

**BAY SOCCER CLUB RULES AND PROCEDURES  
FOR YOUTH TRAVEL PROGRAM**

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# **BAY SOCCER CLUB RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR YOUTH TRAVEL PROGRAM**

## **ARTICLE I - ELIGIBILITY**

### *Section A.*

First preference shall be given to Players residing in Bay Village or attending school in Bay Village (Community Players). If roster spots are available after all Players meeting the above criteria have been placed on a Team, out of Community Players from outside Bay Village may be considered for placement on a Team. In the case of two Teams (A and B), Community Players are given preference for all available spots before out of Community Players are placed. This is meant to prevent an out of Community Player playing on an A Team when there are Community Players available. Out of Community Players must be noted on registration information and specifically approved by the Travel Team Committee and BSC Board.

### *Section B.*

All Players must be registered BSC members in good standing.

### *Section C.*

Players must attend and complete a try-out each year.

### *Section D.*

Players shall meet the league's age requirements for the Team for which they are trying out, as well as any further age requirements as may be established by the BSC Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE II – TRY-OUTS / EVALUATIONS**

### *Section A.*

Eligible Players will be notified of try-outs by website posting, email or other publicity.

### *Section B.*

Try-outs shall be scheduled near the end of the competitive year, in the Spring Travel season (typically during the month of May), to allow for Team formation for the start of subsequent Fall Travel season. Date and time of try-outs will be determined by the

Commissioners of Travel.

*Section C.*

The Directors of Player Development will plan, staff, and organize try-outs with the assistance of the Commissioners of Travel, Trainers, and Travel Team Coaches.

*Section D.*

A new Age Group shall have a try-out scheduled, which will be supervised by the appropriate Director of Player Development and Commissioner of Travel. If there is a sufficient number of eligible Players, a Team(s) will be formed and Coach(es) selected in accordance with normal Travel Program procedures.

*Section E.*

The Trainer(s) for each age group shall complete and submit to the appropriate Commissioner of Travel an evaluation of current Travel Players prior to try-outs.

*Section F.*

The Head Coach(es) for each age group shall also complete and submit to the appropriate Commissioner of Travel an evaluation of current Travel Players prior to try-outs.

*Section G.*

All Players will be evaluated on their technical ability, tactical ability, and competitiveness. Evaluations shall be planned age-appropriate in these three areas, and must have identical formats for a given Age Group for fair Player evaluation.

*Section H.*

Players must be evaluated on performance, in actual game-like conditions.

*Section I.*

Players unable to participate in evaluations due to injury, moving to the Community, etc. may be given a special evaluation by the Director of Player Development and Commissioner of Travel. The Player must be evaluated as stated in Sections G and H.

*Section J.*

The Commissioners of Travel shall compile evaluations made at try-outs with evaluations

submitted by Age Group Trainer(s) and Age Group Coach(es) to generate a final evaluation for all current and eligible Travel Players,

*Section K.*

Travel Team Coaches shall notify all Players trying out as to their Team assignment as soon as approved by the BSC Board. Every effort shall be made to notify all Players no later than June 30. Additional time may be granted where appropriate and necessary.

*Section L.*

The BSC wishes to encourage the maximum participation when reasonably possible. When only one Team exists, all available roster spots shall be filled if the number of Players trying out for the Team is the same or greater than the maximum number of roster spots. When more than one Team exists, fewer Players may be allocated to each Team, but all roster spots shall be filled if the number of Players trying out is equal or greater than the total number of available roster spots on all Teams in the age group. The Travel Team Committee may recommend deviations to the number of Players on a Team as stated above if, in its determination, circumstances warrant. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, no Team shall be allowed to carry more Players than the number permitted by the League in which the Team is or will be entered.

### **ARTICLE III - LEAGUES**

*Section A.*

The Commissioners of Travel will recommend to the BSC Travel Team Committee the specific Leagues and number of Leagues to be entered.

*Section B.*

Travel Leagues will be entered only after approval of the BSC Board. Leagues entered to offer advanced Player development opportunities shall be in a manner consistent with the Bay Soccer Club's Guidelines for Formation of ONYSA State League Teams (Addendum 2).

*Section C.*

The BSC shall provide a representative to each League in which BSC Travel Teams participate. The Commissioners of Travel shall act as League representative or may appoint a representative to act in his or her place.

