



# North Olmsted Soccer Organization

## Travel Bylaws

### ARTICLE 1: AUTHORITY

All North Olmsted Soccer Organization (herein referred to as NOSO) Travel teams shall operate in complete compliance with the Constitution of the North Olmsted Soccer Organization. The NOSO Travel Committee shall recommend rules and fees for Travel teams and players. The Travel Committee shall report to and operate under the direction of the NOSO Board. All matters of policy and finance require approval of the NOSO Board prior to implementation.

### ARTICLE 2: COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND DUTIES

#### A. CHAIRPERSON

The Director of Travel shall chair the Travel Committee. The chairperson shall call and conduct meetings and report to the NOSO Board. The chairperson shall be responsible for overseeing and coordination of all Travel team operations and will represent NOSO at meetings of Ohio Youth Soccer Association - North. The chairperson is entitled to a vote on all Travel Committee matters.

#### B. BOYS TRAVEL DIRECTOR

The Boys Travel Director shall coordinate all aspects of Boys Travel teams including tryouts, selection of coaches, league (American Amateur Soccer League - AASL) participation, and tournament participation. The Boys Travel Director shall represent NOSO at all AASL meetings and shall report to the NOSO Travel Committee on these AASL meetings. The Boys Travel Director is entitled to a vote on all Travel Committee matters.

#### C. GIRLS TRAVEL DIRECTOR

The Girls Travel Director shall coordinate all aspects of Girls Travel teams including tryouts, selection of coaches, league (Northern Ohio Girls Soccer League - NOGSL) participation, and tournament participation. The Girls Travel Director shall represent NOSO at all NOGSL meetings and shall report to the NOSO Travel Committee on these NOGSL meetings. The Girls Travel Director is entitled to a vote on all Travel Committee matters.

#### D. OTHER APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

There must be 4 additional Members of this committee appointed. These appointed members are entitled to vote on all committee matters.

### ARTICLE 3: APPOINTMENTS AND REPLACEMENTS

The following Board members shall automatically serve on the Travel Committee: Directors of Travel, Fundraising, and Fields, Advisory, the Treasurer, and both the Boys and Girls Travel Directors.

The President of NOSO shall fill any vacancies on the Travel Committee through appointment with concurrence, by a majority vote of the Board.

### ARTICLE 4: MEETINGS

The Travel Committee shall meet, as necessary, at a site determined by the Chairperson. Meetings may be called by the Chairperson, or requested in writing by at least three (3) members, and notice must be given to all Travel Committee members at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance.

### ARTICLE 5: QUORUM

At least a simple majority of the Travel Committee must be present for a quorum. All issues shall be decided by a majority vote of those members present.

### ARTICLE 6: ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for participation on NOSO Travel teams shall be limited to children whose ages range from U8 or U9 through U19 as defined by FIFA guidelines. Children must be a resident of North Olmsted or attend a school located in North Olmsted. A player who has participated in the NOSO Travel Program and moves to a neighboring community may choose to continue to play on the NOSO team with the approval of the NOSO Board. NOSO Board approval is required each year for players from nearby communities that do not have a soccer program or a team for a particular age level. Children of non-resident Travel Coaches (Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and Trainers) shall be permitted to play on NOSO Teams. Following the guidelines of AASL and NOGSL, no team shall have more than three (3) players from outside of the North Olmsted community.

## ARTICLE 7: COACHING SELECTION

### A. COACHING SELECTION

Applications for Travel team coaches shall be solicited during March and April (see Appendix B pages 1 & 2 for coaches for an example form). The Travel Committee, based on the applications submitted will make recommendations for each team. These recommendations will be presented to the NOSO Board for approval at the May Board meeting. Team coaching selections will be completed before tryouts, unless there are no qualified applicants for a particular team. In that case, every effort will be made to secure a coach as quickly as possible.

Travel team coaches must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.

Travel team coaches for NOSO must have the proper coaching license as dictated by OYSAN. Any Travel Team Coach who desires to obtain a license of up to a "D" level or the equivalent of, NOSO will pay for the cost of the course, as long as the Coach remains with a team through the entire season.

