



WE ARE AYSO

AYSO Region 92 – Guidelines for Moving-Up to Higher Age Division

Board Approved: 21-Apr-2014

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish guidelines for cases where a player may wish to move-up to a Division above of his or her age group. By default, registered players will be assigned to the appropriate Division based on their “League Age.” League Age is determined by the player’s age as of July 31 of the year in which the membership year begins.

The Region recognizes that children develop emotionally, physically and athletically as unique individuals. As a result, players in each age Division will vary significantly in terms of their competitive abilities. The Region attempts to ensure competitive play by creating balanced teams with all skill levels represented on each team within each Division.

Move-Up Criteria

In extraordinary circumstances, the Region may allow a player to move up a Division. The following guidance will apply in determining when a player may be advanced to a higher Division. All requests to move-up must be in writing and approved by the Regional Commissioner.

1. Advancement will be considered when a player’s physical size and/or advanced soccer skills may distort competition in the player’s age-appropriate Division and would be contrary to AYSO’s policy on fielding balanced teams.
2. Advancement will not be approved where in the opinion of the Regional Commissioner the player’s physical size places him or her at an unreasonable risk of injury in the higher Division.
3. Move-up requests will be considered only if space is available in the higher Division.
4. A skills test may be required to demonstrate the ability to play effectively and safely in the higher Division and Commissioners are encouraged to consult with coaches and others familiar with the player’s skill level and degree of emotional maturity.

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5. A Player that moves-up is eligible for All-Stars only in the Division the Player participated in during the Fall season.
6. Region 92 will not automatically recognize move-ups granted by other AYSO Regions.
7. Once the advancement has been approved, and teams are formed, the player may not return to the lower Division.
8. **CIF Eligibility:** A Division U14 player entering 9th grade in the Fall may request to move-up to U16 if the player is also considering participation on the High School soccer team. See the note below regarding CIF eligibility restrictions.
9. Requests to move-up must be approved, in writing, by the Regional Commissioner each season. Upon approval, the Regional Commissioner will then direct the Registrar to assign the player to the higher Division for team assignment.

NOTE: CIF eligibility restrictions for U14 players attending high school:

Players and parents are encouraged to consult with the High School coaches and administrators for the most current CIF eligibility restrictions.

The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) is the governing body for high school sports. The CIF may have restrictions on the time period in which a High School team player may compete on an “outside team” in the same sport. The time period begins around the end of November or early December. If the player participates on an outside team after this date, he or she may become ineligible to participate on the high school team and the player and/or the high school team may be subject to sanctions by the CIF.

AYSO may be considered an “outside team” by the CIF. Region 92 U16 and U19 programs take this date restriction into account, with all games scheduled and completed by the end of November. This is intended to protect the players who might advance to a high school team. However, the U14 program is generally made up of 7th and 8th graders and therefore runs the same length as the U10 and U12 divisions, with post-season playoffs and possible advancement to League and/or All Star competitions in January thru March.

A player with a “late birth date” may be age appropriate for U14 and attending 9th grade in the Fall. In this case, if the player remained in U14 and later made the roster of a high school team, he or she would be forced to choose between (a) not accepting the position on the high school team, (b) dropping their AYSO team as they advance to playoffs, or (c) playing both and risk ineligibility and sanctions.

Therefore, in an effort to protect both the player and the teams, U14 players entering 9th grade in the Fall and considering participation on the High School soccer team, should consider the option to move-up to the U16 division.

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| AYSO Region 92 Player Move-Up Request Form | | | | |
|--|--|----------|----------------------|-------------|
| Player's Name: | | | Player's Birth Date: | |
| Division Moving From: | | | Division Moving To: | |
| Reason for Move-Up: | | | | |
| Parent or Legal Guardian Name: | | | Telephone: | |
| Parent or Legal Guardian Signature: | | | Request Date: | |
| *** Region Use Only *** | | | | |
| Regional Commissioner Disposition: | | Approve: | | Disapprove: |
| Regional Commissioner Name: | | | | |
| Regional Commissioner Signature: | | | Disposition Date: | |
| Submit the Completed and Signed Form to the Registrar during Registration | | | | |