*Section D.*

All rules such as stated, but not limited to, those below shall be in accordance with the guidelines of the specific League(s) entered, including but not limited to:

1. Duration of Game
2. Rosters
3. Uniforms
4. Timing
5. Ball
6. Schedule Changes
7. Field Size
8. Side Size
9. Officials
10. Seasons
11. Team and Spectator positions and ejections, suspensions and expulsions

**ARTICLE IV – TEAMS**

*Section A.*

Prior to try-outs, the Travel Team Committee will determine the number of Travel Teams that can be accommodated given field availability and other relevant factors. A Team for each age group with a sufficient number of eligible Players shall be formed. Additional Teams may exist from year to year. The additional Teams authorized for each year will depend upon the number of eligible Players available, past performance of the Team(s), and coaching availability. Recommendation of the number of Teams to field shall be made by the Commissioners of Travel to the Travel Team Committee as soon as reasonably practical following try-outs.

*Section B. - For Age Groups U11 - U15*

Players will be allocated to split ability Teams by the Commissioners of Travel with assistance from the Head Coach(es). Teams will be formed based on the number of qualified Players, and will use the identification of A, B, C, etc.

*Section C. - For Age Groups U9 - U10*

Players will be divided into equal ability Teams by the Commissioners of Travel with assistance from the Head Coach(es). Teams will be formed based on the number of eligible Players, and will use the identification of Head Coach's last name.

*Section D.*

A copy of the final Team roster, evaluation information, and any additional comments by the Coach(es) will be presented by the Commissioners of Travel to the Travel Team Committee. Evaluation records will be maintained by the Commissioner of Travel for a period of one year.

*Section E.*

This procedure will be followed each subsequent year.

*Section F.*

Travel Teams for Age Groups U11 - U15 will be selected for a one-year time period or as determined by the league entered. Travel Teams for Age Groups U9 - U10 will be selected for each season as allowed by the League entered. Consideration shall be given to rotating Players randomly to create new rosters for each season. The intent is to expose Players to different teammates and Coaches and to allow Coaches to see each Player from an Age Group in League game play. Current Player evaluations shall be consulted when adjusting rosters. Rotating only one or two Players per Team shall be avoided.

*Section G.*

Teams must meet requirements of the League entered.

*Section H.*

A Travel Team may not roster more out of Community Players than the lesser of: 3 or number allowed by League rules.

Exception to this rule may be made by the Travel Committee, in conjunction with League approval, in circumstances where out of Community Players are necessary to form a Team.

## **ARTICLE V – PLAYERS**

*Section A.*

Players must be rostered for and play on a Team in the Age Group bracket set by the BSC. In exceptional situations, a Player wishes to “play up” in a higher Age Group and



may petition in writing requesting the option to try out along with the current Players as long as that is consistent with League age restrictions. A Player who exercises this option and tries out for a higher Age Group Team shall thereafter be eligible only for placement on a Team within that Age Group until the next tryout is held.

Players selected for the A Team will normally play on that Team. In exceptional situations, a Player who declines that invitation may petition in writing requesting eligibility for the B Team.

For the exceptional situations above, or if other unforeseen circumstances warrant deviation from above, the requests must be submitted in writing by the Player's parent or guardian to the Director of Player Development and Commissioner of Travel. The Director of Player Development and Commissioner of Travel will consider the request and if agreed will present to the Travel Committee. The Travel Committee will have the authority to either approve or refuse the request.

#### *Section B.*

The BSC encourages all Travel Team Players to participate in the recreation program.

#### *Section C.*

If during the course of a season there are no longer enough Players to continue fielding a full Team, Players may be rostered on more than one Team as allowed by the League entered at the discretion of the Coaches affected and the Commissioner of Travel.

## **ARTICLE VI - COACHES**

#### *Section A.*

Persons interested in coaching a Travel Team shall submit a letter of intent prior to try-outs each year, via email or regular mail, to the appropriate Commissioner of Travel, who will evaluate all applicants and submit recommendations to the Travel Team Committee.

Each Travel Team shall have one Head Coach and one or two Assistant Coaches unless an exception is approved.

In addition to coaching League games, Coaches shall assist Trainers in organizing and conducting Age Group practices for Travel Teams.