When determining coaching selections, the Travel Committee will consider licensing, training, experience, and character.

### B. TRAVEL TRAINER

One Travel Team Trainer will be assigned to each Travel team. The Trainer may be asked to coach the team depending on the capabilities of the coach and the Trainer as determined by the Travel Committee.

The agreement with the Trainer will typically be for the twelve (12) month period of August 1 through to the following July 31. The Trainer is entitled to attend any coaching clinics provided by NOSO. If a Trainer in this program is desirous to obtain coaching a license of up to a "D" level, NOSO will pay for the cost of the course, as long as the Trainer remains with a team through the term of the agreement. NOSO may agree to pay for the "C" license for trainers depending upon their loyalty and commitment to our program. The Travel Committee will make support for the "C" license on a case by case basis.

The Trainer need not be a North Olmsted resident. A child of a Trainer, if qualifying through a tryout process, may be on a NOSO team. This child shall count toward the limit of three (3) out of community players.

A maximum of \$300.00 per season (both Fall and Spring) will deposited to each team's account to pay for a Trainer. If a Trainer is not assigned for a portion of a season, this amount will be adjusted pro rata based on a ten (10) week season. These funds must be utilized for a player development program. It is the responsibility of the coach to obtain Travel Committee approval for the program prior to the disbursement of any funds. These funds should be utilized between August 1 and July 31.

If a team wishes to secure the services of a trainer that costs greater than \$300.00 per season, they must obtain the approval of the Travel Committee. The team shall

assume all responsibility for this additional funding and must collect these moneys prior to the start of the season. Distribution of funds is the responsibility of the Treasurer.

(Please see Appendix A for additional detail)

## ARTICLE 8: TRAVEL TEAM COMPOSITION

Single age boys and girls teams will be fielded at all ages where a sufficient number of players are interested in participating. If a minimum number of players is not available, multiple age teams shall be formed to provide as many players as possible an opportunity to participate in the Travel program U10 teams and younger shall have no more than twelve (12) players; U11/U12 shall have no more than 14 players; all other teams shall not have more than 18 players.

All players shall be rated at tryouts and ranked in descending order. For U10 teams and younger, the top seven (6) players shall be placed on the "A" team; For U11/U12 teams the top (8) players shall be placed on the "A" team; for all other teams, the top eleven (11) players shall be placed on the "A" team. The "A" team coach may then select up to seven (7) of the remaining players to fill the "A" team with a maximum number of players as noted above. The Travel Committee must approve this selection. The "B" team coach will then follow the same procedure to form a "B" team. If sufficient players are available, the same process will be used to form a "C" team and so on, until as many players as practical has been placed on a Travel team. The NOSO goal will be to field the strongest teams possible.

Behavior of a player is a consideration in team selection. A coach may, with the approval of the Travel Committee, pass over a player that would otherwise qualify for said team.

Team composition must follow league (AASL/NOGSL) rules.

If a Travel team should drop below fourteen (14) players, eleven (11) players for U10 and younger teams, that team may select a replacement player from the next lower team in that age group with the concurrence of the selected player and their parents, their coach, and the Travel Committee. That is the "A" teams would select from the "B" teams, etc.. A team shall not be allowed to select a player from a lower team if that selection will drop the lower team to thirteen (13) or fewer players, ten (10) players for U10 and younger teams.

NOSO Travel Teams will be established in accordance with FIFA age brackets. If a child's birthday falls after the FIFA July 31st cut-off, but the child is in the same school grade as children with birthdays prior to the cut-off, the child will be allowed, but not forced, to play with his or her grade level, but will allow them to play up with their grade level.

It is highly recommended that players under twelve (12) years of age not “play up”. The Travel Committee will review any exceptional cases. In the event that any child wishes to “play up” on a team that has enough candidates of the correct age, the underage player must qualify in the top six (6) for U10 and under; top eight (8) for U11/U12; top eleven (11) players for the remaining age groups according to the tryout evaluation. Any conflicts will be reviewed and resolved by the Travel Committee. Any child who wants to tryout for an older team must contact the Director of Travel or the respective Boys or Girls Director, prior to the Travel Team tryouts each year. The Director of Travel and the appropriate Boys or Girls Travel Director will discuss the merits with the players and their parents.

