

**Peabody Youth Soccer  
Association, Inc.**

**OPERATING RULES**

**I. MISSION STATEMENT**

**(A) OVERVIEW**

1. The Peabody Youth Soccer Association (“PYSA”) will consist of two distinct programs: the Intramural Program, governed by this document, and the Travel Program governed by both this document and the Essex County Youth Soccer Association (“ECYSA”) Operating Rules. The PYSA Board of Directors (“Board”) is elected annually by the members and is responsible for overall management and direction of the organization.

**(B) REGISTRATION**

1. Registration dates will be set by the PYSA Board and all registration information will be communicated via PYSA website, electronic media and social media outlets.
2. PYSA has the right to request AGE VERIFICATION at any time. Age verification is an absolute requirement when a player is first registered.

**(C) FEES**

1. All fees must be paid at the time of registration or a late fee will be applied. The registration and late fee deadlines will be determined by the Board.
2. The fee will be determined annually by the PYSA Board.
3. Children of members of the PYSA Board are exempt from registration fees. They must pay traveling uniform fees.
4. The PYSA Board or the PYSA President may determine hardship on a case-by-case basis, and reduce or waive fees.

**(D) EQUIPMENT**

1. At the start of the season, equipment requests will be prepared by the Division Coordinators and forwarded to the Equipment Manager.
2. When practical, efforts will be made to purchase equipment from local merchant(s).

**(E) ADULT REGISTRATION AND CORI**

1. All PYSA volunteers over the age of 18 are required to have a valid MYSA adult registration/cori identification badge and said badge must be displayed at all times.

**(F) PLAYING FIELDS**

1. The Board will review the conditions of the fields before the start of each season in the Spring and Fall.
2. The President will submit a report to the Peabody Parks Department periodically, but not less than once per year, of the desired needs for rehabilitation or renovation of playing fields.
3. The President/Vice President will obtain from the Peabody Parks Department “Field Use Permits” to cover all PYSA field requirements.
4. The use of fields permitted to PYSA by the Peabody Parks Department shall be scheduled by the Scheduler/Referee Assignor.

**(G) FINANCES**

1. Financial statements will be reviewed for the next fiscal year by the Board. The Board will approve or disapprove the budget and the financial plan and will support the President in the implementation of the approved program.

**(H) ADULT TRAINING**

1. A clinic set up by the Director of Coaching will be conducted at least once a year for any and all new and old coaches. At the regular pre-season meeting, the Division Coordinator will review the Operating Rules and give instruction of key official rules and regulations of PYSA.

**II. INTRAMURAL PROGRAM**

**(A) AGE GROUPS – INTRAMURAL**

PYSA offers competition for boys and girls in the following Grade Groups or Divisions:

Grades 7-8  
Grades 5-6  
Grades 3-4  
Grades 1-2  
Kindergarten

**(B) INTRAMURAL PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

1. Must be a resident of Peabody or have a parent/guardian who is a Peabody resident, attend a Peabody school or house of worship.

2. Must be registered/affiliated with MYSA/PYSA.
3. Shall not be allowed to play for more than one competing team during the season. A season includes playoffs. This includes PYSA Travel program.

**(C) COMPOSITION OF DIVISIONS AND TEAMS**

1. The determining factor in assigning a player to a group is the player's Grade starting September 1st. This is based upon MYSA direction.
2. A player will not be allowed to play in a grade that is younger than his or her grade; special circumstances will be considered and reviewed by the Board.
3. A player will not be allowed to play in a grade that is older than his or her grade; special circumstances will be considered and reviewed by the Board.
4. The Division Coordinator will be responsible for placing newly registered players on the Spring rosters. Fair play is the top consideration. This will apply to all Grades.
5. Kindergarten, Grades 1-2 and Grades 3-4 team rosters will be determined by the Division Coordinator prior to the Fall season.

**(D) RULES OF COMPETITION**

1. Playing Periods/Ball Size.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Periods</b>	<b>Ball Size</b>
Grades 7-8	(2) 35 Min.	No. 5
Grades 5-6	(2) 30 Min.	No. 4
Grades 3-4	(2) 25 Min.	No. 4
Grades 1-2	(2) 22 Min.	No. 3
Kindergarten	(2) 22 Min.	No. 3

- (i) The above are guidelines and may be modified for a season by the Scheduler/Referee Assignor with the agreement of the Board.