#### *Section B.*

The Travel Team Committee shall submit its coaching recommendations to the BSC Board at the June meeting or as necessary to meet the registration requirements of leagues entered. The recommendations will be discussed and coaching assignments shall be approved by the BSC Board at this meeting. All Head and Assistant Coach changes at other times must be approved by the BSC Board.

*Section C.*

Openings for Travel Team Coaches will be filled based upon:

1. Coaching Qualifications
2. Philosophical Accord of Player Development
3. Support of BSC Programs and Coaching Philosophy

*Section D.*

Returning Coaches will have priority consideration for the Age Group they coached the prior season.

*Section E.*

All Travel Team Coaches must meet minimum coaching requirements of the BSC.

The BSC requires that all Travel Team Head Coaches complete either the U.S. Soccer (USSF) Introduction to Grassroots Coaching or the United Soccer Coaches (NSCAA) Foundations of Coaching online course.

Additionally, Coaches shall meet all certification requirements of the Leagues and tournaments in which their Teams are entered.

Failure to meet the certification requirements constitutes grounds for dismissal.

Costs of required certification of Travel Team Head or Assistant Coaches shall be reimbursed by the BSC.

*Section F.*

All Coaches must complete concussion management and sudden cardiac arrest training programs provided by the Ohio Department of Health as required by Ohio's Return to Play Law and Lindsay's Law.

All Coaches must be SafeSport Trained by the U.S. Center for Safesport and must report suspected child abuse as required by the federal Victims of Child Abuse Act.

*Section G.*

All Head and Assistant Coaches shall be listed on official League rosters.

*Section H.*

All Coaches are required to act in accordance with these Rules and Procedures and the BSC philosophy on Travel Teams.

*Section I.*

In the event the parent of a Player wants to register a complaint involving a Travel Team Coach, or a Coach wants to register a complaint involving a Travel Team Player or parent of a Player, such complaint shall be submitted in writing to the appropriate Commissioner of Travel. The Commissioner of Travel shall first discuss the complaint with the Coach or Player's parent involved. Then a report shall be submitted containing both signatures of the Coach or Player's parent and the Commissioner of Travel for the Travel Team's Committee review. Upon discussion, the Travel Team Committee shall then submit a report with their findings and their signatures to the BSC Board. If any persons are dissatisfied with the recommendations and actions of the Travel Team Committee, then the matter shall be submitted in writing to the BSC Board for discussion and decision or necessary action.

*Section J.*

In the event a Coach wants to register a complaint involving these rules and procedures and the decisions and/or disciplinary actions of the Travel Committee, such complaint shall be submitted in writing to the BSC Board for discussion or necessary action.

*Section K.*

All BSC Coaches shall register their Travel Teams for the Bay Challenge Cup. Travel Coaches shall communicate with Player's parents to discuss other tentative tournaments or winter leagues and estimated costs for the coming year. Coaches shall consider participation in one other Fall and one Spring Tournament in addition to league play.

Coaches of Travel Teams for Age Groups U9 - U10 shall consider organizing non-league age group activities such as camps and tournaments to accommodate participation of all registered BSC Players.

*Section L. - For Age Groups U9 - U10*

Travel Coaches for Age Groups U9 - U10 shall appoint a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, or parent to act as an Age Group Coordinator. The Coordinator will assist the Commissioner of Travel and BSC Registrar with League administrative tasks and will assist the Directors of Player Development with scheduling of Age Group practices.

The Coordinator may assist Coaches and the Commissioner of Travel in adjusting rosters each season to maintain equal Teams.

The Coordinator may also assist Coaches in organizing other activities such as winter leagues, camps, or tournaments to accommodate participation of all BSC Players in the Age Group.

## **ARTICLE VII - FEES**

### *Section A.*

The BSC Treasurer shall determine and assess (an) annual fee(s) for the registration of Teams, Players, Coaches, and Trainers; pay League fees; and cover Training expenses approved by the Travel Team Committee. Participation in the Bay Challenge Cup shall be included in the Travel Fee.

### *Section B.*

Each individual Team's Travel Players may also be charged additional fees to support participation in other activities such as winter leagues, camps, or tournaments. Each Player is responsible for all expenses associated with these other activities.

### *Section C.*

The BSC is not responsible for any expenses associated with other activities not expressly recommended by the Travel Team Committee and approved by the BSC Board.

