



American Youth Soccer Organization

Region 894

“Play Up” Policy

APPROVED BY REGIONAL BOARD ON January 16, 2018

Regional Commissioner John Price Date January 1, 2018



Table of Contents

Purpose	3
Introduction	3
Player Eligibility	3
Process	3
Appendix A.....	5



Purpose

This policy has been adopted by the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), Region 894, to define the criteria and process for parents to request that their child “play up” in an older age division.

Please note that AYSO does not allow for players to “play down” to a younger division.

Introduction

It is preferred that all players play in the division designated by the Age Guide for the current Membership Year (see our web page at <http://www.ayso894.net> for the Guide). This guide uses the age of the player as of December 31 of the year that the Membership Year ends (the “date of age determination”). However, it is the policy of the Region to allow some flexibility by allowing some players to “play up” one division with the approval of the Regional Commissioner.

Membership Years run from August 1st through July 31st of each calendar year.

Player Eligibility

To be eligible to play up, the “date of age determination” is moved from December 31st to June 30th of the year that a Membership Year ends. A player must be at least 4-years-old at the start of the season to play.

A “Play up” eligibility calculator for Membership Year 2017 is provided in Appendix A.

The age requirement determines initial eligibility. The following are other factors that will be considered:

- The player must be an above average player in his/her own age division,
- The player must physically and mentally be able to keep up with the players in the higher division (based on recommendation of prior season’s coach and/or division coordinator),
- Availability of roster slots in the division for which the request is being made,
- Any other factor deemed relevant by the Regional Commissioner.

Process

All requests for a child to play up must be made in writing (email is acceptable) to the Regional Commissioner during registration and prior to team formation. The request must include the parent’s rationale for wanting their child to play up.

Approvals for requests to play up are not automatic. The Regional Commissioner, with the assistance of the Regional Registrar, will first confirm that the initial eligibility requirements are met. In the event a player’s date of birth has not been verified the parents will be required to provide proof of date of birth.



If the age requirement is satisfied, the Regional Commissioner will consult with the player’s coach from the previous season and/or the Division Coordinator. During team formation the Regional Commissioner, Division Coordinator and Registrar will determine if there are roster vacancies available. If vacancies are available and the player meets all of the requirements, the Regional Commissioner will make the final decision and notify the parents. Additional factors may be considered by the Regional Commissioner should conditions within the Region warrant it.

- No exceptions will be made to play up beyond one age division.
- Players are not allowed to play up solely on the basis of skill.
- There is no “Two Year Rule.” A player will not be automatically played up just because they’ve already played two years in a given division.
- Players transferring to Region 894 from other Regions or soccer programs are subject to the same rules as everyone else. Playing up in another Region does not automatically mean the request to play up will be approved.



Appendix A

AYSO Player Division Guide				
Birth Year	Age on Jun 30, 2018	Fall 2017	Spring 2018	Fall 2018
2014	4			5U
2013	5	5U	5U	6U
2012	6	6U	6U	8U
2011	7	8U	8U	8U
2010	8	8U	8U	10U
2009	9	10U	10U	10U
2008	10	10U	10U	12U
2007	11	12U	12U	12U
2006	12	12U	12U	14U
2005	13	14U	14U	14U
2004	14	14U	14U	16U
2003	15	16U	16U	16U
2002	16	16U	16U	19U
2001	17	19U	19U	19U
2000	18	19U	19U	19U
1999	19	19U	19U	n/a