Overtime is only for playoff games. First team to score wins the match. A series of 5 penalty kicks follows. If a winner is still undetermined, single rounds of penalty kicks follows until a winner is determined.

2. Substitution

Substitution shall be unlimited. Upon consent of the referee, substitutions may be made:

- (a) After a goal by either team.
- (b) In the case of injury, the injured player must be substituted if the referee had to stop the game or delay the game solely for the injury. Goal Keepers will be allowed to continue, whenever they feel they can.
- (c) At half time.
- (d) Prior to the throw-in, teams may substitute on each other's throw-in providing the team who has possession substitutes first.

3. Players Playing Time per Game

All players in all Grades 3-4 and older must play a minimum of 20 minutes per game. If this requirement is not maintained a team could FORFEIT the game. Also if a coach does not comply with this rule he or she is subject to expulsion from the league.

4. Placement for Playoffs

- (a) Points shall be awarded as follows:

Win	3 Points
Tie	1 Point
Loss or Forfeit	0 Points

- (b) If teams are tied on points at the end of a season, placement will be determined as follows:

- I. Results of head-to-head competition between the teams involved (Win/Loss)
- II. Summation of goal differential for all games during the season. Maximum differential in any game is +/- three. Forfeits are 3 to 0 scores for this calculation
- III. A coin toss

5. Rosters

<b>Grade</b>	
Kindergarten	4 v 4 no goalie Subject to change
Grade 1-2	5 v 5 with goalie (optional)

Grade 3-4	7 v. 7
Grade 5-6	9 v 9
Grade 7 and above	11 v. 11

6. Schedule Changes

- (a) The official league schedule created by the Scheduler/Referee Assignor and approved by the Board.
- (b) Games can be rescheduled only for the following reasons:
  - I. Unsafe weather conditions
  - II. Unplayable fields
  - III. Extreme or extenuating circumstances
- (c) In the event of poor weather or field conditions during the season, the Scheduler/Referee Assignor and the PYSA Board may decide to extend the season.

**(E) INTRAMURAL COACHES**

1. Coaches and assistant coaches must be AFFILIATED with the ECYSA/PYSA and completely fill out an acceptable Cori form and have a MYSA adult registration.
2. Coaches will be selected by the Division Coordinator and approved by the Board.
3. The home team will report the score to the Division Coordinator and update the PYSA website.
4. In the event a referee does not arrive within fifteen minutes after the scheduled kickoff, both coaches should make every effort to agree to an acting referee and the game should be played and counted as an official game.
5. If the coaches cannot agree on acting referee, the coaches will notify the Board Member at the Concession Stand. If the situation cannot be properly addressed, the game shall be rescheduled. The home team coach reports to the Division Coordinator and the Scheduler/Referee Assignor about the lack of referee(s).
6. Coaches and assistants must remain inside the limits of the coaches' box, defined as the area five to fifteen yards from the center line, on the sideline during the game. Failure to do this may result in ejection from the game and reviewed by a Discipline Committee.

7. Only the certified and adult registered coaches will be allowed in the coaches' box during the game. Coaches will need to wear their MYSAA adult registration identification badge.
8. Spectators MUST be on the opposite side of field from the players and coaches. No one is to be behind the nets.
9. Peabody Youth Soccer Association will reimburse its Coaches who participate in U.S. Soccer and Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association Sanctioned Coaches Training and Licenses programs. Reimbursement will be limited to \$75.00, on reimbursement per fiscal year. This reimbursement policy is subject to Budget availability and can be amended at any time by PYSAA Board of Directors. A copy of the Certificate/License will need to be included with the reimbursement request to the Director of Coaching (DOC) for approval. The DOC will then forward to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

**(F) FIELD RULES**

1. Rules of the Game

The current United States Youth Soccer Association ("USYSA") Administration Handbook Rules shall be in effect, except as specifically stated otherwise in these rules.