## **ARTICLE VIII - TRAINING PROVIDED BY THE BAY SOCCER CLUB**

### *Section A.*

The Directors of Player Development shall recommend qualified Trainers to the Travel Committee to be approved by the BSC Board. The Directors shall consult with the Commissioners of Travel when assigning trainers. Trainers shall be compensated as approved by the BSC Board.

### *Section B.*

All Trainers must meet minimum coaching certification.

The BSC requires that all Trainers complete either the U.S. Soccer (USSF) Fundamentals of Coaching Soccer or the United Soccer Coaches (NSCAA) Foundations of Coaching online course.

The BSC further requires that all Trainers complete either the U.S. Soccer (USSF) Grassroots or the United Soccer Coaches (NSCAA) Coaching Development Course which corresponds with the Age Group game format – i.e. 4v4, 7v7, 9v9, or 11v11.

Additionally, when coaching games, Trainers shall meet all certification requirements of the Leagues and tournaments in which their Teams are entered.

### *Section C.*

All Trainers must complete concussion management and sudden cardiac arrest training programs provided by the Ohio Department of Health as required by Ohio's Return to Play Law and Lindsay's Law.

All Trainers must be SafeSport Trained by the U.S. Center for Safesport and must report suspected child abuse as required by the federal Victims of Child Abuse Act.

### *Section D.*

Trainers shall assist Coaches in organizing and conducting Age Group practices for Travel Teams. Age Group training will be provided outdoors twice a week for ten(10) weeks in both the Fall and Spring season and will be provided indoors for ten(10) sessions during the Winter season or as otherwise approved by the BSC Board.

### *Section E.*

All Travel Players shall participate in Age Group practices. For Age Groups U11 to U15, if all affected Coaches agree, the Fall and/or Spring season training sessions may be split among the Age Group Travel Teams to allow Trainers to work with one Travel Team at a time. The Age Group Coaches shall organize and conduct practices for Teams not working with the Trainer.

### *Section F.*

The BSC Board may also approve specialized positional training (e.g. goalkeepers) as recommended by the Directors of Player Development. The Commissioners of Travel

will determine the number of Players and eligibility requirements for specialized training. Travel Coaches will be responsible for recommending Players from each Team to the Commissioners for participation in specialized training. Selected Players who do not actively participate in specialized training opportunities may be excluded from future selection.

*Section G.*

The BSC Board may also approve individual Team coaching and training (e.g. State League Teams) as recommended by the Directors of Player Development.

**ARTICLE IX – CONDUCT**

*Section A.*

Travel Team Players and Coaches shall adhere to the standards of conduct prescribed by:

1. The League in which they participate
2. The Bay Soccer Club

*Section B.*

Complaints from a Travel League about a Team's Players, Coaches or parents will be referred to the appropriate Commissioner of Travel. The Commissioner of Travel involved will report to the BSC Board upon resolution of the situation.

*Section C.*

Coaches set the tone for everyone associated with their Team: Players, parents and spectators. Coaches shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the philosophy of BSC as set forth in the Bay Soccer Club's Coaching Ethics and Developmental Process (Addendum 1).

All Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and trainers are required to sign a copy of this policy each year, and return it to the Commissioners of Travel; who will maintain the signed copy, or an electronic version of it, for the duration of the season.

**ARTICLE X – UNIFORMS**

*Section A.*

The Travel Team Committee will make uniform recommendations to the BSC Board. The BSC Board shall choose a uniform and alternate jersey to be the official club uniform. All Travel Teams will then use the uniform style chosen by the BSC Board.

*Section B.*

BSC colors are Royal Blue and White. These are the prominent colors to be used in Travel uniforms. The primary jersey for each Team will be blue. Where there are multiple Teams playing in a particular age group a unique jersey number will be given to each Player in the Age Group. No sponsor logos, advertising or insignias, other than the manufacturer's mark, shall be placed on the uniforms. Each Team should have the approved alternate uniform to wear when the visiting Team has conflicting blue uniforms.

*Section C.*

Any deviation from these rules must be submitted in writing to the Travel Team Committee for its recommendation to the BSC Board. Failure to follow the uniform guidelines will result in the Team's loss of financial support by the BSC, and potential dismissal of the Coach(es), or other action deemed appropriate by the BSC Board.

## **ARTICLE XI - TRAVEL TEAM COMMITTEE**

*Section A.*

A Travel Team Committee will be established to carry out the functions as stated in these rules and to otherwise assist the BSC Board and the Commissioners of Travel in the administration of the Travel Program.