The coach shall not drop a player from the roster without Travel Committee and NOSO Board approval. A player may leave the team at any time. The coach is to notify the Travel Committee, through their Boys or Girls Travel Director, of any player that leaves the team. The Boys or Girls Director will contact the child’s parents to determine why they are leaving the team.

Players may be added during the season with the approval of the Travel Committee. It is strongly recommended that to add players, the first step should be to check a lower team. If no players are available, the next step is to ask any player who tried out for travel, but are not currently playing travel. If still unsuccessful at finding a player(s), the coach can then contact any player involved in NOSO’s in-house program of the appropriate age.

## ARTICLE 9: TRYOUTS

The travel team year shall run from August 1 through the following July 31. Tryouts will be conducted during the month of June. Players will be notified of team selections within six (6) weeks of the tryouts but not later than July 15.

The Boys and Girls Travel Directors shall coordinate tryouts. Team tryouts shall be conducted by the team coach and at least two (2) other impartial evaluators following a format that has been developed by the Travel Committee and approved by the NOSO Board (Appendix C). All players must participate in a Travel Committee approved tryout.

## ARTICLE 10: REGISTRATION

Coaches shall register Travel team players through the appropriate Travel Director. All players must be registered and have fees paid before playing in any soccer game. In cases of financial hardship, player's parents may request an extension or waiver of payment through the President of NOSO. Such arrangements must be completed before a player may participate in any game. Coaches shall provide the appropriate Travel Director with a complete roster along with waiver forms and payment.

All NOSO players and coaches shall obtain player passes from their respective leagues through their Travel Director.

## ARTICLE 11: UNIFORMS

All Travel teams shall wear the official NOSO uniform as directed by the Travel Committee. The uniform consists of a predominately orange primary or home jersey with the NOSO Travel logo, a predominately white conflict or away jersey with the NOSO Travel logo, shorts, and socks. Uniforms may contain a sponsor arm patch no to exceed four (4) inches in diameter. The cost of the uniforms is not included in the travel fee. Within an age group, players are to maintain unique numbers. This will simplify transfers between teams.

## ARTICLE 12: SPONSORSHIP

All Travel teams are permitted to obtain financial sponsorship. The sponsor moneys may be used to defray costs in any way determined by the team. Moneys may be used for player fees, tournament fees, and/or uniforms. Sponsorship must be recommended by the Travel Committee and approved by the NOSO Board. A sponsor arm patch on the jersey arm and/or a team banner may acknowledge sponsors.

## ARTICLE 13: TRAVEL TEAM SEASONS

NOSO Travel teams must participate in the fall and spring league seasons. Teams may also participate in indoor soccer sessions. All Travel teams must receive permission from the Travel Committee before entering any league or playing, as a NOSO travel team, in any indoor soccer session.

## ARTICLE 14: TOURNAMENTS

Travel teams must receive permission from the Travel Committee before registering in any tournament that is not sanctioned by Ohio Youth Soccer Association – North (OYSA-North). The Travel Committee must be notified of participation in OYSA-North approved tournaments prior to the start of each season. All fees associated with tournaments shall be the responsibility of the team. NOSO may approve funding for participation in regional or national tournaments if a team advances in such a competition.

## ARTICLE 15: GRIEVANCES AND DISCIPLINE

All grievances and discipline shall be handled as stated in Article IX of the NOSO Constitution.

## ARTICLE 16: FEES

The Travel Committee shall recommend travel player fees prior to the spring and fall seasons. These fees shall be set so as to cover all expenses of the NOSO Travel program. Fees shall include an amount to cover a fair share of NOSO administrative expenses. Travel player fees shall be equal for all Travel players. Travel fees shall not include tournament expenses unless such tournament is a part of the regular league season. Fees must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

The NOSO Treasurer shall establish a separate account for each Travel team. All funds associated with a team shall be deposited in this account and the Treasurer shall write checks to cover approved expenses. Each team account must maintain a positive balance at all times.

