TRY-OUT RULES
2010-2011

For Classic, State, and Regional League Teams originating from Southeast Wisconsin (as defined by WYSA Policies)

WYSA has established these rules with regard to competitive team tryouts in an effort to provide a consistent, fair, and equitable environment for both players and clubs in which all parties may best meet their needs and aspirations with respect to competitive soccer.

These rules will apply to any club or team forming a team to participate in Classic, State, or Regional League play during the 2010-11 seasonal year.

A copy of these rules should be available to all players at the time of registration or at tryouts.

RATIONALE

Classic, State, and Regional League teams are usually organized by conducting player try-outs. The Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association (WYSA) feels that fairness in this process is important. To best accomplish this, it is necessary to provide a consistent approach for tryouts so that all teams, clubs and players may have opportunities to evaluate and explore all choices.

A player is expected to commit to a team for the entire seasonal year (August 1, 2010 – July 31, 2011). Understanding that the commitment involves many facets of a family's life, WYSA establishes these rules to provide families with the information needed to establish a fair expectation of what is involved with the tryout process.

Both clubs and families alike are depending on each other to play a role in making the tryout process as smooth as possible. As such, each party is due a base level of knowledge with regard to what to expect of each other during the tryout process.

MINIMUM STANDARDS

- Any club intending to form competitive teams must provide parents with an "informational statement" for each team that includes team or club formation policies. The "informational statement" must be distributed to players at tryouts. Informational Statements must include information pertaining to cost of joining a particular team, who the coach is expected to be, what events and travel can be expected, training location and commitment expected of player, in which league the team is expecting to participate, and any other relevant information pertaining to joining that team.

- Families should have the highest of expectations from clubs forming teams at competitive levels to be able to provide information in advance that accurately portrays the policies, rules, fees, costs, expected tournaments (if any), coaching staff, and opportunities for advancement associated with each team and/or club.

- Try-outs should be conducted on an open basis using trained and experienced coaches who can conduct activities that both identify the best prospects for a team, but also provide a challenging experience for the players, whether or not they are chosen.
- All parties are expected to exhibit ethical behavior. Clubs may not make evaluative statements about other clubs or teams, their coaching methods or staff (in any form) and are advised to inform tryout attendees and their parents/guardians about the qualifications and objectives of their own team, coach or club.
- Reasonable fees for trying out may be charged at the discretion of the club. Try-out fees must be related to the cost of conducting the try-outs. Try-out fees are not refundable at the discretion of the club. Membership fees may be charged as part of pre-registration or early player registration, but must be refunded to all players not accepted or to those who notify the club/team that they will not be playing with them within a timely fashion.
- Tryouts are not to be conducted for any team participating in U6 through U10 or in any recreational league. By definition these teams are recreational and Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association policies prohibit tryouts to form them.

RESOURCES for Parents participating in tyouts

- Standings: Competitive leagues have standings available on their respective web sites. This information may help determine what future placement is possible for any existing competitive team.

  MYRSL Classic Leagues: www.myrsl.org

  WI Youth Soccer State Leagues: www.wiyouthsoccer.com

  Midwest Regional League: www.midwestregionalleague.com
- League Policies: Competitive leagues have policies or guidelines regarding promotion and relegation (the involuntary movement of teams between upper and lower divisions at a given point in time)
- Birth date Guidelines: At the end of this document, the guidelines that determine the age appropriate level for a player, based on their birth date

PROCESS:

1. **PERIOD OF OPEN PROMOTION**

   The scope of what is permitted during this period of "Open Promotion" is below and must be consistent with "informational statement" provided to parents.

   Beginning on June 7, 2010, for the 2010-11 registration year, club representatives may initiate contact with players and/or their parents for the explicit purpose of promoting their respective club and inviting a player to attend tryouts.

   "Open Promotion" is defined as:

   > Contact with player or parent(s)/guardian(s) of player initiated by club staff or agent of club with the intent to promote the club.

   Under no circumstances may contact be initiated with any player age 14 years old and younger without a parent or guardian present.

Other activity not permitted during Period of Open Promotion:

- Contact with player or parent is not permitted under any circumstances at trainings or games until coach has dismissed team.
- Discussions regarding reducing fee structure by any amount for club being promoted unless consistent with club policy. (ie. a club *may* explain to candidate that scholarships are available, but they must qualify and apply per club policy. A club *cannot* guarantee a player half off the uniform cost/free uniform/half off registration fee, etc. if the player joins the club.)
- Discussions cannot contain promotion for the player to consider a specific team.
- No offer may be made until the June 14, 2010, as shown in item 3 below.

2. TRY-OUT DATES:

Any competitive teams conducting tryouts may begin June 7, 2010. Any team(s) clubs possessing the intent to participate in WYSA's Competitive Leagues (i.e., "Classic", "Premier" or "First Division") must conclude tryouts by June 14, 2010. Exempt from this conclusion deadline are Girls and Boys U15 and older **Classic, Premier or First Division** level teams. Girls U15 and older classic team tryouts can begin June 21, 2010. Boys U15 and older classic team tryouts can begin July 7, 2010.

3. NOTIFICATION TO PLAYERS

Offers/notification to players must be in writing (e-mail or web site posting is sufficient) and according to the dates presented in the table below. Extending an offer prior to the dates presented above is not permitted and will result in sanctions.

A legitimate offer must be in writing and must include:

1. Date and time of offer
2. Name of club representative making the offer, and
3. For which team the offer is being made.

Age Group & Gender	**First date of Tryouts**	**First date of offers**
Boys & Girls U11-U14	June 7, 2010	June 14, 2010
Boys U15-19	July 7, 2010	July 11, 2010
Girls U15-19	June 21, 2010	June 24, 2010

4. RESPONSE FROM PLAYERS:

Players may respond immediately to offers, but are **not required** to respond immediately. The club representative contacting player should remind players that an immediate response is not necessary and how much time a player has to respond. (up to 72 hours)

Any offer extended to a player is valid for at least 72 hours during which time the player is guaranteed a spot on the team specified. A club or team may extend the length of time an offer is valid at their discretion.

A player is considered committed to a team (also known as "rostered to a team") when a parent/guardian signs the player registration form and turns the form into a club representative. Any refund policies are at the sole discretion of the club.

Any player who commits to a team and then wants to change to another team in the same registration year will be considered a transfer and such transfer is subject to and WI Youth Soccer Association transfer policies.

Birth Date Guidelines for 2010-11

These guidelines are established by US Youth Soccer as a means of standardizing the age of players participating in leagues across the country.

All players (participating in Classic, State, and Regional Leagues) must adhere to these guidelines without exception.

To Play in This Age Group	Player's Birth Date Must be:
U9	On or After AUGUST 1, 2001
U10	On or After AUGUST 1, 2000
U11	On or After AUGUST 1, 1999
U12	On or After AUGUST 1, 1998
U13	On or After AUGUST 1, 1997
U14	On or After AUGUST 1, 1996
U15	On or After AUGUST 1, 1995
U16	On or After AUGUST 1, 1994
U17	On or After AUGUST 1, 1993
U18	On or After AUGUST 1, 1992
U19	On or After AUGUST 1, 1991

Age cut off dates are established by the United States Soccer Federation and the US Youth Soccer Association.

The Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association encourages clubs to consider the safety of each player when allowing younger athletes to play up in older age groups. There are WYSA policies limiting how much a younger player can play up.

Published May 3, 2010; Rev. May 4, 2010