*Section B.*

The composition of the Travel Team Committee shall be:

- The BSC President
- The BSC Vice President
- The BSC Commissioner of Boys Travel Teams
- The BSC Commissioner of Girls Travel Teams
- The BSC Boys Director of Player Development
- The BSC Girls Director of Player Development
- A BSC Community Representative to be chosen by the BSC President. The Community Representative shall be the parent, grandparent, or guardian of a

- Community Player past or present, who does not hold a Board position.
- One BSC League Representative for each league in which Travel Teams play to be chosen alternately by the Girls Travel Team Commissioner and the Boys Travel Team Commissioner.

*Section C.*

The BSC President (or Vice President in the case of the BSC President) shall appoint an Alternate Representative to serve on the Committee in cases involving a conflict of interest. The Alternate Representative shall be the parent, grandparent, or guardian of a Community Player

*Section D.*

Minutes will be kept for each Travel Committee meeting. After approval by all committee members present, they will be forwarded to the Bay Soccer Club Secretary for inclusion into the permanent Club record.



## **Bay Soccer Club Travel Program: Coaching Ethics and the Developmental Process**

Ethics are the standards of conduct and moral behavior specific to an organization. Travel Coaches, as members of the Bay Soccer Club, fall under the umbrella of OHTSL, OYSAN, US Club Soccer, US Youth Soccer, and the United States Soccer Federation (USSF). The following statements refer to the ethical standards generally expected from US Youth Soccer Coaches and specifically from Bay Soccer Club Travel Coaches. The successful Travel Coach is involved in educating young children in soccer and seeks to understand the reasons for children's participation in and growth through youth sport.

### **1. Coaching for “Process” versus “Product”: Coaches should place the ongoing needs of the participants ahead of the outcome of games. Doing otherwise is being unethical.**

The primary reasons children play sports are: to participate and learn new skills, to be with friends, to compete with and against others, and to have fun. They enjoy learning from new experiences and, as time goes on, from direct instruction. They do not like being scolded or abused for making mistakes and they would rather play in a losing effort than sit on the bench during a victory. They would also rather play in a close game than in a blowout. Very young children rationalize winning and losing to working hard; older children equate winning and losing with their skills and abilities, directly influencing their self-confidence. Care must be taken to allow Players between the ages of five and twelve the opportunity to become skillful and game savvy by focusing on their long-term development rather than their win-loss record.

### **2. Soccer Rules: Coaches should know the rules of the game and respect officials. Coaches who bait, antagonize, or otherwise challenge the decisions of the officials are being unethical.**

It is the responsibility of the Coach to understand the basic rules of play and to strive to educate his or her Players to perform within the letter and spirit of the rules to the best of their abilities. Both novice and expert Coaches, and especially those Coaches who are also registered officials, should appreciate that the application of the rules to the game is based on the interpretation of the officials. It is the Coach's responsibility to model good sportsmanship and to demonstrate respect for the game. It is also the responsibility of the Coaches to monitor and control any form of referee abuse by Players, parents and other spectators.

### **3. Playing Time: Coaches should ensure adequate playing time for all rostered Players. Coaches who play only their better Players in an attempt to win games, and those who do not provide young Players with adequate playing time or rest, are being unethical.**

Youth sport is not a miniature version of adult sport. All young Players have a right to adequate playing time, regardless of the status or level of a contest. Players who do not regularly participate are at higher risk of dropping out, and no youth Coach can predict which talented or

round or awkward young Player will become the star of tomorrow once maturation, talent and desire are coupled with a good training environment. It is also regarded as unethical to over-play children in an attempt to bolster the chances of a club (Players playing on multiple Teams, i.e. double carded) winning multiple games played on the same day, or over a number of days, as is often the case at tournaments. Players who are fatigued face a higher risk of injury, and Players who play an excessive number of games over a prolonged period or months or years are at higher risk for burning out and developing overuse injuries. It is also true that Players who face excessive playing demands are often hurried back from injury, with serious potential for chronic joint instability as a result.

