



## Player Personnel Policy

Center Grove Soccer Club (CGSC) offers several opportunities for youth players to participate in recreational, developmental, and competitive soccer. This policy is intended to provide a guideline for player placement in the various programs. The club offers the following programs:

1. Recreational Soccer (Rec) – U5 to U19 boys and girls soccer program intended for recreational play. No standings are kept and no awards are given based on finish. All participants will receive a participation award.
2. Developmental Soccer (Academy) – U9 Travel Academy is for boys and girls seeking a highly structured development environment in a competitive setting. The Academy program is designed to meet the guidelines of the Indiana Youth Soccer U9 Development Academy.
3. Travel Soccer (Travel) – U10 to U14 boys and girls soccer program that combines development focus with competitive travel soccer. The club intends to offer multiple levels of play with 2 or more teams in each age group and gender. The ability to provide the different levels of play is dependent on sufficient player count at tryouts each seasonal year.
4. South Central Select (SCS) – U15 to U18 boys and girls high school soccer program. SCS is a competitive travel soccer program designed to comply with the IHSAA rules and guidelines for high school age/grade soccer players. Teams are formed based on the 6 player rule with the focus on competing at the state competition level.

Each of the CGSC programs is intended to provide development opportunities for each youth player and the specific individual goals of that player and family, in combination with the specific goals of each team and program.

The following are the CGSC policy guidelines dealing with age level, gender, school grade, and selection to teams.

1. AGE APPROPRIATE PLAY
  - a. It is the policy of CGSC that youth players will participate in the age appropriate division as defined by the Indiana Youth Soccer Registration Rules age determination rule. The rules define the playing age as the age of the player on August 1 of the seasonal playing year. This rule sets the age on that date for both the fall and spring season. The IYS Registration Rules allow for players to play up from the U10 to U14 age group no more than 2 playing years, and for U15 and up no restriction. CGSC does not allow players to play up except as defined in this policy.

- b. Minimum age to participate in recreational programs is 4 by August 1 of the fall season, and 4 by January 1 for the spring season.
- c. Minimum age to participate in travel soccer is 8 by August 1 of the seasonal year.
- d. Age appropriate play exceptions to policy.
  - i. There will be no exception to rule 1(b).
  - ii. There will be no exception to rule 1(c).
  - iii. Exception to rule 1(a) is allowed for existing players who are currently placed on a roster on a CGSC travel team as of January 1, 2006. Should this player transfer primary registration to the age appropriate team, then they will not be allowed to move back as a primary player to an age group that would have them play above their appropriate age division.
  - iv. Exception to rule 1(a) is allowed under special circumstances as defined by rule 2 of this policy.
  - v. In recreational play, a player may be assigned in a higher age division for the purpose of sibling assignment. This must be approved by the VP of Recreation.
  - vi. In travel play, a player may be assigned to play in an older age division if no roster spot is available for the player in their appropriate age division and they have come to the club after the tryout and selection period. The club Head Coach shall have the authority to make this placement for a single season (fall or spring). After completing the fall season, the player will move to the appropriate age division if a roster spot is available. If no roster sport is available, then the player evaluation committee will determine if the player can remain on the current roster for the spring. In any case, if the placement is made in the spring season, then the player shall move to the appropriate age division for tryouts. The coach of the team the player will be assigned to must approve the placement as well.
- e. Special Exceptions to Age appropriate play for SCS program.
  - i. All guidelines are intended to be followed as defined in rule 1.
  - ii. The exceptions shown here for SCS are also subject to rule 2.
  - iii. The club Head Coach and the VP South Central Select may place players to play up based on the need to complete a team roster and comply with the IHSAA 6 player limit.
  - iv. Exception to rule 1(a) is allowed for youth players who are a registered high school student grade 9-12 as defined by IHSAA and whose birth date would have them drop to U14 due to the August 1 play age date. Any player who is 13 on August 1 of the seasonal year and is a high school student is eligible to play in the SCS U15 program. The player may elect to participate in U14 travel instead of playing SCS if roster space is available.

