

**NNYSA Board of Directors**  
**Policies**  
**Article XVII**  
**Travel Rules**

**Team Registration.**

- A. Competitive Teams must be registered with NNYSA in order to play.
- B. NNYSA will not register a competitive team to League play unless the team roster has the minimum number of players to field a full team according to the team age division. For example, U10 will play 7v7 and must have 7 players to register a team, U11 and U12 will play 9v9; therefore they must have 9 players to register the team. U13 and up teams play 11v11 and must have 11 players to register the team. Exceptions can be made to this policy as approved by the NNYSA Executive Board.

**Team Officials.** Each member team must have at least two team officials registered, one of whom must be designated as the "coach."

- A. Additional team officials may be registered at any time.
- B. Team Officials must be at least 18 years of age.
- C. Registration must be on forms and using procedures prescribed by the League Registrar.
- D. Novice team officials (between the age of 14 and 18) can be registered as team officials as long as:
  - 1. They complete the Grass Roots Coaching Course within 2 year of initial registration with NNYSA; and
  - 2. They are at least 2 divisions older in age than the teams they will be registered on; and
  - 3. A team official over the age of 18 is always in attendance for games and practices.

**Transfer of Players from One Team to Another.**

- A. Players are registered to a team for the seasonal year as defined above.
- B. NNYSA will inform NYSA of their transfer window as per NYSA Policy.
- C. The NNYSA transfer window will only apply to U10-U15 (8<sup>th</sup> graders) competitive players. Transfers of U15 (9<sup>th</sup> graders)-U19 competitive players will not be recognized by NNYSA, and those players will not be eligible for League play.
- D. U11-U14 competitive players transferring during the NNYSA transfer window will be required to sit out the team's next (2) League games.
- E. No team may add more than three "transferred" players to its roster during the season. Transferred players are defined as those who were previously registered with any USYSA team. (NYSA Rule). However, teams are free to add any new players to their roster at any time and without limitation. (NYSA Rule).

- F. In order to play in NYSA State Cup competition, players must be registered at least fourteen days before the competition starts. (NYSA Rule)
- G. This policy does NOT apply to the NNYSA recreational division.

**Recruiting Practices and Poaching – This section applies to coaches, players and parents associated with NNYSA competitive club and independent teams and academies registered to or formed by a recognized NNYSA.**

- A. Coaches or team officials found in violation of this policy are subject to the following penalties.
  - a. First offense is up to a six month suspension
  - b. Second offense is up to a one year suspension
  - c. Third offense is expulsion from the league
- B. Team officials are free to select their teams as they wish. There is no League requirement to hold tryouts or offer team berths to the general public, except that no person shall be discouraged from applying to play with a team or shall be selected or overlooked on a discriminatory basis.
- C. Once a player is registered with a competitive or independent team or academy in NNYSA, he or she may not be approached or solicited by a coach, team official or parent to transfer to another team nor attend another team's tryouts until the end of the NNYSA season.
- D. All team officials are responsible for enforcing this policy. Any team official who causes, permits or fails to stop improper solicitation or recruiting practices shall be disciplined (including parents of registered players). Coaches will be responsible for the conduct of their player's parents if those parents are found to be in violation of this policy. Further, if the Executive Board reasonably believes that a pattern or practice of improper solicitation is occurring for the benefit of a team (including questionable fundraising practices), the team official shall be suspended from the League for a minimum of one year, and may be further disciplined by the Board of Directors.
- E. Parents found in violation of the above policy can be called in front of a Discipline Committee, the Board of Directors or the Executive Board for action.
- F. US Club vs. USYS Player Poaching Policy - NNYSA is affiliated with US Youth Soccer as well as US Club. Therefore, under US Soccer Federation\* (USSF) guidelines, the poaching policy will be enforced per the USSF reciprocity agreement amongst its members. \*USSF is the official governing body of the sport of youth soccer in the United States. This includes the youth organizations of US Youth Soccer, US Club Soccer, American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) and SAY Soccer.