**4. Positioning: Coaches should let Players explore the flow of the game without restricting the movement of Players in small-sided games. Coaches who position Players or restrict their movements in order to win games are being unethical. Coaches who rigidly organize Players into formal positions to artificially separate them are guilty of over-coaching.**

The ability of Players to understand positions starts to emerge around age ten and develops rapidly over the next few years. Small-sided games that do not require a formal midfield organization are designed to provide age-appropriate and ability appropriate competition for Players under the age of eleven. The intent is for Players to enjoy freedom of movement within the game, thereby learning how to create and use space within small-group environments. Small-sided games can also help Coaches better appreciate their “curriculum” in working with young children. In addition, two key elements of Team play at U-11 and above are support for the midfield and forward lines from the defenders, and the natural movement of defenders into midfield and forward positions to create numerical superiority around the ball. The practice of positioning “Goalie Guards” close to the penalty area and restricting these Players from moving with the Team is clearly intended to limit the loss of goals. Finally, the practice of positioning attacking Players in front of the opponent’s goal to “Cherry Pick” does not help the Team quickly transition to attack, nor does it help develop the important skills of playing with back to goal. Neither of these practices is in the best interests of the Players.

**5. Blowouts: Coaches who deliberately run up scores are being unethical.**

Lopsided games in youth sports are inevitable and care must be taken to appreciate the sensitivity of young children to such events. Playing short-handed, adding Players to the opponent’s Team, playing key Players out of position, sitting key Players for longer periods, playing with limited touches, restricting scoring from close range, and only scoring from crosses are some possible options for dealing with blow-out situations. At the youngest ages, adult Coaches should consider playing in goal to help the losing Team gain some measure of stability or consolation.

**6. Player Advancement: Coaches should foster growth of every Player, and seek to provide the best environment for each Player’s development. Coaches who seek to retain a Player(s) who has outgrown the knowledge and abilities of the Coach for the implicit or explicit purpose of winning games is being unethical.**

Players improve by playing with and against other good Players, through personal motivation

and independent practice, through study, through observation, and through good coaching. By far, the most important factors in Player development are coaching and environment. At the top level, the successful Coach is one who develops Players to their fullest potential and reaps the rewards through the play of the Team. The successful youth Coach, in contrast, helps individual Players develop to their fullest potential, or to the limits of the Coach's knowledge, before moving them along to a higher level of play and a new learning environment. The unethical youth Coach often seeks to covet his or her top performers for reasons of self-worth and personal gain, regardless of the short and long-term impact on the individual Player.

**7. Game Tactics: Coaches should encourage creative and risk taking play. Coaches who use negative tactics and minimize the enjoyment of the Players in order to win games are being unethical.**

Winning youth soccer games is relatively easy. The Coach who tells his or her Players to take no risks with back passes; kick every ball forward; dribble the ball forward; stay behind the ball, or behind the half when playing as a defender; press the opposition into their half at every opportunity; and be very aggressive when defending, will win a higher percentage of their games. The younger the Players are when a Coach displays this attitude, the less likely it is that they will ever experience the joy of actually playing soccer as it can be: an exercise in creative self-expression. It is quite easy to be "winning" youth soccer Coach; it is much more difficult to be a "successful" youth soccer Coach.

**8. Achieving Success by Recruiting: Coaches who routinely recruit Players from other organizations as a shortcut to developing from within are being unethical.**

The practice of recruiting good Players to build a victorious youth organization often undermines the efforts of those Coaches who understand the value and perils of building for long-term development. Yes, winning is enjoyable, but successful coaching is better defined as winning with an eye towards a competent end product. Player development takes at least 10 years, and embraces success and failure as necessary elements of the process. Perpetual victory is not in the Players' best interests; nor is club-hopping in search of meaningless trophies and awards. Players need to be challenged to persevere and aspire; and to learn the value of loyalty to good Coaches, even when the organization is not always successful. The ethics of Coaches who cut and recruit Players in order to win must be scrutinized. Victorious youth soccer organizations are not always reflective of coaching competence.

**9. Respecting the Game**

Soccer has been played worldwide in one form or another for over 4500 years, and in the United States since 1869. Over four million American children now play youth soccer. The first official soccer rules were codified in London, England in 1863 and the World Cup is the world's largest single sport event. It is the responsibility of each Coach to demonstrate respect for the game by honoring Players, spectators and officials, and by promoting positive character development to all young Players in words and deeds. Coaches who fail to meet these standards by displaying poor sportsmanship and overreacting to the natural ups and downs of the game are being unethical.

## **10. Coaching in Bay Village**

It is a privilege to coach a Team in Bay Village. Any other thought, is unethical.