2. Teams

- (a) Each team must be represented by a registered/affiliated coach.
- (b) Teams must arrive within 15 minutes of the scheduled kickoff time.
- (c) Teams not ready to play with the minimum number of players within 15 minutes of the scheduled start will FORFEIT.  
Example: By 1:15 for a game scheduled for 1:00.
- (d) Any team failing to show at the field for a scheduled game that has not been rescheduled in accordance with the Rescheduling Procedure will be assessed a FORFEIT for that game. Two no-shows by a team will result in review by the League Disciplinary Committee.

3. Field Uniforms

- (a) The playing field must have suitable goal posts with nets. In

addition, the field will have appropriate and suitable lines, suitable corner markers, and must be in generally safe condition.

- (b) All players must wear the complete, unaltered uniform provided by PYSA during games.
- (c) All players must wear plastic soccer cleats or sneakers. Baseball cleats metal soccer cleats or any shoe with a “toe cleat” are not allowed.
- (d) Shin guards are mandatory for all players at all age levels. Players are not allowed to play without shin guards.
- (e) Jewelry, including, but not limited to, any type of earring worn in the ear or anywhere else on the player’s body, bracelets and necklaces, are not allowed for games or practices under any conditions.

#### 4. Unplayable Field and Conditions

- (a) If the field is unplayable, the age group Coordinator is responsible for notifying the teams. The coach will notify the players and the Scheduler/Referee Assignor will notify the referees.
- (b) If there is no notification, the teams and referees must report to the field. During the times of changing weather conditions, such as electrical storms and other sudden weather activity, single game decisions will be made by the PYSA Board members at the field.
- (c) Play will be immediately stopped and all players, coaches and referees will immediately leave the field whenever electrical storms approach a game in progress.
- (d) The above information will be updated on the PYSA website.

### **(G) REFEREES**

1. Minimum age to be a referee is 13.
2. Referees will be assigned by the Scheduler/Referee Assignor.
3. Referees must be at the field fifteen minutes prior to the game’s scheduled starting time to inspect the fields, inspect the players and attend to the required pre-game duties.



4. Referees will inspect each team prior to the game, assuring each player is:
  - (a) Wearing the complete uniform.
  - (b) Wearing appropriate footwear.
  - (c) Wearing shin guards.
  - (d) Not wearing jewelry.
5. Players not passing the referee's inspection will not be allowed to play until the disqualifying condition is rectified.
6. Referees will complete the PYSA game slip including the score, names of EJECTED and CAUTIONED players, inappropriate conduct of coaches and/or parents, and any other noteworthy situations. The completed slip will be signed by the referee and at least one coach and returned to the Scheduler/Referee Assignor as instructed in the referees' instructions provided at the beginning of the season.
7. The Board members at the field will make the final decision on field conditions or in the event of sudden poor weather conditions.
8. Referee fees will be established prior to the start of the season.
9. Referees will relinquish fees when he/she fails to abide by the Operating Rules established by the PYSA.
10. Referees must directly notify the Scheduler/Referee Assignor within 24 hours, whenever:
  - (a) A player is ejected.
  - (b) A coach displays inappropriate conduct.
  - (c) A game is terminated.
  - (d) A referee is verbally or otherwise assaulted in any manner by anyone.

**(H) DISCIPLINE**

1. If a player or coach is ejected from a game, there will follow an immediate review by a League Discipline Committee.
2. If a player or coach is suspended, the suspension prohibits the player or coach from participating in any manner in the game from which he/she has been suspended. The ejected player or coach must leave the playing and team areas immediately. A second ejection will result in banishment from all PYSA activities for the playing season.
3. Players and coaches may be ejected for the following reasons but not limited to:

- (a) Violent conduct or serious foul play.
  - (b) Foul and abusive language.
  - (c) Continuing misconduct after receiving a caution (Yellow Card).
  - (d) Violation of any FIFA Law requiring the referee to issue a RED CARD.
4. Three (3) individual yellow cards in separate games without the issuance of a red card will result in a one game suspension from the next scheduled game.
  5. If a player or coach leaves the coaches' box to participate in a disturbance on the field and thereby is ejected by the referee, that team member shall automatically be suspended for the duration of the season. The league may review the incident at its discretion. In such cases, a League Discipline Committee may extend or modify the automatic action.
  6. Any and all assaults on a referee will result in a minimum of one calendar year suspension (one year from the date of the incident).
  7. If any member of a team engages in unbecoming conduct which is brought to the attention of the PYSA Board, a League Discipline Committee will investigate and make recommendations to the PYSA Board as to the appropriate action. This action could involve banning such individuals from further PYSA activities.
  8. A League Discipline Committee has the right to impose further penalties for numerous violations on a team or team members.