## **NNYSA Intra-Club Guest Player Procedures**

### **Qualifications.**

- A. Only Club teams (as defined by NNYSA) may use the Intra-Club Guest Player Policy.**
- B. A team may request for guest players during the regular season if the team has less than: 9 players at a game for U10, 11 players at a game for U11-U12; 13 players for U13-U14; and 14 players for U15 and up.
- C. A team may request up to a maximum of 4 guest players for an 11v11 game, 3 guest players for a 9v9 game, or 2 guest players for a 7v7 game. U15 and up teams may request a maximum of 5 guest players.
- D. The team roster may not exceed (with the approved guest players) 9 for U10, 11 for U10-U12; 13 for U13-U14 and 14 for U15 and up.
- E. The only exception to the maximum guest player count will be in the event a team's "one and only goalkeeper" is injured and unable to play. The team may borrow an age division appropriate goalkeeper from within its own club and add that player to an approved game card to be presented to the Center Referee.

**Ages.** Intra-club guest players may play up one age division from the player's actual age group. A player rostered to a team in an older age group may only guest play in their rostered team's age group regardless of the player's actual age group. Without exception, guest players shall not play down.

**Maximum Games.** A player may play in a maximum of two (2) NNYSA League games per day. A player may play in a maximum of (1) NNYSA League game per day as an intra-club guest player. If a player has played in two NNYSA League games with his/her own team in a day, then he or she may not be a guest player.

### **Red Carded Players.**

- A. A guest player may not be used to cover a "red-carded" player unless the team requiring a guest player would play with less than the full amount of players allowed on the field during a game.
- B. A "red-carded" player must serve his/her game suspension with his/her team on which he/she is registered before he/she may be a guest player for an intra-club team.

**Pre-competitive Intra-Club Guest Players.** Pre-competitive players are allowed to play competitive soccer as an intra-club guest player following the game guidelines as set forth in this policy. The pre-comp player must be registered in the NNYSA pre-comp program and hold a player card issued by the recreational division.

**Fees.** There is no fee involved in the intra-club guest player policy.

**Independent Teams:** Independent teams are not classified as "club teams" per NNYSA policy.

### **Game Cards.**

- A. At a game in which guest players are being used, the requesting coach must show the official game card from the team's NNYSA GotSoccer account to the Center Referee as well as all guest player cards. The requesting coach is responsible for obtaining all player cards and medical release documents from the lending coach.
- B. A copy of the approved game card will be sent to the opposing team's coach.
- C. The approved game card supersedes any other game card for the requesting team. Any player crossed off the game card as a "no show" player will not be allowed to play in the game with the approved intra-club guest players.

**Penalty for Violations.** If a team official violates this rule, he/she will be suspended for the rest of the current season, and the BOD or Discipline Committee will determine whether any additional penalty shall apply to the following season.

**Procedure for Requesting an Intra-Club Guest Player.**

- A. **Monday-Friday Games.** A team official must send an email to NNYSA Coordinator of Travel at least 24 hours (business days only) before the game day with the subject line to read: **URGENT GUEST PLAYER, date.** Phone calls or texts will not be honored. No exceptions. The email must list:
  - 1. All missing players (first and last names) from the requesting team. Missing players are considered unavailable for the entire game and may not show up at any point during the game to play the remaining portion of the game.
  - 2. The reason for each player's absence
  - 3. The names of each guest player and their registered team name
- B. **Saturday Games.** The above procedure must be followed except that the request has to be sent in no later than noon on the Thursday prior to the Saturday game.

**PLAY UP/DOWN POLICY – Competitive and Academy Players and Teams**

NNYSA encourages players to play in their appropriate age group. Playing in an age group higher than their actual age should be reserved for players with exceptional technical and tactical abilities. There are physical, social and emotional ramifications to playing in higher age groups. The decision to play up should be given careful consideration by parents, coaches and the club to ensure that it is in the best interest of the player. This policy provides guidelines for requesting Play up Approval.

U5-U19 – 2 year play up allowed with properly completed and signed paperwork. Play up Request Form must be filled out completely and signed by the Approved Club Evaluator, Club DOC and Club President. Parental Waiver must also be signed. Players must be evaluated and Play up Request Forms must be resubmitted EVERY year to NNYSA.

U15-U19 –Players wishing to play up more than two years must complete the Play up Request Form and Parental Waiver. If approval is granted, it is for the seasonal year (August to July). Requests must be approved EVERY year.

Independent teams can request an evaluator be provided by NNYSA for a \$25 fee.

**Competitive League Appeal procedures** – Appeals will be heard at the discretion of the NNYSA Executive Board.

**Competitive Team Play Up/Play Down –**

Decisions regarding play up or play down for competitive teams are made by the NNYSA.