## 2. PLAYING UP TO A DIFFERENT AGE DIVISION

- a. CGSC has established a procedure for determining the eligibility for youth players being placed on a team above their appropriate age group. CGSC recognizes that in rare occasions the club may have a player who has developed beyond the competitive level of their respective age group. This policy will determine the method for evaluating and placing this player in a different age group while staying in compliance with the Indiana Youth Soccer Registration Rules.
- b. CGSC will have a player evaluation committee consisting of the club Head Coach, the VP of Travel for the travel program or the VP SCS for SCS program, and 1 additional committee member selected by the club Head Coach. The Head Coach may solicit additional input from other parties as appropriate. If the player is bridging the travel and SCS program then both VP's will be part of the evaluation committee.
- c. Player evaluation will be by invitation only. No player or parent/guardian can request for a player to play up. Only the head coach as a representative of the committee shall issue an invitation.
- d. Prior to evaluation, both the age appropriate coach and the coach of the team the player would move to must be in agreement that the player is ready to be evaluated for higher placement.
- e. The evaluation committee shall monitor the player in several practice sessions and game environments to determine the ability of the player. The evaluation committee may also request for the player to attend a session with players of the higher age group.
- f. After evaluation, the committee shall determine if the player will be moved to a different age division. The decision of the committee is final and is not appealable to any other committee or the CGSC board.

## 3. Gender Guidelines

- a. CGSC shall comply with all local, state, and federal laws and guidelines on gender equality.
- b. CGSC shall also comply with all US Youth Soccer and Indiana Youth Soccer Guidelines on gender equality and play.
- c. The US Youth Soccer and Indiana Youth Soccer player registrations rules prohibit the placement of any male youth soccer player on a female only team.
- d. The US Youth Soccer and Indiana Youth Soccer player registration rules allow for female players to be assigned to either female roster teams, coed teams and/or male teams. This guideline is subject to the conditions of the specific competition rules of the league, tournament, or other rules of play.
- e. CGSC offers recreational play for both male and female players in various combinations. CGSC will determine if the leagues will be coed or gender specific based on the number of players registered and the ability to offer gender specific programs. If CGSC offers equal gender specific programs, then players will be placed based on their gender in the appropriate division. If the number of registrations do not allow gender specific play then the program will be coed and offer equal opportunity for both genders.

- f. CGSC offers travel and SCS competitive programs equally for both male and female players.
  - i. Male players shall play on male only teams.
  - ii. Female players shall play on female only teams.
  - iii. Female players may be assigned to a male team in the rare occasion that CGSC cannot provide a roster spot on a female only team.
  - iv. The club Head Coach shall determine the placement of a female player on a male team with approval from the male travel team coach that the female player will be assigned to.
  - v. Male players may never play on a female only team. This is to comply with national and local playing rules.
  - vi. No female players shall be assigned as a secondary player to a male team.

#### 4. PLAYER PLACEMENT AFTER REGISTRATION

- a. Recreational Players
  - i. All recreational players will be randomly placed on teams within their appropriate age group.
  - ii. The only players that will be assigned are based on Coach, Asst. Coach, and team parent assignment.
- b. Travel Players (Tryouts)
  - i. Travel players will be selected based on the tryout guidelines issued by the VP of Travel prior to tryouts each year.
  - ii. Travel tryouts shall comply with the Indiana Youth Soccer Registration Rules.
  - iii. Travel player tryouts and selection guidelines shall not differ from any policy as set in this Player Personnel Policy.
- c. SCS Travel Players (Tryouts)
  - i. SCS players will be selected based on the tryout guidelines issued by the VP of SCS prior to tryouts each year.
  - ii. SCS tryouts shall comply with the Indiana Youth Soccer Registration Rules.
  - iii. SCS player tryouts and selection guidelines shall not differ from any policy as set in this Player Personnel Policy.