



Effective Date: June 13, 2020

Note: Specific scenarios may arise that these rules do not address. NWSL reserves the right to update these rules as appropriate.

**2020 Champions Cup Presented by P&G and Secret  
Roster Rules**

**Competition Calendar**

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Monday, May 25         | Preseason Starts – 40 Player Maximum Roster   |
| Friday, June 12        | Trade window opens<br>Teams may waive players   |
| Sunday, June 21        | Tournament roster compliance date<br>Trade window closes<br>Final rosters due (22-28 players)   |
| Wednesday, June 24     | Primary registration window closes  |
| Friday, July 31        | Short-term contracts terminate  |
| Monday, August 3       | Trade window opens<br>Secondary registration window opens   |
| Friday, August 7       | Post-tournament roster compliance date<br>Short-term contract players become discovery eligible unless<br>signed for the remainder of the 2020 season or for the<br>2021 season |
| Wednesday, September 2 | Secondary Registration window closes  |

**Allocation Money**

All allocation money that has been purchased or acquired by a team, but will go unused during the 2020 season, may be refunded to the Team upon request.

**PRESEASON**

**Roster Sizes**

Maximum of 40 rostered players, draft picks, and trialists.

**Roster Compliance**

Tournament roster compliance date is Sunday, June 21. The League will circulate a tournament roster submission form due on June 21.

Max: 28 Contracted Players (24 Senior + 4 Supplemental)

Min: 22 Contracted Players (Combined Senior and Supplemental)



Effective Date: June 13, 2020

Note: Specific scenarios may arise that these rules do not address. NWSL reserves the right to update these rules as appropriate.

Contracted players (including allocated players) who choose not to participate in the tournament will not count towards a team's roster spots or salary cap. Salary cap relief will extend from June 21, 2020 through July 31, 2020, and may be extended on a case by case basis.

Contracted international players will not count towards a team's roster spots, salary cap, or international spots under the following conditions:

- o Player cannot obtain her visa due to embassy closures
- o Player cannot report to her team because of COVID-19 related travel restrictions
- o Player chooses not to participate in the tournament

### New Contracts

All contracts for signings with typical terms (terminating 12/31/2020 or after future seasons) are acceptable.

Short-term contracts starting before June 21, 2020 and terminating July 31, 2020 are also acceptable. Short-term contracts may not include an option. Short-term contracts must be pro-rata minimum salary or greater. Teams are permitted a maximum of four (4) short-term contracts. Unlike NTRP or GK replacement contracts, you must hold the player's rights (via discovery, college draft, retirement, etc.) in order to sign that player to a short-term contract. No player currently under contract with a NWSL team may be offered a short-term contract (i.e. teams cannot modify an existing contract to change it to a short-term contract). Short-term loans (ending 7/31/2020) from teams outside the NWSL are permissible. Players on short-term contracts may be on the supplemental roster, as long as the contract conforms to all requirements for the supplemental roster.

At the expiration of a short-term contract, teams will have 7 days to provide a bona fide offer to the player for the 2021 season that has a start date between August 1, 2020 and March 1, 2021. If a bona fide offer is not presented to the player by August 7, the player will become discovery eligible to all teams. Contrary to the foregoing, if the player on a short-term contract was selected by the team in the 2020 NWSL College Draft, the team will retain the player's rights through the start of the 2021 preseason even if a bona fide offer is not made.

In addition to short-term contracts, teams may employ National Team Replacement Player contracts on a one-to-one basis for any United States or Canadian allocated player who chooses not to participate in the tournament.

### Discovery

Discovery list limits will remain at seven (7) total players, including a maximum of three (3) international players, until the discovery policy is revised by the Competition Committee.

### Trades

The trade window will open on Friday, June 12. The trade window will close on June 21.



Effective Date: June 13, 2020

Note: Specific scenarios may arise that these rules do not address. NWSL reserves the right to update these rules as appropriate.

