



# **MISSION CUP ONE-DAY TOURNAMENT & EVENT PLANNING TEMPLATE**

*Where the Gospel Meets the Goal*



## **Mission Cup: Where the Gospel Meets the Goal**

### *One-Day Outreach Tournament Schedule & Event Planning Template*

#### **Event Overview:**

The Mission Cup is a one-day community soccer tournament designed to engage people of all ages and backgrounds through the universal language of sport. The event will combine friendly competition with opportunities for gospel outreach, fun activities, and community engagement. The goal is to keep attendees active, involved, and present throughout the day, while offering moments for witnessing and connection with local churches and ministries.

#### **Tournament Schedule:**

- **8:00 AM – 9:00 AM: Check-In & Registration**
  - Registration desk where participants and spectators check in.
  - Free event T-shirts or wristbands for those who register early.
  - Opportunity for church and ministry booths to set up and display information.
- **9:00 AM – 9:15 AM: Opening Ceremony & Welcome**
  - Welcome message from local district leaders and pastors.
  - Brief explanation of the day's schedule.
  - Prayer for the event and participants.
  - Explanation of the outreach focus: "Where the Gospel Meets the Goal."
- **9:15 AM – 11:30 AM: Round 1 of Matches**
  - Teams play 20-30 minute matches. Use a round-robin format to ensure everyone plays multiple games.
  - Teams are mixed from different districts to encourage community interaction.
- **11:30 AM – 12:30 PM: Witnessing & Break Time**
  - During a break between matches, have testimony speakers share their stories of faith.
  - Interactive booths with gospel tracks, Bibles, and ministry pamphlets.
  - A mini "half-time show" featuring worship music or a brief gospel message.
- **12:30 PM – 2:30 PM: Round 2 of Matches**
  - Continue with games, keeping the energy high with quick, friendly competition.



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- Announcer to keep energy up, sharing scripture verses or prayers between games.
- **2:30 PM – 3:30 PM: Food, Fellowship, & Outreach Activities**
  - Food trucks or community food booths featuring local church vendors (hot dogs, BBQ, tacos, etc.).
  - Provide free water and snacks to keep the community engaged.
  - “Fun Zone” for kids with games, face painting, inflatable bounce houses, etc.
  - Local church teams can host booths to share information about their ministries and how to get involved.
- **3:30 PM – 4:30 PM: Final Matches & Tournament Completion**
  - Semi-finals and finals of the tournament.
  - Engage the crowd with upbeat music, cheering, and announcements.
- **4:30 PM – 5:00 PM: Award Ceremony & Closing**
  - Trophy presentation for the winning team and acknowledgements for participants.
  - Closing gospel message and invitation for prayer or connection with local churches.
  - Group prayer to wrap up the day and encourage participants to stay connected to their faith journey.

## Fun Ideas to Keep People Engaged:

- **Mini-Games & Contests:**
  - A penalty shootout contest during breaks, with prizes for winners.
  - “Goal of the Day” challenge, with voting from the crowd on the best goal scored in the tournament.
  - A “Juggling Challenge” to see who can keep the soccer ball in the air the longest.
- **Social Media Engagement:**
  - Set up a photo booth with props and a hashtag (#MissionCup) for people to share their photos on social media.
  - Encourage participants to share photos with the event’s hashtag to spread the word and invite friends.
- **Interactive Prayer Wall:**
  - Set up a prayer wall where people can write prayer requests and also pray for others in return.
  - Encourage church members to pray with attendees on-site.



## Ways to Keep People There All Day:

- **Loyalty Cards:**
  - Provide loyalty cards that attendees can get stamped at various booths and activities throughout the day for a chance to win a prize at the end.
- **Engage through Games and Competitions:**
  - Rotate other interactive sports and games, such as a 3-on-3 basketball game or a volleyball set-up.
- **Family-Friendly Atmosphere:**
  - Offer kid-friendly entertainment (bouncy houses, face painting) to draw families in and keep them at the event.

## Food Options:

- **Food Trucks/Local Vendors:**
  - Offer diverse food choices: tacos, burgers, pizza, BBQ, and vegetarian options.
  - Snacks such as popcorn, ice cream, and fruit.
- **Drink Stations:**
  - Hydration stations with water and sports drinks for players.
  - Coffee and cold beverages for the spectators.
- **Donation-Based Food Stand:**
  - Offer food for a donation, with proceeds going to missions or community outreach programs.

## How to Let People Know About the Event:

- **Social Media Campaign:**
  - Promote through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter with posts about the tournament and its gospel outreach mission.
  - Use event pages to encourage community sign-ups.
  - Include testimonials and past event highlights to generate excitement.
- **Church Announcements & Flyers:**
  - Encourage local churches to announce the event from the pulpit and share it on church social media.
  - Distribute flyers in local neighborhoods and coffee shops.
- **Local Press and Radio:**
  - Reach out to local radio stations, community news outlets, and church bulletins to promote the event.
- **Email Newsletter:**



- Send invitations to church members, district leaders, and community partners through email with a direct call to action to attend and register.