**(I) ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

1. It is the responsibility of ALL coaches to maintain the highest standard of conduct for themselves, their players and supporters at all games. Abusive and obscene language, violent play, violent conduct, fighting and other behavior detrimental to the game will not be tolerated.
2. It is the responsibility of ALL coaches to fully support the referee at all times.
3. In cases where fans are, in the opinion of the referee, getting out of hand (verbal abuse to the referee, opposing players, coaches or opposing spectators) the referee has the power to stop the game and ask the appropriate coach to get his or her fans under control. In cases where spectator affiliation cannot be determined, it is up to both coaches to address the situation. In no case will the referee deal directly with the spectator.

4. If, after the coach has tried to comply with the referee's request and the problem still exist, the referee should stop the game, contact a Board member on-site and make a full report to the Schedule/Referee Assignor.
5. If a referee terminates a game a League Discipline Committee may award an FORFEIT.
6. All players and coaches must stay within 15 yards of the center field line. Spectators are to stay 3 yards from the touchline on the opposite side of the field. No spectators or coaches will be allowed behind the goals or end lines.

**(J) PROTESTS AND APPEALS**

1. There are only two acceptable causes for the protesting of a game AFTER it has been played. They are:
  - (a) A team knowingly plays an unregistered, ineligible or suspended player.
  - (b) There has been an obvious error made in application of the Laws of the Game that directly affects the outcome of the game, and the referee ADMITS it.
2. No protest can even be entertained if it is based upon judgment decisions made by the referee during play. A game cannot be protested because one coach, or both for that matter, feels the referee is incompetent.
3. Protests will be forwarded to the appropriate Division Coordinator and the Scheduler/Referee Assignor.
4. The appeal will be heard within 2 weeks of receipt. In all cases, it will be heard in a timely manner before it impacts any team. Decisions will be made and issued within three days of the end of League Discipline Committee.
5. The League Discipline Committee shall consist of 3 members appointed by the PYSA President with approval of the Board. No person shall sit on a League Discipline Committee if that person is involved with any of the teams, players or age group involved in the protest.
6. All protest actions will be reported in writing. Copies of the report will be sent to all coaches involved, the appropriate Division Coordinator and the Board.

### III. TRAVELING PROGRAM

#### GRADE 4 – POST GRADUATE TRAVEL TEAM POLICY AND COACH SELECTION PROCESS

##### Travel Coaches

- (A) Travel Team coaches must apply in writing to the Board by the deadline on the application, preceding the fall season in which they hope to coach. The Board will approve the coaches by the end of May.
- (B) Applicants must fill out a Peabody Youth Soccer Coaching Application to be considered.

Applicants that apply to be a Travel Team Head coach is *mandatory* to get a coaching license in the age bracket they apply for when applying. Grade 4 applicants must have a US Soccer Grassroots 7v7 license or higher. Grade 6 applicants must have a US Soccer Grassroots 9v9 license or higher. Grade 8 applicants must have a US Soccer Grassroots 11v11 license or higher. Grade 11 applicants must have a US Soccer Grassroots 11v11 license or higher. Grade PG applicants must have a US Soccer Grassroots 11v11 license or higher.

Peabody Youth Soccer Association will reimburse its Coaches who participate in U.S. Soccer and Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association Sanctioned Coaches Training and Licenses programs. Reimbursement will be limited to \$75.00, on reimbursement per fiscal year. This reimbursement policy is subject to Budget availability and can be amended at any time by PYSA Board of Directors. A copy of the Certificate/License will need to be included with the reimbursement request to the Director of Coaching (DOC) for approval. The DOC will then forward to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

- (C) A Travel Team coach will be selected and approved by the Peabody Youth Soccer Board. He or she will be assessed on the following criteria:
  - (i) Personal qualities – integrity, leadership, understanding, sensitivity, organization, ability to communicate, fairness, dedication, commitment, etc.
  - (ii) Coaching experience.
  - (iii) Coaching license.
  - (iv) Participation in the PYSA league itself.
  - (v) Recommendation of other coaches, coordinators, and Board members.
  - (vi) Playing experience.
  - (vii) Other factors deemed appropriate by the Board.
- (D) In the case of more than one application, the Board may request that each applicant attend an interview process.

