

U9/U10 Developmental Pool Guidelines Fall and Spring.

This program is to provide training in preparation for competitive play next season for those players that have shown the desire and commitment to become better players over the last 3 seasons. This falls within the South Central District Set Guidelines

GENERAL INFORMATION

All U-10s that play in a particular club are eligible to play on a U-10 Travel Rec team sponsored by their club as long as they are on the certified roster. This is a developmental league and not a comp league or all-star league, and no tryouts are to be held for these teams. Teams should have pools of players in which all players can experience travel soccer with different players and against competition from other clubs. U-9s can play, but no more than 50% of a team roster can be comprised of U-9 players. U-8s and younger are not eligible. Roster size is unlimited.

- 1. Structure:** The U-10 Developmental Pool and associated teams remain under the direction of the Pool Director. Developmental age bracket.
- 2. Player participation in recreation program:** If your child is part of the Developmental Pool, he/she will be required to fully participate on U 10 recreation team.
- 3. Developmental Pool practice schedules:** U-9/U-10 pool players are required to participate in the Friday night footskills sessions run by the Director of Coaching after which the pool players will practice for a min of 30 min with the U9/U10 Pool coach. The pool coach will conduct an additional training session during the week normally on our travel practice field. This practice will be at a time that fits in with the available time slots per the Travel Director(s) and is not mandatory for players to attend
- 4. U-10 Developmental Pool coach selection** Position is advertised in the NYS newsletter or newspaper or NYS Website Letter submitted by candidates highlighting their coaching experience, qualifications, training, philosophy, etc. Final selection is determined by the recommendation of the Developmental Committee consisting of the Travel Director(s), Director of Coaching and Player Development, the Pool Director and U-9/10 Age Director. Once they agree on a candidate the NYS Board of Directors must approve this selection by a majority vote.
- 5. Player Eligibility:** Any U9/U10 players that participated in the U9/ U10 Pool the previous fall season and who met all Fall participatory requirements are encouraged to apply for the Spring Pool. All other U10 players are encouraged to attend foot skills each week and speak with the Pool Development Age Director as to when he/she can join the pool. Minimum requirements are three consecutive footskill sessions and the recommendation of the coaching director. Player roster will be unlimited per the South Central District guidelines, the Coaches will schedule enough games to accommodate the roster and skill set. Upon transition from Rec to the Pool Team, the difference in league fees must be made up. While commitment to the training is still the main deciding factor you must keep in mind that additional costs now come into play. Recreational team coaches are encouraged to recommend footskills to all their players.
- 6. Player dismissal:** Players may be dismissed from the Developmental Pool due to lack of attendance at practices, games or for disciplinary reasons. To dismiss a player the Pool coach must petition the Developmental Committee, who will bring it before the NYS Board of Directors for approval.
- 7. Tournament selection:** The Developmental Pool squads are allowed to participate in a number of tournaments each season, depending on the size of the pool. The NYS Board of Directors must approve each tournament selected by the Pool coach. Participation in out-of-state tournaments is not permitted.
- 8. Tournament fees:** The pools will pay the fees for tournaments with the cost divided equally among the players attending the tournament, or attend a NO COST tournament
- 9. Friendly games:** A maximum schedule of 10 friendly games per 16 player pool squad, to ensure rule #12 is adhered to, will be allowed per season of which, a maximum of 5 games are allowed to be at home. These games are only to be played with other U10 pool squads. Games will only be played with a certified referee in the middle. It is the coach's responsibility to notify the referee coordinator regarding home game schedule and of game cancellations, in addition to providing the age director the game schedule and player roster for each game.
 - U9 Fall season will not have games set with SCD. They will conduct pick up games while the teams are being established. In the Spring the U9 teams will have set scheduled games with SCD.

- The U9/U10 pool coach is required to be at the SCD scheduling meeting prior to the start of the season, unless directed by the SCD
- Once each U9/U10 squad has finished with their game schedules, the Pool Age Director submits to the Field Coordinator for final placement and then it can be seen from the web site.
- To ensure referee coverage pools homes games should be scheduled back to back allowing 1.5 hours per game.

