



FAQ's BYRON-NORWEST SOCCER 2018 & BEYOND

We have put together some FAQ's that we thought may be some of the more common questions from parents of both Byron and NorWest. It is obviously not an exhaustive list so to allow you to ask more questions we will be holding parent information sessions in the months of January and February. We will be sending out dates and times shortly.

Q – What does the coming together of Byron and NorWest mean for my son or daughter?

A - It will mean that all kids will have a place to play. Fees will be fair and competitive. Overall there isn't going to be dramatic changes. One change will be that all players will register together under one club's website (Byron for now).

Specifically for House League – players will practice and play either in Byron or on NorWest fields (similar to last year). As mentioned above we will do our best to divide by geography. Programming will be very similar to last summer with a few tweaks given what we learned and feedback received. If you would like to volunteer and stay in the 'Byron' area we will make every effort to make that happen. Same if you want to stay in the 'NorWest' area. **More details on the entire house league format to follow shortly. We are still working out all the details but will have it complete by the time registration opens later this month.**

For Competitive -

We will be fielding multiple teams at all age levels and tiers. We want to give all kids an opportunity to play at the level they are capable of. As mentioned earlier there will be instances where teams or players will come together from Byron and NorWest but there will be lots of teams that don't change any more than any other year. The important part is that coaches and parents communicate during the roster selection (tryout) time this month so we understand expectations. It doesn't mean you get to pick your team but it does mean we will take geography into consideration when we select teams. That will also be taken into consideration as we assign practice fields and game fields. I would also ask you to remember that there is always an element of travel in competitive sport. We as an organization have a responsibility to ensure that our teams are run fairly, evaluations are consistent, and kids have an opportunity to play.

Q – Where do I get my information from – the Byron Website or the NorWest Website?

A – Until further notice we will be putting information on both sites to ensure we reach as many people as possible. When things change we will let you know. In regards to Registration for programming, links on the NorWest page will take you to the Byron registration site.

Q – When will registration open for House League and Competitive?

A – House League will open February 1st and we will send out a notice to everyone in both databases. For those wishing to tryout for a Competitive team you must register for tryouts (no cost) on the Byron Website – (www.byronsoccer.ca) . There is also a link on the NorWest website to the Byron Registration site. The competitive tryout registration has just recently opened and tryouts will begin shortly.

Q – How will Competitive tryouts be run in January?

A – We will run them similarly to September but with a few important changes. GPS and staff coaches will run the actual sessions and will help grade. The Head Coach of the team will also be given a scorecard and will be free to observe and grade without worrying about running the actual session. The Head Coach will take feedback and recommendations from the technical staff and with their own grades select their team. Grading is important. It gives the players feedback and also gives the parents confidence that we looked at all kids fairly and there was consistency in evaluation. It isn't the only factor in team selection but it definitely plays a large part. Coaches will then submit their final roster and the level they intend to play to the Technical Director and the Competitive Director. They will review to make sure it makes sense and there are no significant anomalies. If there are any, they will contact the coach to understand the decision more so they can sign off on it. We as an Organization have a responsibility to ensure that our teams are run fairly, evaluations are consistent, and kids have an opportunity to play.

Q – For U8-U12 Competitive – Pool or fixed Squad? Balanced or Ranked squads?

A – Good question. Ontario Soccer would like us to have pools at the U8-U10 and balance the squads. In a perfect world we would like to follow that but there could be circumstances where we might do something different. Geography will also play a role. At U11-U12 we would lean more to ranked squads but again geography would play a role. There would still be an expectation to move players when possible to give them different experiences but players would have a regular team. These are tough questions regardless of the clubs coming together. Ultimately, we want to do what is best for each player – not necessarily the team.

Q – For U13 and above – Will there be more than 1 team in a tier and if so will they be balanced teams or ranked teams?

A – We hope to have multiple teams at each age and tier given the size of the combined program. If we have enough players we will find a way to field a team for them. Those teams will be ranked but also note there could be geographical influences that play a part in the selection process.

Q – How can I find out more information about what will be happening for Outdoor as well as the plan for the 2018 fall winter programs?

A – To find out more information about the plan for 2018 please speak to your coaches, any Board Member or attend any of our Parent Information sessions that will be upcoming in January and February. You can also email info@byronsoccer.ca or info@norwestsoccer.com.