- (E) The Board may also form additional Travel Teams in any age group if they deem appropriate. The Committee shall try to select the head coach from among those not selected (but formally applied) for the two primary Travel Team coaching positions in that age group or from among anyone who has formally applied specifically for that position.
- (F) In case of no coaching candidates for a particular Travel Team, it will be the responsibility of the Travel Director to obtain a qualified coach for the team.
- (G) A Travel Team coach is subject to review of the Board.
- (H) The GRADE 4 - GRADE 8 Travel Team coach must make a commitment to a team for both the Fall and Spring seasons.
- (I) There must be one Head Coach for each Travel Team. This individual will have the final say in player selections within PYSA tryout and eligibility rules, and will be responsible for all phases of the team including selecting and managing Assistant Coaches. Assistant Coach selections must be approved by the Board. "Co-Coaches" are not recommended. PYSA strongly recommends no more than two assistant coaches.
- (J) Use of the soccer fields is prohibited at the start of the season until released by the Parks Department. Practice should not be conducted on wet, sloppy fields. Practice at Kennedy must be held on the assigned field or practice area.
- (K) PYSA does not recommend practicing more than four hours per week during weeks that school is in session.
- (L) In the case of wrongdoings by the Travel Team coach, either in violation of PYSA guidelines or league rules, the coach may be removed during the season by the Board. A letter of reprimand may be issued for the first time violations and further action may be taken on subsequent violations.

### **SELECTION OF PLAYERS AND TEAM MANAGEMENT**

- (A) The head coach of each Travel Team will have the final choice of the players selected for his or her team. The coach must seriously consider the input of the Travel Director and other involved evaluators. All selections must be from those players that have tried-out (or having an excused absence) first. Only when all players that have tried-out (or those with excused absences) have been selected, may a coach select additional players.
- (B) The Travel Team coach should observe all teams in the age division for potential Travel Team players. The new coach should consult with other coaches for potential players.
- (C) Open tryouts for Fall Travel Teams for all Age Divisions (GRADE 4, GRADE 6, and GRADE 8 Boys and Girls) will be done on a best effort basis during the

month of May. Tryouts for Grade 11 and Post-Graduate (PG) will be done on a best effort basis during the month of November. There will be two tryouts for all age groups. Attendance at tryouts for all players is imperative for participation in the PYSA Travel Team program. All players must attend at least one tryout to be eligible to be selected for a Travel Team.

- (D) All players **must be registered** for the Fall season before 2:00 p.m. on the day of the tryout to be eligible to try out for a Travel Team.
- (E) A player will be permitted to miss a tryout for good cause (*e.g.* illness, injury, and unavoidable family emergency). In the event that a player cannot attend any tryout, a written notice must be sent to the Travel Director indicating the reason for the absence. If the Board of Directors finds the excuse acceptable, the player will be eligible for consideration by the appropriate Travel Team coach, provided the coach has seen the player practice or play during the current season. **All players that want to make a Peabody Travel Team must make at least one complete tryout injured or not, unless excused by the Board through the process referenced above.**
- (F) A player is eligible to play in PYSA as long as they reside in Peabody, attend school or attend a house of worship in Peabody. If a player starts the season in PYSA and subsequently moves out of the city, that player may finish the year in PYSA. The player can play the following year(s), per ECYSA guidelines. No tryout candidate that resides in Peabody attends school or a house of worship in Peabody shall be displaced.
- (G) A GRADE 4, GRADE 6, GRADE 8, GRADE 11 and PG eligible player who moves into town after tryouts may be considered by the Travel Team coach if his/her team has a roster position available, after all eligible players have tried out and were offered an open rostered spot.
- (H) All Travel Team Rosters will be approved by the Travel Director.
- (I) At least one member of the Board will observe tryouts for fairness to everyone.
- (J) No commitment will be made to any player during the tryouts.
- (K) All players coming to tryouts must be advised of their selection (or non-selection) by means of a telephone call by the coach. **All players must be called!** 1<sup>st</sup> Year Players will be called by the 1<sup>st</sup> year coach. 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Players will be called by 2<sup>nd</sup> year coach. If a mixed team is formed, the coach of the mixed team will call the mixed team selected players. Non-selected 1<sup>st</sup> year players will be called by the 1<sup>st</sup> year team coach. Non-selected 2<sup>nd</sup> year players will be called by the 2<sup>nd</sup> year team coach.

