



Fairbanks Youth Soccer Association Policies

Policy #8 - OUTDOOR POLICY

Last Updated: January 2016

- I. OBJECTIVE: To provide guidelines for the operation of the outdoor season.
- II. POLICY: FYSA shall recognize teams in two leagues: competitive and recreational.
 - a. Outdoor Recreational Team Formation, Registration and Play
 - i. Prior to the start of each outdoor session, an Outdoor Program Handbook will be published which will contain specific information such as guidelines pertaining to team formation, age division organization, game length, roster/team size, ball size and local modifications to the Laws of the Game for the use in small-sided/recreational leagues.
 - ii. Recreational teams shall be formed in grade-based age divisions and into gender specific teams, whenever feasible.
 - iii. Teams shall be formed based on geographic zones, whenever feasible.
 - iv. Recreational players may not double roster on to another regular recreational team. This does not apply to recreational players participating on a 'Recreational All-Star Team' (see Policy 8.II.C "Recreational All-Star Teams").
 - v. Age Guidelines
 1. The minimum age for PreK-3 programs is 3 years old at the start of the session.
 2. The minimum age for PreK-4 programs is 4 years old at the start of the session.
 3. A player's grade is determined by the grade they will be entering in the following school year.
 4. Any requests for a participant to 'play up' into an older age group must be made in writing prior to the close of the registration window. A parent or legal guardian must submit a waiver of acknowledgement of the inherent risks of children 'playing up'. These waivers are to be submitted to the Executive Director and are valid for one year. 'Play up' waivers are subject to approval of the Executive Director and in no case may a player be allowed to play in an age group where the youngest natural player is more than one year older than the requesting participant.
 5. Players who have recently graduated may still participate provided they do not turn 19 prior to the start of the session.
 6. The FYSA Executive Director reserves the right to make adjustments to any individual player's age division placement.
 7. To better serve the needs of the program, age brackets may be repartitioned after the close of the registration window based on final participant numbers of each division.
 - vi. Players are not considered fully registered until payment for their respective program has been received by FYSA either online or in person. If payment is not received prior to the close of the registration



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- window, a player is placed on a waitlist and will be eligible to be rostered once payment is made.
- vii. Players registering after the deadline will be assigned a late fee and will be placed on rosters last when teams are being formed. Date of registration will be used as final determination on player placement in the event that a given geographic area has more players registered than there are teams available. Late fee details will be posted online by the end of the registration window and are at the discretion of the Executive Director.
 - viii. After the close of the registration window, participant numbers will be used to create a total number of teams in each age bracket. Space will be allotted for late registrants, but this may vary with each age bracket. Once all available teams in a particular age bracket have been filled, a waitlist will be created for any additional players wishing to participate. In the event of a withdrawal of an existing registrant, waitlisted players will be contacted in the order they registered to be given an opportunity to pay the applicable program fees and be placed immediately on a team. Waitlisted players will not be charged program fees unless a place on a roster becomes available. It is FYSA's desire that every youth desiring to participate in our programs be provided the opportunity to do so. However, due to the nature of organizing teams, coaches, schedules and uniforms, at some point in the process of preparing for a season, there may be no space available for late registrants.
 - ix. Requests for refunds must be submitted in writing or by email prior to the close of the registration window. Refund requests submitted after this time are at the discretion of the Executive Director. All refunds are subject to an administrative fee.
- b. Outdoor Competitive Team Formation, Registration and Play
- i. Any teams in which FYSA has surrendered the right to form the roster shall be ruled a developmental, competitive or select team. FYSA will recognize competitive teams in both boys and girls divisions and in those age divisions U10 through U19 inclusive.
 - ii. Competitive players will register online with FYSA and pay all fees directly to FYSA by the date designated by the FYSA Executive Director. Club managers/registrar must turn a current roster into the FYSA Executive Director by the date designated by the Executive Director. Late additions must register online and a new roster must be turned into the FYSA Executive Director. Clubs failing to meet the registration deadline may be charged a late fee of \$250.00 per team.
 - iii. Policies regarding roster and game play for competitive clubs will mirror the established state-level policies found at www.alaskayouthsoccer.org including, but not limited to:



