

## **Section 7. Procedure for Reporting Assault and Abuse**

(A) Procedures for reporting of referee assault and/or abuse shall be developed and disseminated by the National Referee Committee to all Federation registered referees for use in their National State Association.

(B) Referees shall transmit a written report of the alleged assault or abuse, or both, within 48 hours of the incident (unless there is a valid reason for later reporting) to the designee of the State Association and the State Referee Administrator. For tournaments or special events, the referee shall transmit a written report to the tournament director on the day of the incident and to his home state SRA within 10 days of the incident.

## **8.2 - RECRUITMENT**

**Rule VI. Part 3.:** “Recruitment of players ...” is defined as any effort to induce a registered player of any team under the jurisdiction of this association to transfer from his/her team to a new team. Recruiting is any action or statement, made by any team official, as defined, either verbally or in writing that encourages or entices a player to register with a particular coach, team, club and/or organization. Recruitment of players by coaches or team officials, officers or representatives is prohibited with the defined exceptions:

- A. **\*\*\*\*Any recruitment of players U14 and younger at the time of a tryout is prohibited and illegal.** There is no acceptable window of time where the recruitment of players is allowed. The time period between the first Monday after State Cup until July 31 is **NOT** an acceptable recruiting window for U14 and younger age groups.
- B. Recruitment of all boys players U15 and older will only be allowed between the first Monday after State Cup Finals, until July 31. If the team the player is being recruited from is involved in USYS Regional Tournament or National Tournament an additional three (3) weeks will be added to the recruitment time. After July 31, (or the additional three (3) week period due to USYS Regional Competition), recruitment is prohibited and illegal. However if a team going to Regionals is actively recruiting or is involved with the try-out process any team can recruit their players.
- C. \*\*\*Recruitment of all girls players U15 and older will only be allowed between January 1<sup>st</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup>. If the team the player is being recruited from is involved in the USYS Regional Tournament or National Tournament an additional three (3) weeks will be added to the recruitment time. After July 31, (or the additional three (3) week period due to USYS Regional Competition), recruitment is prohibited and illegal. However if a team going to Regionals is actively recruiting or is involved with the try-out process any team can recruit their players.

Team officials guilty of illegal recruitment shall be dealt with by the Board of Directors of NCYSA.

### **Guidelines for Recruiting**

1. Team representatives include parents and players.
2. Definition of any effort to induce will include but shall not be limited by the following:
  - a. A player participating in any type of unauthorized practice or tryout with a team other than the one the player is currently registered. This restriction will not apply for a player who freely chooses to tryout for another team during the time period including the first Monday after the State Cup until July 31<sup>st</sup>. (Older girls from Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>.)
  - b. An offer or promise of college scholarships, free uniforms, discounted team fees, and/or negative statements which could affect the decision of a player regarding choice of teams.
  - c. Guest players must have a signed authorization from their current teams' coach to participate in practices, scrimmages, camps, or games with another team. The coach of the team in which the guest player is playing, is responsible for the proper completion of this form or risk being found guilty of recruiting.

# The following are Generally considered as ACCEPTABLE#

## Pre Tryout Info Meetings

- General Public Announcement
- Direct communication with current registered players within Association

## Pre Tryout Workouts/Camps

- Open to anyone not NCYSA registered
- Open to Registered Players within Association
- Open to Registered players with other Associations with permission from association currently registered with.

## Handouts

- Handouts that are provided for ALL kids in a school.
- Handouts located in sporting goods or soccer store
- Ad in Local Paper
- Ad on local television

## Public Announcements

- Mass email to registered players with Association
- Email to kids not registered to any other NCYSA Member Association
- Mass communication that does not target any one player or group of players will not be considered recruiting.
  - Example: YMCA seeking membership with NCYSA sends a mass email to their Y membership (which may or may not include households of registered players with another NCYSA member) to announce an upcoming soccer camp, or announce an open house event to share their plan for soccer should they become a member. This will not be considered recruiting.
- Any communication/email sent by a member association to its current registered families/households announcing tryouts, promoting the virtues of said association, etc. will not be recruiting.
- A coach with Association A announces at the end of the season that he is leaving Association A and moving to Association B to coach the next year will not in and of itself be deemed as recruiting. Anything more than this simple announcement could be an infraction of NCYSA recruiting rules.
- Association announces their slate of coaches for the upcoming year prior to the open period for NCYSA tryouts will not be deemed as recruiting.
- Associations who purchase a commercial database/ mailing list from a marketing firm or similar entity for the purpose of sending public notices about their association, open houses, announcing tryouts, or general information will not be deemed as recruiting should it be determined after the distribution that that the list included households of children that are registered with a different NCYSA Association.
- Associations sending email notices to households of their current registered players will not be deemed as recruiting if the household also has a child registered with another NCYSA Member Association.

# The following are Generally considered NOT ACCEPTABLE

## Public Announcements

- Email targeted to specific kids registered to other Associations
- Use of Database for email/mail where there is a reasonable expectation that the database includes names of individuals that are registered with a different NCYSA Member Association.

## Handouts

- Handouts for PE classes only
- Handouts given to M.S. and/or H.S. soccer coaches for them to give out to their players
- M.S. or H.S. coach that coaches with a NCYSA member cannot provide handouts or encourage their school players to tryout with any specific Association
- Direct contact of any kind, at any time (includes enticement or encouragement to change Associations) with any U15 and older player currently registered with another association except during open recruiting period
- Allowing any player – currently registered to a different association, to participate in team training w/o guest player roster properly executed.

## GENERAL STATEMENTS

- Associations who knowingly help their staff or other adults affiliated with same association facilitate efforts to intentionally recruit players from other associations will be held accountable for recruiting.
- Associations, having no prior knowledge, will generally not be held accountable for the actions of the association staff or affiliated adults who chose to knowingly or unknowingly engage in improper recruiting of players from other NCYSA Member Associations. This includes, but is not limited to individuals that are paid or not paid, serving in an official capacity or not serving in an official capacity.
- Associations can be held accountable where they have initiated, and/or are aware of unacceptable conduct as it relates to recruiting which could result in a violation of the NCYSA Recruiting Policy.
- Anyone affiliated with a NCYSA Member Association that conducts training camps during the seasonal year must receive from players attending the camp affiliated with other NCYSA members, a properly executed Guest Player Roster.
- Anyone affiliated with a NCYSA member Association that conducts private training or operates a public training business: OK for players from other associations to attend but the instructor must not use the opportunity to encourage players to tryout for any particular association especially the one the instructor is affiliated with.

Violations of the NCYSA Recruiting Policy are not limited to those addressed above.

Sanctions for Illegal Recruiting can include but not limited to probation, suspensions, loss of state cup competition, creating education pieces on recruiting and presenting to NCYSA peers at the NCYSA AGM, and possible fines for Member Associations found guilty of illegal recruiting.