- (L) Replacement players for open roster spot(s) on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year teams will be made by contacting the Travel Director. The Travel Director will contact the head coach of the mixed team and inform him that the highest rated player from the spring tryout evaluation form will be offered the opportunity to fill the open roster spot on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year team. The player will have the option to accept or refuse the roster spot. If the player decides to refuse the roster spot, the Travel Director will contact the next highest rated player from the tryout evaluation form.
- (M) No players will be allowed to be listed on more than one roster. This includes PYSA In-town Program.
- (N) All GRADE 4 through GRADE 8 players that have attended at least one of the last two team practice sessions will have an opportunity to play in the next scheduled game. If a player does not attend at least one of the two team practice sessions, the opportunity to play in the next scheduled game will be based on the coach's discretion. In Grade 4, all players must play different positions on the field over the course of the season to expose the player to all soccer positions on the field.
- (O) In cases where PYSA rules are more stringent than ECYSA or MYSA rules, PYSA rules will be followed unless otherwise specified.
- (P) When the Board deems additional GRADE 8 – PG teams appropriate after tryouts are completed, head coaches of the two primary Travel Teams in that age group shall provide a list of players that he/she recommends for consideration for the additional team. The Travel Director and additional team's Head Coach will then select the team, but selection must first come from among those in the eligible pool of players.
- (Q) Travel Team players may be suspended during a season for disciplinary reasons by the coach with the approval of the Travel Director and the Board.
- (R) Waivers - In the event a player tries out for and is not selected to play for a PYSA Travel Team, a waiver may be requested to release the player from their commitment to home organization. Per ECYSA rules, a waiver from the home organization is required to allow a player to play for another organization. Should the player be selected for and decline to play for a PYSA Travel Team and/or play on an in-town team, a waiver will not be granted.

## **NUMBER OF TRAVEL TEAMS**

- (A) We have the following number of Travel Teams:

Grade 4: We will have one GRADE 4 team in each gender made up of the top selected GRADE 4 players. We will have one GRADE 3 team in each gender made up of the top selected GRADE 3 players. We will form additional teams in each gender from the remaining pool of players. The final number of additional teams formed, and the grade level make-up of those teams will be based on several factors including (1) the availability of qualified head coaches, (2) the ability to meet roster size requirements, and (3) consideration of the number of remaining players at each grade level with competitive tryout scores. For clarity, an additional team may consist of all GRADE 4 players, all GRADE 3 players, or a mix of GRADE 4 and GRADE 3 players based on the factors previously noted.

Grade 6: We will have one GRADE 6 team in each gender made up of the top selected GRADE 6 players. We will have one GRADE 5 team in each gender made up of the top selected GRADE 5 players. We will form additional teams in each gender from the remaining pool of players. The final number of additional teams formed, and the grade level make-up of those teams will be based on several factors including (1) the availability of qualified head coaches, (2) the ability to meet roster size requirements, and (3) consideration of the number of remaining players at each grade level with competitive tryout scores. For clarity, an additional team may consist of all GRADE 6 players, all GRADE 5 players, or a mix of GRADE 6 and GRADE 5 players based on the factors previously noted.

Grade 8: We will have one GRADE 8 team in each gender made up of the top selected GRADE 8 players. We will have one GRADE 7 team in each gender made up of the top selected GRADE 7 players. We will form additional teams in each gender from the remaining pool of players. The final number of additional teams formed, and the grade level make-up of those teams will be based on several factors including (1) the availability of qualified head coaches, (2) the ability to meet roster size requirements, and (3) consideration of the number of remaining players at each grade level with competitive tryout scores. For clarity, an additional team may consist of all GRADE 8 players, all GRADE 7 players, or a mix of GRADE 8 and GRADE 7 players based on the factors previously noted.

