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WISCONSIN YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION BOYS AND GIRLS STATE LEAGUE

NAME

Wisconsin State Leagues and shall be referred to as the Boys State League and the Girls State League. Each league will have a Premier, a First Division and U11 Developmental division (when applicable).

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Wisconsin State League shall be to provide the highest level of competition for U11 – U19 Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association member clubs within the geographic boundaries of Wisconsin.

AUTHORITY

The Wisconsin State Leagues are authorized by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Board of Directors to operate as the Official State League. It will be administered by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association. The League's will be overseen by WYSA Competitions Manager. The State Leagues shall be properly affiliated with the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association, Wisconsin Soccer Association, US Youth Soccer, and US Soccer.

APPLICATIONS TO THE LEAGUE

Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association clubs may apply for entry to the State League twice a year in June/July (Fall League) and January (Spring). All applications must be made to the State Association in accordance with the deadlines established. All league applications will be done online; payment is due at the time of application. Teams not accepted will receive a refund of the application fee. No paper copies of the application will be accepted.

To participate in the State League, a team must be affiliated with a recognized Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association club in "Good Standing" status or a direct registration member of WYSA. All players may only be placed on one official State roster, players used as club pass players must appear on a permanent team official State roster.

TEAM PLACEMENTS

Team placement will be determined by the WYSA Competitions Manager. The team placements will be communicated via email via PlayMetrics or via the WYSA Competitions Manger directly. Teams will have 48 hours to request an explanation of their placement. Teams that elect to appeal their placement will have 24 hours from the response to their inquiry by a league representative. Please understand the time starts when the information is sent and not when you review the placement

information. The WYSA appeal fee of $125 must be received in the State Office before the scheduled appeal hearing. If this fee is not received or the procedure is not followed regarding the appeal, before the scheduled hearing date/time, the team's appeal will not be heard or considered.

ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

The selection of teams will be determined by the WYSA Competitions Manager based on the criteria below.

1. WYSA District League Champions
2. The team won-loss record and placement in league play (2nd, 3rd, etc.).
3. The team won-loss record in WYSA President Cup or WYSA State Championships
4. Team applications for placement between the fall and spring season at the U11, U12, U13 and U14 age groups from their respective District Classic League. First consideration for placement will be given to undefeated/untied teams. District League champions are not guaranteed acceptance midseason and teams will only be accepted if space is available.

PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

League participants in the U12 through U19 age divisions will be promoted and relegated based on the performance record in the State League.

The Premier Division and First Division will be made up of a minimum of five teams with a maximum of 10 teams.

Relegation Teams one through six will be protected and will remain in the league the next scheduled season. If eight teams are not available, the WYSA Competitions Manager reserves the right to select six or seven teams. If the League has fewer than eight teams the WYSA Competitions Manager reserves the right to protect as many teams deem qualified.

Teams that finish in position seven and below will be considered for relegation to the 1st Division (Premier) or Classic Leagues (First Division). In the event of a tie for position six and below the following criteria will be used to determine placement.

1. Head-to-Head results
2. Goals differential- goals scored minus goals allowed
3. Goals scored
4. Goals allowed
5. Playoff game (at the discretion of the League Director)

Promotion Teams that finish league play in position one or two in its division (1st division,) will be considered for Promotion, additional teams will be considered on as needed basis. Teams that finish

Premier league play in (1st, 2nd place, other) will be eligible for promotion to N1. The same criteria listed will apply in the event of ties.

There will be no limit to the number of teams considered for application to the 1st Division.

At the U11 – U14 age groups, there will be promotion and relegation between the Premier and First Division of the State League between the Fall and Spring seasons.

TEAM CREDENTIALS

Each team must have approved WYSA team roster with player photos, and each coach and team administrator must register with the State Office, show as approved on a team roster and have in his/her position a valid coaching pass. All State League coaches must have in their possession a current Wisconsin Youth Soccer Coach Pass. A minimum "Compliant 1" level license is required for all U15 and above State League coaches and a minimum "Compliant 2" level license for coaches at the U11 – U14 age levels. All coaches will be expected to comply with this requirement, coaches currently not in compliance with the coaching license requirement must be working towards compliance.

TEAM/PLAYER ROSTER

The Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association recognize the game day roster requirements for U11 – U12 and U13 – U19.
U13 – U19 teams shall have a maximum of 18 players and a minimum of seven players.
U11 – U12 teams shall have a maximum of 16 players, U11/12 teams in 11v11 leagues shall have a maximum of 18 players on a game day roster.