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1. AYSA Policy No. PP40105 "22 Player Roster" (for teams U16-U19)
 2. AYSA Policy No. PP032413 "U12 Roster Size"
 3. AYSA Policy No. PP50706 "Youth Players in Adult League"
 4. AYSA Policy No. PP092400 "Player Playing Up in Age Bracket"
 5. AYSA Policy No. PP060307 "Competitive Team U-10 and Younger"
 6. AYSA Policy No. PP061999 "True Age Players on Roster for Younger Comp Teams"
 7. AYSA Policy No. 50706A1 "Club Pass for Competitive Leagues"
- iv. Transfers
1. Any competitive players wishing to transfer from one team/club to another team/club must complete the AYSA Player Release and Transfer form and submit to FYSA with the transfer fee of \$35 payable to AYSA. During this 7-day waiting period, a player cannot play or practice with either team. The waiting period begins from the date AYSA approves the transfer.
 2. Any players wishing to transfer from one Intra Club Team (within club) to a new club team must complete the AYSA Player Release and Transfer form and submit to FYSA for AYSA to approve the transfer. This is for situations not covered in the Club Pass' program. There is no transfer fee or wait period for intra club transfers.
 3. Recreational players may transfer to a developmental or competitive team but will not be refunded the recreational fee. When the competitive team submits the updated roster with the new player information to FYSA, the player must then submit to FYSA the transfer fee of \$20.00 payable to FYSA. There shall be no waiting period.
- c. Recreational All-Star Team Program
- i. In addition to its regular recreational programs, FYSA may create Recreational All-Star teams for those players who may have a higher level of skill, but are not involved with any competitive team/club.
 - ii. Recreational All-Star teams may be created for select age divisions, with a separate team for each gender, whenever feasible.
 - iii. Participation in a RAS team may be in addition to a player's regular involvement with a recreational team. Only those registered with FYSA for the current session are eligible to participate. Any exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of the Executive Director.
 - iv. Registration for consideration for these teams will be open to any interested participants. Based on the number of registrants, there will be a skill-assessment session near the start of the season to determine those who will be rostered prior to any games. While team roster sizes will follow the guidelines for regular team formation, additional reserve



Fairbanks Youth Soccer Association Policies

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- players may be kept on record to be contacted for participation on a game-by-game basis to allow for greater involvement.
- v. Registration costs will be lower than regular programs, as the number of nights of RAS events will be limited based on regular summer program schedules. Because of the 'tryout' nature of this program, registrants will not be required to pay any fees until after placement on a roster has occurred.
 - vi. Games will be played against existing competitive teams with the following guidelines
 1. RAS Teams will only play against similarly-aged or younger competitive teams
 2. Games will be considered scrimmages
 - a. Referees will be provided
 - b. All regular gameplay guidelines will be followed with the understanding that these are not competitive matches, but for the purpose of player development for both teams, i.e. there may be modifications for games determined by FYSA, coaches and/or referees prior to or during a match
 - c. Regarding potential misconduct, Cautions and Send-Offs (yellow and red cards) will be used for the purpose of game management for the All-Star division matches only. However, serious offenses as outlined in Policy #14-Discipline and Appeals, may be grounds for sanctions that carry over to a player's primary division.
 - vii. Participation in RAS programs will always come secondary to a player's primary team/division with scheduled events on non-conflicting nights from their regular games.
- III. Sanction/Discipline: With the acknowledgement that the integrity of coaches and Clubs is a crucial part of the success of our programs, specific disciplinary results will not be spelled out. However, any incident where an individual or team is found to be violating either the spirit or letter of these policies may be reviewed by the FYSA Disciplinary Committee.
- IV. Responsibility: The Board of Directors, through the Executive Director, shall be responsible for implementation and enforcement of these policies.