- (B) Grade 4 through Grade 8 Travel Teams are eligible to participate in the Peabody Columbus Day Tournament. Registration fees for these teams shall be waived in lieu of the team providing a minimum of 4 volunteers for the tournament.

In the event that PYSA does not host a Columbus Day Tournament, PYSA will reimburse a Travel Team up to \$400.00, one Tournament per Fiscal Year. Reimbursement is subject to Budget availability, on a first come first serve basis, and the amount of reimbursement can be amended at any time by PYSA Board of Directors.



## **ROSTER SIZES**

The roster sizes for each grade group shall not exceed the following, except under certain circumstances:

GRADE 4	14 Players
GRADE 6	16 Players
GRADE 8	18 Players
GRADE 11	Per ECYSA Rules
Post-Graduate (PG) eligible	Per ECYSA Rules

The final roster size for each team shall be approved by the Travel Director.

## **PLAYER ASSESSMENTS**

Travel Team Players will be evaluated on:

### **Physical Ability**

- (1) Coordination
- (2) Endurance and Strength
- (3) Speed and Quickness

### **Soccer Skills**

- (1) Passing
- (2) Trapping
- (3) Dribbling
- (4) Throwing
- (5) Kicking
- (6) Other

### **Soccer Knowledge**

- (1) Anticipation
- (2) Ability to use open space
- (3) Strategies
- (4) Tactics
- (5) Rules of the Game
- (6) Mental alertness and quickness in various situations

### **Attitude**

- (1) Coachability - willingness to follow directions
- (2) Teamwork – ability and willingness to be unselfish
- (3) Supportive while being both on and off the field
- (4) Aggressive but fair when playing
- (5) Respectful to coach, players, and referees

## **PLAYER COMMITMENT**

Because placing a player on a Travel Team roster, by definition, prevents another player from making that team, there is an expected commitment. The Board, therefore, has decided that every Travel Team player should meet an acceptable minimum requirement. That requirement is that each player must participate in one of the two scheduled practices each week and be available to play in every ECYSA game. Only compelling reasons will be considered acceptable excuses for not meeting this requirement. Compelling excuses will be defined as situations that are beyond the player's control, i.e. an important family obligation or responsibility. Obviously, a greater commitment than the stated minimum is encouraged and is in the best interest of the player and the team. Failure to meet this commitment requirement may result in the player losing his/her place on the team. A coach is expected to communicate his/her own requirements prior to the selection process. These requirements should be aligned with PYSA requirements and in every case cannot exceed PYSA requirements.

## **TRAVEL TEAM UNIFORMS**

To insure uniformity of the soccer association players, all Grade 4 thru Post Graduate teams will wear the PYSA approved uniform as their main uniform. This uniform is chosen by the Board.

## **TRAVEL TEAM POLICY CHANGES**

Any changes to this policy will require affirmation by the Board according to PYSA By-Laws.

## **RIGHT OF APPEAL (Player Selection)**

If player selection is accomplished within the guidelines stated in this policy, appeals should be unwarranted.

However, if a parent wishes to make an appeal, it must be done in writing to the Travel Director within three days of team selection stating the specific and objective reasons as to why their child should have been selected. The Travel Director will notify the President and an emergency Board meeting will be held to address the appeal.

The Board decision regarding the appeal will be final.

## **TRYOUT EVALUATIONS**

- (A) Evaluators will be provided to each age group/gender. The pool of evaluators will consist of current or past travel coaches, assistant coaches and college players. It is the responsibility of the Travel Director to ensure enough evaluators are on hand for each tryout session. It is mandatory; these evaluators will be asked to evaluate the other gender in the age groups, not the gender that they're currently involved with. The evaluators will not have a child or sibling in the group they will be evaluating. Minimum age for evaluators is 16 years. All coaches and

evaluators will be at the field 30 minutes before tryouts begin.

- (B) Evaluation forms will be supplied by PYSA.

UPDATED NOVEMBER 2024