CLUB PASSES

A State League team may elect to add players for league games. The club pass is designated as an intraclub player arrangement and is not intended to be used as an interclub arrangement between two different clubs. Teams that make use of club passes must add the player to the teams WYSA League/Game Card as a Club Pass player. Players can play at any competition level within the State league and SECL leagues if they are age appropriate for the competition division. For WYSA competitions (SECL, State League) clubs are allowed an unlimited number of club pass players for a league match. No male players will be allowed to participate in a female league unless designated as a co-ed league which permits male and female players on the same team and within the same league.

GAME REPORTS

Teams must submit a WYSA League Match card, referee payment and the coach's pass. The League Match card includes player photos and must include rostered and all eligible club pass players. The referee is expected to complete the online game report within 48 hours of the completion of the

match. The league will recognize the score provided by the referee as the official result if teams don't agree on the game score. The referee must also note any yellow or red cards shown during the match.

SCHEDULE OF GAMES

The Competition Manager is responsible for preparing the league schedule. The Competition Manager shall set the parameters of the dates that the league Games will be played. Teams will be provided the opportunity on the league application to "BLOCK OUT" four (4) dates. These dates are due at the time of application; no dates will be accepted once the scheduling draft is completed.

The State Championship Tournament and or President Cup will not count against the designated number of dates. The Wisconsin State League will not schedule games for the Girls U15 – U19 age groups during these dates (Fall), Boys U11 – U19, Girls U11 – U14 (Spring).

1. The schedule will be prepared with dates and matchups only.
2. This first draft will be forwarded to the club or facility field assignor who will add time and field information to the schedule.
3. Field schedulers will have roughly 10 days to complete the schedule with locations, and times.
4. Once returned a rescheduling or reconciliation window will open. Upon the close of the rescheduling window schedules will be forwarded to the Regional Referee Assignor for assignment of referees.

FIELDS

It is the responsibility of the home team to have corner flags and nets for all home games. It is also the home team's responsibility to make sure that the field is properly marked (lined). The participating club must provide fields that meet the standards at these age levels.

WEATHER

Games are considered complete once the second half is kicked off, if the game is unable to proceed the score at time of delay is considered Final. Games not kicking off in second half will be replayed in full.

In situations where teams and referees attend a scheduled game and the game is canceled before the teams take the field; the teams will pay the referees their portion of the game fees. The game will have to be rescheduled, and the referees must be paid in full by both teams prior to the start of the game.

The WYSA Inclement Weather Policy can be found in section 305-001 in the WYSA Rules, Regulations, and Policies document.

REFEREE

Both teams (home, away), will share the referee fees for each match. Teams are only required to pay the referee fees for the referees in attendance, for example (1) official they do not receive the payment for all (3) positions.

If no referee is available, teams can agree to play with No official or reschedule the game. If the coaches agree to play, the winning team should report the game score after confirmation from the opposing team.

LEAGUE GAMES MAY ONLY BE CHANGED OR CANCELLED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. Direct conflict with President Cup or State Cup Tournament games
2. Direct conflict with an N1 game
3. Weather
4. As determined by the League governing body.

Requests to reschedule without the written permission of WYSA competitions are subject to review.

SCHEDULE OF FINES

Teams that fail to play a league game or drop from the league shall be fined as follows:

1. Drop after placements– forfeit entry fee
2. Drop after scheduling has begun– entry fee plus $25.00 per game
3. Unauthorized reschedule of league game - $50.00 per team
4. Use of ineligible club pass player – forfeit game plus $150.00 plus coach suspension
5. Failure to provide game officials with league game report - $25 per violation
6. Forfeit League State League/SECL game - $250.00
7. Unwillingness to travel for match - $300.00
8. Games not played - $250 (each team will pay 50% of fee)

Teams that forfeit one State League game in a season may be relegated to the next lowest division. Teams that forfeit more than one State League game in a season may be relegated out of the State League for the next competitive playing season. The club will assume the responsibility to see that the team pay any fines assessed, in the event the fine is not paid the league will request the club be placed in “not good standing” status by the State Association.

GAME RESCHEDULING PROCEDURES

In the event a game rescheduling is approved by the league administrator, the coach or manager of the team requesting the change must be provided in writing with the following information:

1. Name of the league, division, game number and age level.
2. Date, time, and location of rescheduled game
3. Name of opposing team contact who agrees to the change.
4. Reason for change (weather, etc.).

Once a game change is approved, the club is responsible for:

1. Provide notification via email to the home club's field assignor.
2. Provide notification via email to the home club's referee assignor.

WYSA will update the online schedules but doesn't provide communication to the referee assignor or club field scheduler. WYSA would recommend that teams check with club field assignor regarding availability before finalizing any reschedules.

