gravel lane to our fields. **Do NOT pull your vehicles into this area or campus police will issue tickets.** Only handicap vehicles, State officers and event workers will be allowed beyond the parking lot.

Other Notes

Since we want contestants to be prepared for outdoor participation, they should bring soccer cleats for outdoor competition. Bring your own soccer ball for warm-up.

In order to insure fairness in the competition, only our competition soccer balls will be used – they will not be available for practice.

Although bleachers will be available, spectators may bring lawn chairs if preferred. **Be prepared for possible cold and wet conditions.** While it is easy to keep warm while competing, the wait for your group's turn can become difficult if participants and spectators are not protected from the elements. I cannot stress enough the **importance of keeping your child warm; especially his/her feet.**

The decisions of the competition judges are final.

Please do not ruin your child's experience by disputing a score. The judges at the State Finals have gone through years of Council, District, Regional and State Finals competitions and have a really good feel for scoring. If your child made it all the way to the State Finals, they have already won and we will make every effort to make every child realize how special they are to have come this far.

Each score is double-checked at registration, so please come there if your child's name is announced. It is usually good news; for clarification on details and to perhaps complete missing kicks to become eligible to the International competition. *In order to be eligible for the International competition, each State Champion must complete the Council, District, Regional and State events. If your child is our State champion has not completed one of these kicks, we will call his/her name to come to the registration table to get this done prior to the awards ceremony.*

After Registering, Nobody Allowed Into Registration Unless Directed To Do So

If you or your child needs to keep warm, again, bring blankets or return to your vehicle. We can wrap things up much faster if we have the room at registration. You may be called to come to registration after your child has completed his/her kicks. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping this facility vacant.

There will be port-a-potties available at the softball complex.

For Maps

Visit the State Council website at illinoisknights.org and move cursor over "Faith In Action" for the drop down box, mover cursor to "Community", then to "Youth", and click on "Soccer Challenge". Scroll down and click on "State Contest Information". We may have the "Maps" included.