## **Bay Soccer Club Travel Program: Advanced Player Development Opportunity**

These guidelines are to serve as a supplement to the current Bay Soccer Club Rules and Procedures For Youth Travel Program. Travel Program rules and procedures regarding Evaluations, Leagues, Teams, Players, Trainer/Coaches, Fees, Training, Conduct, and Uniforms pertain to the State League Teams as an extension of the Travel Program.

### **1. State League Teams are intended to offer an advanced Player development opportunity.**

- State League Team participation should be considered an additional level of training and competition within the Bay Soccer Club Travel Program. State League Teams are intended to supplement not replace Travel League Teams.
- State League Team formation shall be a product of Player interest and capacity within each Age Group. Not every Age Group is expected or required to form a State League Team.
- Tournament participation opportunities shall still be offered to Travel League Players and shall not be limited to State League Players only.
- Annual Player fees for State League Teams shall be determined and collected by the BSC Treasurer separately from and in addition to the standard Travel Program fee.

### **2. A State League Team may be formed within Age Groups that demonstrate sufficient interest and ability.**

- State League Teams shall be recommended by the respective Commissioner of Travel to the BSC Travel Team Committee in accordance with the Travel Rules. Travel League Teams shall still be maintained as determined by the BSC Board.
- Each State League Team shall have a parent Manager to assist with administration – Player registration, game and practice scheduling, etc. The Commissioners of Travel shall submit Manager recommendations to the Travel Committee for approval by the BSC Board.
- One(1) State League Team may be formed for each of the U11 – U15 Age Groups to represent the Bay Soccer Club with Players who have demonstrated their ability and want to make the extra training and playing commitment. Entering the State League for Age Groups prior to the U11 year is precluded to balance Player's opportunities to explore other sports/activities, avoid 'drop-off' as kids age, and allow for initial Player growth and development in the U9 and U10 years.
- Consideration may be given to forming a State League Developmental Program without declaring a Team in the State League for the U10 year to gauge Age Group interest/commitment and to assess competitive level prior to fielding an 9v9 Team. A U10 State League Developmental Program can provide a transition to the U11 year with the formation of a competitive training environment while maintaining balanced Travel League Teams. The Developmental Program may consist of additional training and selected tournament participation only.

**3. The State League roster shall be formed from existing Travel League Players.**

- Invitations shall be extended to eligible BSC Travel Players from an Age Group in the order of current Player evaluations until the desired number of roster spots are filled.
- State League Players shall participate on a Travel League Team unless an exception is approved by the BSC Travel Team Committee and Board.
- No Travel League Players should be expected or obligated to participate in State League.
- State League roster size shall be recommended by the Commissioners of Travel to the BSC Travel Team Committee to maximize participation of interested/committed Players. Rosters shall strive to develop a large Player pool, make available sufficient practice participants, and allow flexibility to accommodate injuries, scheduling conflicts, etc.
- State League Teams may balance game scheduling as necessary to provide adequate playing time.
- A younger Player may petition in writing to “play up” on a State League Team only as outlined in the Travel Rules.
- Players shall only play on one State League Team.
- Out of community Players shall be considered as described in the BSC Travel Rules.

**4. The State League Team shall have an independent Trainer/Coach.**

- A Trainer/Coach selected by the appropriate Director of Player Development with assistance from the respective Commissioner shall act as Head Coach for State League Team.
- The Commissioner may select a parent manager to assist the Trainer/Coach with administrative tasks such as Player registration or game and practice scheduling.
- The Trainer/Coach will plan and lead the training program without assistance from parents.
- The Trainer/Coach shall be responsible for game position and playing time decisions.
- State League Trainer/Coaches shall adhere to the Bay Soccer Club Travel Program: Coaching Ethics and the Developmental Process.

**5. The State League Teams shall typically schedule one additional practice and one additional game each week during the league season.**

- State League practices shall supplement Travel League practices. Players shall not be expected to attend more than three total practices a week.
- State League practices shall be scheduled on other days than Travel League practices.
- State League practice attendance is expected to allow for execution of group drills and Team tactical training. Practices should seek to maximize each Player’s development within a competitive team context.
- State League participation is intended to provide additional training and conditioning in balance with additional games. State League games and Travel League games shall be scheduled on different days and shall avoid conflicts with scheduled State League or Travel League practices.