**4306. DETERMINATION OF BYES**

*In the Men open Cup, the competition shall be formatted so that:*

1. *In the round of 16, in addition to the Men Open State Cup Champions and Runner-ups, based on the final standings of the previous season, the top 3 finishing teams of the top Men Division of the GSSL, the top 2 finishing teams of the top Men Division of the NJSL and the 1 top team of the NJSA affiliated team of the CSL shall be admitted to this round. (Total of 8 teams are automatically advanced in this round).*
2. *In the round of 32, based on the final standings of the previous season, the top 10 finishing teams of the top two Men Divisions of the GSSL not already advanced to the round of 16, and the top 6 finishing teams of the top Men Division of the NJSL not already advanced to the round of 16, shall be admitted to this round. (Total of 16 teams are automatically advanced in this round).*
3. *All other teams shall be scheduled to play in any round prior to the round of 32*

*For all other Cups*

To reduce the number of team *to an even, pairing number (8, 16, 32, 64),* depending on the number of entries for the Cup competition, byes shall be *given during the first round of Cup play*, allowing a team to advance to the next round.

These byes shall be assigned according to the following order:

1) Last season's Cup Champion.
2) Last season's Runner-ups.
3) Last season's 3rd and 4th place.
4) By blind draw.