## ARTICLE 17: FUNDRAISING

All fundraising activities must be approved and coordinated through the Director of Fundraising. NOSO will sponsor one (1) general fund-raiser for all Travel teams per year. Any other independent team fund-raisers must be submitted to the Travel Committee and be approved by a majority vote of this Committee.

## ARTICLE 18: TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

All Travel Teams are expected to support and participate when appropriate, in all NOSO sponsored activities, such as the NOSO Cup and North Olmsted's Homecoming.

## ARTICLE 19: PLAYING TIME

Players that are selected to a travel team and rostered shall play. The minimum time for each child shall average fifteen (15) minutes per game for the entire season (for each game that a child is at) and shall never be below ten (10) minutes in any given game.

It is up to the coach to manage to these minimums.

The only exception to this shall be for disciplinary reasons or refusal to play on the player's part.

## ARTICLE 20: RESCHEDULING TRAVEL GAMES

Both the AASL and NOGSL have a policy that once the schedule is set, no games shall be rescheduled under penalty of fines. However, provisions are allowed for rescheduling due to inclement weather or field closures. NOSO abides by this policy and will reschedule games only for weather related reasons and not because the best player(s) can not play. However, there are occasions where a team can not play due to school related functions. Games can be rescheduled for that reason.

If Barton-Bradley is closed because of weather related problems (i.e. flooded) or the game can not be played because of school functions, the following procedure is to be followed:

1. Coach notifies the opposing coach to set up a reschedule date;
2. Within Forty - Eight (48) hours, the coach asks NOSO field scheduler for 3 dates;
3. Coach offers alternate dates to opposing coach;
4. Upon agreement, the Boys or Girls Travel Director shall notify appropriate League representative(s);
5. League referee assignors notified of date change;
6. NOSO field scheduler & referee assignor needs forty-eight (48) hours notice;
7. Boys or Girls Travel Director confirms reschedule date;



## ARTICLE 21: CHANGES IN THE BYLAWS ARTICLES AND STANDING RULES

- A. The Travel Committee shall submit proposed changes to the NOSO Secretary in writing.
- B. Proposed changes shall be discussed at the next NOSO Board meeting.
- C. Voting shall take place at the next consecutive general meeting of the NOSO Board following discussion. A majority of the NOSO Board members present shall be required for passage.
- D. Standing rules may be changed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Travel Committee.



## **North Olmsted Soccer Organization Travel Team Trainer Program (Appendix A)**

### **PURPOSE**

The primary purpose of this program is to foster a development of soccer skills and abilities in all players in the NOSO Travel soccer program. One means of attaining this purpose is by providing, on a consistent and continuous basis, the best level of coaching available within the organizational guidelines and financial structure of NOSO.

A secondary purpose of this program is to aid NOSO in its competition with select (premier) programs for players desiring a higher level of coaching expertise. NOSO has been affected and will continue to be impacted by the recruitment of players to various select programs. It is intended that this program would minimize the desire for a travel player to leave NOSO and participate in a select program. This program, however, is not intended to discourage players from participation in the Excalibur select program.

### **TRAINER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trainer's primary goal is development (through explanation and demonstration) of soccer skills, tactics and conditioning of the players on the team. This development should be structured based on the age, abilities, and needs of the travel team as a whole as well as individual player's abilities and needs. The second primary goal is the explanation of soccer skills, tactics and conditioning to aid the coach in the development of his/her coaching talents.

Hopefully this development will take place season to season and year to year with same trainer as the team matures.

The trainer and the coach will submit to the Travel Committee a team development plan listing the goals and the planned instructional approach to achieve these goals. A plan is to be submitted prior to the start of each season.

The use of the trainer is dependent on the needs of the team, the coaches' experience and knowledge, and the abilities and availability of the trainer. The trainer may be expected to run all practice sessions and games. Or the trainer may be expected to aid the coach in demonstrating foot skills, tactics, etc. It is expected that the coaches will use good judgement on the best use of the trainer for the betterment of the individual players, the team, and NOSO.

Trainers are expected to attend games to be able to formulate a plan to improve individual skills and team tactics.

The trainer is to advise the coach on such game matters as line-ups and player positions.

