



Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge

State Community Director

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Overview

The Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge is a great way for Councils to engage in their communities with an athletic event for the youth that encourages the values of sportsmanship and healthy and fun competition. Children 9-14 years old are provided an opportunity to demonstrate the most important skill in soccer-shooting accuracy on the penalty kick.

ACTION STEPS

1. Order the Soccer Challenge Kit (#SC-KIT) through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online. It is recommended that your Council order the kit at least 6-8 weeks prior to start of your Council Soccer Challenge
2. Set a date, time, and location for your Soccer Challenge.
3. Promote your Council Soccer Challenge through school PE Classes. Or promote the program through local schools, soccer leagues and associations.
4. Obtain enough help to host the event. It is recommended at each goal should have at least 3-4 volunteers to man each goal.

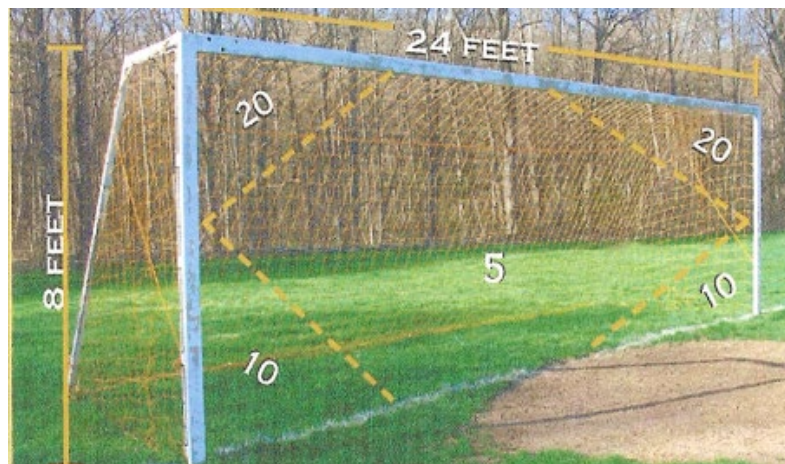
Rules and Regulations

- All boys and girls between the ages of 9-14 years old are eligible to compete in the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge.
- Age eligibility is determined by the age of the contestant as of September 1.
- Each contestant 9-11 years old will take shots at the goal from the penalty line 10 yards from the goal. Each contestant 12-14 years old will take shots from the penalty line 12 yards from the goal.
- Each contestant takes 15 consecutive shots at the Council competition and 25 consecutive shots at the District, Diocesan, and State competitions.
- Each contestant can take three practice shots at all levels of competition.
- If a Tie Breaker is necessary, each contestant will take three shots from a position three yards behind the designated age penalty line.

- Boys and girls from ages 9, 10, & 11 years old use a regulation size #4 soccer ball.
- Boys and girls from ages 12, 13, & 14 years old use a regulation size #5 soccer ball.
- Points will be awarded upon the area of the scoring zone through which the ball passes.
- The ball must enter one of the scoring zones in order to count as a score for that shot and the shot must travel beyond the front of the goal in order to count as a score.
- Any contestant that crosses the foul line before the kick must be counted as a foul and must be counted as a “O” score.

COMPETITION

- The goal is divided into a series of five scoring zones.
- The two upper zones will be designed as 20 point zones, the two lower zones will be designed as 10 point zones, and the center region will be a 5 point zone.
- To construct the scoring zones, attach a piece of rope approximately 6½ - 7 feet diagonally across the four corners of the goal. Use tent stakes to secure the bottom rope to the ground.



Deadlines

- **August 15, 2023-** Order Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge Kits
- **September 30, 2023-** Deadline to complete Council Soccer Challenge
- **October 15, 2023-** Deadline to conduct their District Soccer Challenges
- **October 31, 2023-** Deadline to conduct their Diocesan Soccer Challenges
- **November 12, 2023-** State Soccer Challenge in Baton Rouge at the Burbank Soccer Complex

Awards

- Councils are encouraged to create their own Council Awards.
- District 1st Place winners will receive District Medallions and the right to compete at the Diocesan Soccer Challenge.
- Diocesan 1st Place Winners will receive special Soccer Plaques and the right to compete in the State Soccer Challenge.
- State 1st Place Winners will receive a special Soccer Plaque and earn the right to advance to the Knights of Columbus International Soccer Competition.
- All International Champions will receive an International Soccer Challenge Championship Award commissioned by the Supreme Council.

All first-place boy and girl winners in each age category will advance to the next level of competition. However, if the first-place winner cannot attend the next level of competition, the second-place winner can advance.

