



Missouri Youth Soccer Association Policy on League Sanctioning

Updated February 23, 2018

Responsibilities of Hosting Organizations

An organization that is hosting a league under the sanctioning of Missouri Youth Soccer:

1. May authorize the teams playing in the league to use its state roster for that seasonal year or shall define what it shall accept as a league roster with the understanding that all participants including players and coaches must be registered as members of Missouri Youth Soccer Association.

2. Permission for non-MYSA teams to participate in a league must be granted by Missouri Youth Soccer annually in writing solely at the written request of a Host Organization. All non-MYSA teams must meet the same standards as Missouri Youth Soccer Association registered teams including all its policies and criteria concerning background checks and coaching education. Any host organization found not enforcing these requirements shall face fines or suspension of sanctioned activities until such teams are complying.

Missouri Youth Soccer Direct Member Leagues

Leagues may also be direct member organizations or separate entities that request to be considered 'sanctioned' by the state Association. In order to become a member organization of Missouri Youth Soccer, a league must provide a 'New Member Application'. A league that is operated within the state and is a non-profit entity may join as a full member. An out of state league wishing to play games in Missouri or a for-profit corporation may only join as an associate member for league play and has no voting rights within Missouri Youth Soccer Association.

Service Price

There is no cost for hosting a league if the member organization is in good standing and is a non-profit organization. The cost for non-member leagues wishing coverage or leagues that are run as a for-profit enterprise is ten (10) dollars per team entered each season of the league (i.e. fall, winter, spring are three separate seasons). When a host organization hires a management company or independent contractor to manage or administer their league, that management company or individual must pay a minimum fee of \$150.00 (one hundred and fifty dollars) per team as a host fee to the host or affiliated member organization that contracts for the service. The management company must also provide a copy of their current Missouri Business License. A management company or individual is considered anyone not directly employed by the host organization or that operates under another FEIN number.

League Game Cards

Missouri Youth Soccer requires the use of games cards for all competitive leagues. These should be kept for a period of one (1) year with the hosting organization (digital retention is acceptable). The information on the game cards must include: Team Names, Coach/Manager Names, full and accurate list of players participating, Age Division, Field Number, Game Time, Date, Center Referee, AR1, AR2, 4th Official (if applicable). Should any participant, coach or observer be dismissed for Violent Conduct or Abusive Language a copy of the game report with a USSF Supplemental Report from the game official is required to be turned in to Missouri Youth Soccer within 48 hours of the occurrence.

Procedures for Applications / Invitations

When a team goes to apply to participate in a league, they must have access to the following information on the Hosting Organization's website or within the registration packet provided:

- 1) A copy of the rules and regulations governing the games.
- 2) A statement that all teams MUST have current member passes of US Youth Soccer or other approved organization of which the team is a member and be in good standing with that organization.
- 3) Refund Policy placed clearly in rules and on a) league website or b) within registration software.
- 4) A statement that US Soccer rules, regarding the use of US Soccer registered referees ONLY.
- 5) Any league requirements/qualifications for participation.
- 6) The name of the League Director, address and phone number(s).

League Agreement to Policies & Guidelines

By receiving sanctioning from Missouri Youth Soccer Association, the host organization agrees to abide by all Missouri Youth Soccer Policies & Guidelines which include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- 1) USSF "Recognize To Recover" Guidelines for player safety: <http://www.recognizetorecover.org/>
- 2) Guidelines for Portable Soccer Goal Safety: <https://www.cpsc.gov/PageFiles/122392/soccer.pdf>
- 3) USYS Code of Conduct: <http://missourisoccer.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/USYS-Code-of-Conduct-2017.pdf>
- 4) Adherence to USSF "Player Development Initiatives" for small sided play: <https://www.ussoccer.com/coaching-education/resources/us-soccer-player-development-initiatives>
- 5) Host must be able to present upon request an Emergency Action Plan and Emergency Contact List.
- 6) League shall only use USSF Officials and Assignors in accordance with USSF standards.

League Standing

All leagues are evaluated on an annual basis for sanctioning based on their adherence to policy, the USSF Player Development Initiatives, and creation of a positive player development environment.

League Reporting

Any incident of referee assault or abuse by a player, coach, manager, club official, or game official, or other incidents of a serious nature, must be reported to the alleged offender's club or league and home State Association, Affiliate, or other Organization Member immediately, but in no event later than 48 hours after an incident or referee assault or abuse.

Cup Qualifying Leagues

A league may request to be recognized as a "Cup Qualifying League" in which participation in the league shall fulfill the league qualification portion of a competitive team's requirements for participating in those MYSA Cup Competitions and beyond to the USYS Regional and National Cups and Leagues that require a sanctioned league component. For consideration of this status the league agrees to the following:

- 1) Competitive divisions that are considered "Cup Qualifying" shall not include any recreational teams
- 2) A team's current Official Mo State Roster is the only acceptable roster that can be used in the league
- 3) League agrees that all Mo State events shall take precedence to its league events
- 4) All games that are considered "Cup Qualifying" shall have 3 USSF game officials assigned to them
- 5) Must schedule and play a minimum of 4 games against teams from three other clubs to be considered.
- 6) A league that does not provide a "Cup Qualifying" division for 2 seasonal years in a row shall lose its standing as a "Cup Qualifying" league and must re-apply for consideration
- 7) Teams can only use "guest players" or "borrowed players" from within their own club. (A league is NOT a club)
- 8) Teams are only scheduled one league game per day and two league games per week maximum if within 60 miles of the game fields. If team is out of market, then only 2 league games are allowed in a day and only three in a weekend.

If a newly established league wishes to be recognized as a sanctioned league that is to be considered as a Cup Qualifying league, the following must be submitted to the MYSA office at least 6 months before the league intends to have games recognized (count towards Cup Qualification) by MYSA and US Youth Soccer:

- 1) A copy of rules, bylaws, & policies Must include: risk management policies, addressing traffic/parking and goal safety/anchoring
- 2) A description of league structure (tiers/divisions)
- 3) Administrative fee of \$500.00
- 4) A description of facilities that will be utilized during the event.
- 5) A count of participating teams and state of origin (MO, IL, KS, etc.)
- 6) Board and Staff contact information.
- 7) Letter of Intent (why starting the league, area of operation, etc.)
- 8) Agree to all rules and policies as applicable to the USYSA National Tournaments Series including all rules and regulations for State Cup and Presidents Cup in Missouri.

The MYSA Board of Directors will consider the league application at the next scheduled meeting of the board and inform the member of its decision.