The trainer will abide by the NOSO Constitution, Code of Ethics, and the NOSO Travel Bylaws.

NOSO recognizes that it has an obligation to allow travel players an opportunity to excel. By the same token, NOSO does not want to weaken their program by encouraging travel players to go to select or premier teams. To avoid this, NOSO should make available a competitive premier program (Excalibur) to attract and retain their better players. To accomplish this, the trainer and the corresponding age group coach in the Excalibur program should either work closely together or be the same person.

The trainer is being retained as an independent contractor and is not an employee of NOSO. The trainer will be solely responsible for all tax liabilities.

## QUALIFICATIONS

The most desirable candidate will be one with college and/or post college experience and recent coaching experience at a travel level or higher. While coaching license does not guarantee a qualified coach, it does indicate exposure to coaching concepts consistent with NOSO soccer philosophy; therefore, license of a "D" level or higher is recommended.

An individual with a "D" license and no high school, college, or post, college playing experience will be able to qualify for a trainer position. The minimum qualification for a trainer position will be three (3) years of high school playing experience.

Any exceptions to the above qualifications will be reviewed on a case by case basis and approved by the Travel Committee and the NOSO Board.

## COMPENSATION

Compensation will be based on a ten (10) week period during each season..

The trainer will be paid for the fall season prior to November 30<sup>th</sup> and for the Spring season prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

The following are the compensation levels.

	<u>Per Season</u>
High School Play	\$200
College or post-college play	\$300
"D" Coaching license or above	\$300

## SELECTION PROCESS

Interested parties will apply for the position by completion of the attached Application for Travel Team Coach or Trainer. (Appendix B)

The Travel Committee is responsible for reviewing the applications for each candidate and making recommendations of qualified candidates to the NOSO Board for approval.

Approved individuals will sign the attached Agreement Between North Olmsted Soccer Organization and the Travel Team Trainer.

Approved by the NOSO Board  
June

1999



## NOSO Team Trainer Approval Form

This form must be on file with NOSO before any team training begins.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Season: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your rate per session/ season \_\_\_\_\_

**Have you completed a KIDSAFE form with Ohio North with in the past 2 seasons? Y/ N**

Playing Experience:

High School Level (Where and When)

College Level (Where and When)

Post College Level (Where and When)

Coaching/Training Experience (Level, Where, and When)

Level of Coaching License:

- θ F (Minimum required for U10 ages and under as of fall 2000)
- θ E (Minimum required for U11 and U12 teams as of fall 2000)
- θ D (Minimum required for U13 and older teams as of fall 2000)
- θ C
- θ B
- θ A

If not currently licensed at appropriate level, what are your plans to obtain appropriate license?

---

---

Please list two references familiar with your Training abilities:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____

Briefly describe your coaching philosophy as it relates to community travel teams:





**North Olmsted Soccer Organization  
Travel Team Tryouts  
(Appendix C)**

**PURPOSE**

The primary purpose of this format is to assure a standard method of selecting NOSO teams whether it is Boys or Girls. Each player must tryout in accordance to the bylaws and the following format will be used as guidelines for the tryouts. Upon the completion of tryouts all rankings will be turned into the appropriate Travel Director. These rankings will be saved for the life of the team.

Through the tryouts the players will be evaluated on the following criteria which are based on small sided games. The criteria are suggestions from a Tom Turner document on the OYSAN website it is simply re-formatted for ease of use. The Evaluators will utilize a rating scale from one to five (1-5), one (1) being low and five (5) being high. The scores will be totaled for an overall score. If a player is passed over for any reason, it will be documented with a brief explanation.