## **CLUB REQUIREMENTS**

Member teams are encouraged to participate in clubs, and the fact that a club includes other teams which participate in other leagues or programs does not affect the rights to participate. Also, they must follow club requirement guidelines, see below.

Non Voting clubs and independent teams are still bound by all US Youth Soccer, US Soccer, US Club, SAY, AYSO (all members of the Federation) NYSA and NNYSA bylaws and policies.

**To apply for Club affiliation, the new Club must be approved by the NNYSA Board: This is if we are starting another club team outside the “United (SC, Elko, NNYSA)”**

1. A Letter of Application submitted to the League office by certified US mail. Attachments to the letter must include the following:
  - a. List of Club Directors - Note Clubs are able to make many autonomous decisions, although the ultimate liability and decisions lie with the NNYSA Board of Directors.
  - b. Club Goals
  - c. List of active teams with rosters including coaches
2. Clubs may have website and social media pages although all content must be approved by NNYSA Board. We are affiliated with the US Youth Soccer and only promote programs and events associated with US Youth Soccer.
3. Approval is required by full NNYSA Board of Directors

### **Maintaining Club Status**

Club status is at the discretion of the NNYSA Board.

### **Uniforms**

- A. Competitive Teams and Clubs are designated specific colors and types of jerseys for their Clubs by the NNYSA Board of Directors. IE SC United - Purple; Elko United - Maroon.
- B. Each Competitive team must have a dark and light colored uniform.
- C. Competitive Keepers must wear uniforms distinctive in color from both teams.
- D. Club teams must have NNYSA logo on the front of the jersey. That is all that is allowed on the front of the jersey.
- E. Advertising will be allowed on competitive team uniforms on the back of jerseys or shoulders only.
  - a. Advertising should be non-offensive and appropriate for youth sports. The NNYSA Executive Board has the right to deny use of advertising.
- F. No player names or nicknames will be allowed on a player's jersey. This is a national guideline for player safety.

- G. Jersey numbers must be at least SIX (6) inches tall and placed on the back of the uniform.

**During Play - A total of (5) colors must be present on the field (home team, away team, two keepers and referees). – Competitive Teams ONLY**

- A. Home team will be dressed in light/white color, visitor will wear dark color.
- B. In case of same color the HOME team will change uniforms.
- C. Failure to change colors could result in a forfeit by the team without a secondary color.

## **TRYOUT PLAN**

Tryouts for the competitive seasonal year are allowed four weeks per age group per year. The state will work with the clubs and leagues to establish these dates each year. Tryouts are to begin the weekend after the National Championship Series (State Cup) and completed in June and July.

### **Rules for tryouts.**

- A. This date will be published annually by NNYSA on their website.
- B. No advertising prior to 30 days before the beginning date of tryouts.
- C. NO tryout flyers can be handed out at State Cup games, qualifiers and finals. This includes passing out to players or placing on vehicles in the parking lot or near the fields.
- D. Offers cannot be made to players until the date and time determined annually by NNYSA. Players cannot be forced to sign registration paperwork in advance of this date; any coach found guilty of this will be subject to ruling from the BOD or Discipline Committee.
- E. If a player signs registration paperwork during the tryout period they can change their mind during the tryout period. They must notify the original coach and NNYSA as soon as possible in writing, email is acceptable.
- F. No communication regarding tryouts can be announced until 30 days prior to the actual tryout dates. This includes all leagues, clubs, teams, coaches, and independent teams. This date will be published annually by NNYSA on their website.
- G. Refer to NYSA policies regarding poaching, inducements and scholarships for prospective players.
- H. Flyers/advertisements must include all fees associated with the team, league fees, club fees, uniform fees, traveling fees, training fee and any other such fee associated with the team.

The following disclaimer must be on all flyers, advertisements etc.

(Soccer Club/Team) and the NNYSA encourage all unregistered young athletes attending competitive soccer tryouts to actively participate in different Club or Team tryouts so they may fully understand the training programs and benefits that individual Teams or Clubs may offer. Participating in (Soccer Club/Team) tryout DOES NOT register you to play, or bind you to the particular Club or Team. For additional information, please speak to a Club/Team Representative or call NNYSA.

If a player is currently registered on an NYSA team, the player must obtain a “Player Action Form” signed by his or her current coach and have it in his or her possession prior to any team or club tryout he or she attends. Likewise, it is the responsibility of the Club or Team holding tryouts to obtain, either verbally or written, a statement from the player attending their tryouts whether he or she is currently registered with another NNYSA team.