## **Tournament Options for Age Groups:**

To ensure the tournament is accessible to a wide range of participants, we will divide teams based on age groups and skill levels. This allows for fair competition and maximizes engagement across all ages.

- **Under 12 (Youth Division):**
  - Teams of 5-7 players.
  - Smaller field sizes for easier play and a focus on fun and development.
  - 15-minute halves with a 5-minute halftime.
- **13-17 (Teen Division):**
  - Teams of 6-8 players.
  - Standard-size field for competitive play.
  - 20-minute halves with a 5-minute halftime.
- **18+ (Adult Division):**
  - Teams of 7-9 players.
  - Full-size field for more competitive matches.
  - 25-minute halves with a 10-minute halftime.
- **Co-ed Division (Family/Community Friendly):**
  - Teams of 5-7 players, with a minimum number of female players on the field (to encourage inclusivity).
  - Mixed age groups, ensuring a fun, family-friendly atmosphere.
  - 15-minute halves with a 5-minute halftime.

## **Prayer on the Field:**

We believe in the power of prayer and its importance in setting the tone for the day's activities. Integrating prayer into the event offers a spiritual foundation for the entire tournament.

- **Pre-Game Prayer:**
  - Before each match, a brief prayer can be said on the field by team captains, with coaches or pastors leading. This can focus on unity, sportsmanship, safety, and the opportunity to witness the love of Christ through sport.
- **Mid-Game Prayer (Optional):**



- Halfway through the game, teams can come together for a brief moment of prayer, thanking God for the opportunity to play and asking for continued safety and sportsmanship throughout the game.
- **Post-Game Prayer:**
  - After each match, teams can come together for a brief prayer of gratitude and reflection, highlighting the values of friendship, community, and teamwork in Christ.

## Honoring Sportsmanship:

A key value of the Mission Cup is maintaining a spirit of Christlike sportsmanship. To encourage this, we will highlight teams and individuals who exemplify these traits throughout the event.

- **Sportsmanship Awards:**
  - At the end of the event, awards will be given to teams and individuals who demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship. Criteria for awards include teamwork, respect for opponents, encouragement of others, and adherence to the tournament rules.
- **Recognition of Coaches and Volunteers:**
  - Special recognition will be given to coaches and volunteers who go above and beyond to support their teams in a Christlike manner, helping to create an inclusive and respectful environment.
- **Prayer and Dedication:**
  - The event can close with a special moment of honoring the spirit of the tournament—honoring not just the winners, but the unity, sportsmanship, and joy of playing in community.

## Rules for Sportsmanship:

To ensure a respectful and positive experience for everyone involved, the following rules will govern all tournament play:

1. **Respect:**
  - Players, coaches, and spectators must treat each other with respect. Disrespectful behavior, including foul language or taunting, will not be tolerated.
2. **No Conflict Rule:**



- Players, coaches, and fans are expected to handle all disagreements with respect. There will be no tolerance for physical altercations, unsportsmanlike conduct, or aggressive behavior on or off the field.
  - In case of a conflict, the following protocol will be followed:
    - **Step 1:** The referee will stop the game and address the situation with a warning.
    - **Step 2:** If the conflict persists, the offending player or coach will be removed from the game for a cooling-off period.
    - **Step 3:** For serious or repeated incidents, the individual may be disqualified from the tournament, and the team will forfeit the match.
- 3. Encouragement and Team Spirit:**
- Players should encourage their teammates and opponents. The focus is on teamwork and uplifting others, creating an environment where everyone is celebrated for their effort, regardless of the outcome.
- 4. Fair Play:**
- The integrity of the game must be maintained. Teams and players are expected to play fairly and abide by the spirit of the game. Cheating, foul play, and intentional rule violations will result in penalties or disqualification.
- 5. Sportsmanship Pledge:**
- At the start of the tournament, each team will recite a sportsmanship pledge, committing to play with respect, honor the rules, and keep the focus on the gospel message of love and community.

## **Tournament Format with Sportsmanship Focus:**

- **Round Robin (Early Rounds):**
  - Each team will play against multiple teams, allowing for a balanced and fair competition. Teams will rotate through various matchups to ensure everyone gets plenty of playtime and opportunities to demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- **Elimination (Finals):**

The top teams from each division will proceed to a knockout-style final round. The elimination rounds will be based on win/loss records, but a key focus will be on maintaining the highest levels of sportsmanship and respect, especially in competitive final matches.

