



PLAYING UP POLICY

Playing up is the exception rather than the rule in youth soccer.

When it is appropriate for soccer development, the opportunity for the player to play with older players shall be considered.

Requests to "play up" must be made in writing to the Board prior to the first tryout date. The Board will review the request with the appropriate coaches.

If permission is granted to tryout at an older age group, the player must commence their tryout with the age appropriate group. Then, with the permission of the Board, the player may move to the older age group for evaluation purposes. (Based upon an evaluation with the age appropriate group, the Board may deny the player a tryout with the older team).

Honesty, integrity and the welfare of all our youth soccer players shall be the overriding factor in this and all requests presented to the staff.

A player should not be pushed to play up by parents/coaches in an attempt to accelerate their ascension to the top of the soccer pyramid.

For development to occur, players and teams must be exposed to levels of competition commensurate with their skills and must be challenged constantly in training and games in order to aspire to higher levels of play and thus maintain their interest and passion for the game.

The final decision as to whether a player is permitted to 'play up' lies with the Board after consultation with the coaches and others as deemed appropriate. All tryout results, evaluations, and other factors in rendering a decision remain confidential.

Approval must be requested and granted annually for any player seeking to play up.

Approvals/denials associated with requests to play up will not be motivated by any action to intentionally strengthen/weaken a particular team.

Playing up under the appropriate circumstances should not be interpreted as a permanent decision and preclude a player from playing in his or her own age group when it is evaluated to be in the best interest of the player's development.

As a result of registration/tryout numbers, the Board may seek volunteers to play up in order to complete a team roster. This is only used on rare occasions in order to field a team.

All decisions are final. There is no process to appeal a decision to deny permission to play up.

The Board will communicate all decisions made with respect to playing up.

The above guidelines serve to give general direction to the decision makers and do not necessarily cover all unique situations presented for consideration.