Trades may proceed on Friday, June 12. There are no new restrictions on trades that are limited to non-player assets (i.e. allocation money, draft picks, international spots, etc.), **but trades involving one or more players requires approval of all players involved in the trade.** The NWSL will provide oversight to ensure that the transition between teams is compliant with all safety protocols.

### Waivers

Players may be waived starting Friday, June 12. No players may be waived after the Tournament Roster Compliance Date on June 21 (all contracts become guaranteed on the roster freeze date).

A player may **NOT** be waived prior to August 3 if the player has indicated that she will not play in the tournament.

For any players waived prior to the Tournament Roster Compliance Date on June 21, the team waving the player will be responsible for paying the salary of the player and providing housing through July 31, unless the player is selected by another team via the waiver process.

**For players waived on or after August 3, Teams will be responsible for fulfilling all contractual obligations for 2020.**

## **TOURNAMENT**

### 2020 Player Incentives

For any player who has a contract that includes financial incentives (i.e. a bonus based on achieving certain performance metrics, such as goals, minutes played, etc.), the following guidelines will be utilized to determine if the financial incentives will be paid.

- 1) The “2020 NWSL Season” will be defined by the NWSL as the number of games played by a team in the tournament. For example, this means that for two teams (those making the final) the 2020 NWSL Season will include 7 games, while for one team the 2020 NWSL will include only 4 games.
- 2) There will be no “NWSL postseason/playoffs” in 2020, so it will not be possible for players to earn any incentives based on post-season/playoff achievements. This will only impact contracts that include incentives based on post-season/playoff performance.
- 3) For incentives that are earned by players based on achieving a specific quantity of an achievement (i.e. goals per season, clean sheets per season, etc.), teams will be required to pay any such incentives earned based on the terms of the existing contract. This would include (but is not limited to):
  - a. Goals per season
  - b. Assists per season



Effective Date: June 13, 2020

Note: Specific scenarios may arise that these rules do not address. NWSL reserves the right to update these rules as appropriate.

- c. Games played
- d. Games started
- e. Minutes played
- f. Saves per season
- g. Clean sheets season
- h. Wins per season

In the event the incentive is not achievable given the reduced number of games in the 2020 NWSL Season (i.e. bonus paid for playing 1000 or more minutes in the season) the incentive cannot be earned and teams are not responsible for paying the incentive.

- 4) For incentives that require players to achieve a specific percentage of an achievement (i.e. play in 50% or more of games), the denominator will be determined using the total number of games played by the team in the tournament, and the numerator will be the number of the achievement.

*Using the example above, if a team played 7 games, and the player played in 4 of those games, the player would be deemed to have played in 57% of the games and would therefore earn the incentive.*

- 5) “NWSL Awards” for the 2020 season will not be issued, and as such, any incentives that are triggered by a NWSL award (as detailed below) are not possible to earn.
- a. Best XI
  - b. Second XI
  - c. Rookie of the Year
  - d. MVP
  - e. Golden Boot
  - f. Making NWSL semi-final or final
  - g. Winning NWSL championships

- 6) The above rules will also apply to contracts where the achievement occurs in the 2020 NWSL Season but the incentive is paid in 2021 (or impacts the terms of future years in the contract).

*For example, if a player’s contract will change to guaranteed status and her base compensation will increase by \$5,000 for the 2021 season if she scores 5 or more goals in the 2020 season, the contract would be adjusted accordingly if the Player scored 5 or more goals in the Tournament.*

### Goalkeepers

Each team must have three (3) goalkeepers on their 22-28 player roster for the tournament.

### **EXPANSION TEAMS**

Expansion teams may acquire players through the following mechanisms:



Effective Date: June 13, 2020

Note: Specific scenarios may arise that these rules do not address. NWSL reserves the right to update these rules as appropriate.

- 1) Add players to discovery list on June 25
- 2) Sign players on their discovery list on August 3
- 3) College Draft in January 2021