In the event the teams cannot agree to reschedule the WYSA will assign a date, if no common date is found the match will be scheduled for the makeup weekend. If a team is unavailable to play once the game is scheduled by WYSA the game will be considered a forfeit.

Under no circumstances will teams be permitted to make a game change without written permission from the League. Should the league discover this occurred, both teams will forfeit that match and be subjected to league approved fines. This action may result in suspensions for teams, coaches, and administrators.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

1. Head-to-Head results
2. Goals differential- goals scored minus goals allowed
3. Goals scored
4. Goals allowed
5. If teams are unable to complete all league games within a division, WYSA will use a points per game average to determine league champions.

UNIFORMS

Each player on a team must have shirts of the same color, and each player must have a different jersey number. Each player on a team must have shorts of the same color. A player may wear a longs sleeve shirt under the jersey uniform. A player may wear leggings under the uniform shorts provided the color of the leggings is the same as that of the uniform shorts. All players must wear matching socks. The home team shall wear light colors and in the event of a color conflict, the home team shall change to an alternate set of uniforms. If the away team is wearing light colors, then the away team must change.

RED CARDS

All Red cards issued during the play will be reviewed by the WYSA and recorded. The club shall be responsible for ensuring that the player, coach, spectator has satisfied all penalties issued by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association. All penalties shall be subject to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association appeals process.

Players that receive a red card during participation in a league game receive a minimum of one League Game suspension. This includes two yellow cards received in one contest equating to a red card. Red Carded players are ineligible to play as a club pass player or with his/her rostered team until the suspension is served, league suspensions are for league games only (SECL, State League, Developmental). The Competitions Manager may assess a longer suspension subject to the severity of the offense and prior history of misconduct of the offending player.

COACH MISCONDUCT

Coaches in the State Leagues are expected to exhibit the highest level of sporting behavior and are responsible for the attitudes and behavior of their assistant coaches, players and spectators. In the event the referee determines the conduct of the coach is detrimental to the game, the referee may ask the coach to leave immediate vicinity. Immediate vicinity shall be defined as sufficient distance from the playing field where the offending party cannot cause additional disruptions to the game. This is considered the "Out of Sight and Out of Sound principle." All coaches asked to leave by the referee may be subject to additional sanctions, those sanctions can include completion of the referee training course, additional game suspension, probation or loss of coach pass subject to the severity of the reason resulting in the coach's dismissal from the game. Removed or Red Carded coaches are ineligible to coach for his/her team or another team (in another SECL, State League, SECL Developmental Youth Academy game) until the suspension is served with the offending team, league suspensions are for league games only. The Competitions Manager may assess a longer suspension subject to the severity of the offense and prior history of misconduct of the offending player.

HEARINGS & APPEALS

Decisions of the Competition regarding suspensions assessed to players, coaches, administrators, and parents may be appealed in accordance with the Wisconsin State Leagues Hearing and Appeals Process followed by the Hearing and Appeals Process of the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association and in accordance with the Hearing and Appeals Procedures as outlined by US Youth Soccer and US Soccer. Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Policies and Procedures: "(a)Appeals will first be addressed by the State League (b) then at the State Association level. The appeal fee at the State League level shall not exceed $125.00. If the State Association wishes to establish an appeals fee, this fee shall not exceed $125.00 per appeal. If the appeal is overturned, then the appeals fee shall be returned to the Appellant." USYSA Bylaw 704, Section 1: "No member of USYSA, official, league, club, team, player, coach, administrator, or referee may invoke the aid of the courts of the United

States or of a state without first exhausting all available remedies within the appropriate soccer organizations, and as provided within USYSA." For the violation of USYSA Bylaw 704, the offending party shall be subject to suspension and fines, and shall be liable to WYSA and USYSA for all expenses incurred by WYSA or USYSA and its officers and members of the Board of Directors in defending each court action, including the following: 1) Court costs 2) Attorney's fees 3) Reasonable compensation for time spent by WYSA or USYSA officials and employees is responding to and defending against allegations in the action, including responses to discovery and court appearances 4) Travel expenses 5) Expenses for holding special State Board meeting or Special National Council meetings necessitated by court action

OTHER MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

The Competition Manager has the authority to make decisions and resolve conflicts for matters not otherwise provided for elsewhere in the State League's rules of play.

BUDGET AND FEES

The Competitions Manager will prepare a budget for the League subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Board of Directors. The budget will be submitted to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Executive Director. The WYSA Board of Directors shall determine the league fees and set performance bonds as needed. The Competitions Manager shall be responsible for the collection of league fees from all participating teams and including all items in the league operating budget. All funds collected must be made payable to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association and presented to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association for deposit in Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Accounts.