**TRYOUT Summary**  
or information on Player passed over:

---

---

---

---

---

---

Evaluator's name(s):

---

---

---

---

**ALL BELOW WILL BE REMOVED... SIMPLY LEFT FOR REFERENCE PER ROB**

1. Is the player COMFORTABLE WHEN DRIBBLING the ball? Does the player try to keep the ball close to their body?
2. Does the player try to use a VARIETY OF SURFACES when turning and running with the ball?
3. Is the player TWO FOOTED?
4. Does the player ATTACK OPEN SPACE when they have time and space to dribble the ball forward?
5. Does the player recognize when to DRIBBLE AWAY FROM PRESSURE? Does the player have the spatial awareness to perceive pressure and move into an open space with the ball?
6. Given time and space, does the player have the technical skills TO BEAT AN OPPONENT and maintain possession?
7. Does the player MOVE INTO OPEN SPACES to receive passes? Does the player stand behind other players or do they perceive open space and move away from the crowd?
8. Does the player naturally MOVE WITH THE GAME, or do they kick the ball and stand still?
9. Does the player SCORE GOALS? Does the player naturally look to score goals and do they have the vision and technique to score by design?
10. Does the player try to RECOVER THE BALL when the other team has possession?

In addition to the elements used to assess players under the age of ten, the following criteria should also be used to assess players older than ten.

1. Does the player understand how to SPREAD OUT? Where should the player move to give the team a playing shape and create space between the defenders? Does the team have players on either side of the field and in the front and in the back?

2. Does the player understand how to CREATE SPACE TO RECEIVE A PASS? Does the player move to help the passer make a connection? This may involve losing a defender to create space or simply demonstrating an awareness of possible passing lanes.
3. Does the player understand when to CREATE SPACE AT THE RIGHT MOMENT to receive a pass? Does the player's movement help the passer? Do they run into space before the ball can be played, or do they run into space too late and the passing lane disappears?
4. Does the player understand when to SUPPORT A TEAMMATE AND WHEN TO STRETCH THE OTHER TEAM? Does the player understand when it is time to take a defender away from the area of the ball because other teammates are in better supporting positions? Does the player understand when to receive passes to feet in front of their defender and when to receive passes into space behind their defender? Does the player's choice of supporting positions allow the team to maintain possession?
5. Is the player MOBILE within the game? Does the player cover a lot of ground in a purposeful way? Does the player only move when the ball is close to them? Does the player move in anticipation of combining with teammates?
6. Does the player have a high TRANSITION WORK-RATE? Does the player expend much effort? In particular, does the player transition quickly from attack to defense and from defense to attack?
7. Does the player have VISION for the game? Does the player turn their head or open their body before they get the ball to help see teammates? Does the player look for teammates when in possession or does their poor skill level leave them fighting to control the ball? Is the player looking for opportunities to score goals or to quickly pass to teammates in more advanced positions?
8. SPEED OF PLAY and DECISION MAKING. Does the player understand when it is time to possess the ball by playing forward, sideways or backward? Do they understand when it is time to pass, dribble or shoot? Do they read the position and movement of teammates and defenders and constantly adjust their own positions? How many touches do they need to pass, control, dribble or shoot?
9. INDIVIDUAL DEFENDING SKILLS. How well does the player defend against their immediate opponent? Do they look to intercept passes? Do they understand how to close down their opponent and remain balanced? Do they demonstrate controlled aggression when tackling for the ball? Do they deny their opponent space to turn? Do they position themselves to channel their opponent away from dangerous areas? Do they position themselves to deny forward passes when in the middle of the field? Do they understand how to use offside space?

10. GROUP DEFENDING SKILLS. Does the player help teammates to defend? Do they understand how to cover teammates? Do they understand how to defend passing lanes? Do they follow opponents running into dangerous supporting positions? Do they understand how to play within a zone?
11. PHYSICAL QUALITIES. Do they help the team because of individual qualities, such as speed and size, or because they have neat skills and a "feel" for soccer? In the long run, will their existing range of techniques help them become a competent soccer player, despite their current size? In the long run, will their physical qualities and athleticism compensate for less-than-polished skills? Do they have the endurance to play soccer for extended periods without taking long rests or asking for a substitution? Are they agile and balanced, or cumbersome in their movements?
12. PSYCHOLOGICAL QUALITIES. Are they competitive? Are they coachable? Are they focused and intrinsically motivated? Are they responsible? Are they a positive or negative influence on teammates? Do they view improvement or winning as more important? What are their goals for soccer and where do they want to be in 5 or 10 years? Do they practice their skills alone? Do they have other talents and interests in life?