10. **Player selection for games and tournaments:** Players will be rotated evenly for both friendly games and tournaments. The intent is for all players to participate in the same number of games and tournaments.

11. **Uniforms:** U9/U10 Pool Players are required to purchase a NYS BoD approved Pool uniform package through the NYS Purchasing Director, that is required and only to be used for the friendly games and tournament. It is the responsibility of the U-10 Pool coach to coordinate all Pool Shirt sizing, ordering, and distribution with the Pool Director and the NYS Purchasing Director. The only approved socks are the board issued socks provided at the beginning of the season. Non-personalized black shorts are required.

12. **Playing time:** Each player must play 50% of each game unless unable to do so for injury, illness or disciplinary reasons. 50/50 Play Time rule (SCD and CJSA) states that a player plays 50% of the game time that they are in attendance. Meaning if the player shows up before the 2nd half, they do not get to play the whole second half. They play half the time that they are physically at the game

13. **Exceptions:** NYS Board of Directors must approve any exceptions to these guidelines.

14. **Registration fees:** Subject a supplemental cost to cover additional expense

Additional Information from the South Central District

Rosters:

All U-10 Travel Rec teams playing within South Central District must have a CJSA certified roster (with all players interested in playing on the team and coaches listed). Players are not required to have player passes, but all players must be listed on the roster. Coaches must have passes and be listed on the roster. Roster size is unlimited! Teams without certified rosters cannot play. Players not on the certified roster cannot play in games! In order to be on an approved roster, the player must have their birth certificate approved by the, SCD Registrar, and the coaches must complete the CJSA background check.

Referees:

Referees are required to check the certified roster and each coach's pass before each match. Since roster size is unlimited, teams can create a game day roster to give the referee in addition to the certified roster. The home club will provide a referee crew (one center referee and two assistant referees or club linesmen. If ARs are not available, both teams should provide volunteers to act as Club Linesmen and signal when the ball entirely crosses the touch line or goal line.) Coaches are required to provide a copy of the certified roster to the referee and opposing coach.

District Website:

All coaches will use their League Athletics password to access the district website. The home coaches need to upload and update their schedules with the correct dates, times, and field locations before the start of the season.

Game Results:

Although, SCD does not keep standings, coaches are encouraged to submit their game scores. This is ONLY for data purposes. No standings are kept - however, the "five goal rule" applies and the U-10 Commissioner should be contacted when a team violates this rule. See the next page for more information on this rule.

Yellow Cards and Red Cards:

Coaches must self-report all yellow and red cards and submit a report using the district website. Get the information from the referee (infraction, CJSA ID number, player name, and referee crew).

Other Information:

This is a recreational league and is all about players developing, experiencing travel soccer, and having fun. All players should play a minimum of 50% of the match unless there are injuries or discipline issues. The playing time for each team member should be approximately equal. See the next page for more information on this rule. The district does schedule some games for teams that are similar in grouping, strength, location, etc. However, teams can schedule additional games on their own. Teams are encouraged to schedule a maximum of one game per weekend and a total of 10 games per season. Teams with larger pools can schedule more games; however, all players should only play one game per weekend if they participate in an in-house rec program or on a premier development team. This is not the World Cup; let's not burn these kids out! The home team should contact the opposing team at least one week in advance to confirm game date, time, and location. The home team should make sure the directions on the district website are correct so the visiting team has the correct directions, discuss jersey color, and a reasonable notification in case a game is postponed due to inclement weather. The home coach should confirm the game on the website and cancel and reschedule due to inclement weather or poor field conditions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SCD Policy on Player Passes and Rosters

The South Central District policy is that if there is no roster at a league or friendly game -- then there is no play. If there are no passes, the approved roster needs to be signed by the players and coaches and the referee must submit a supplemental game report via Central Assign and fax the roster to Joe Conte, SCD Vice President, at 203-248-1360.

Players not a certified roster cannot play regardless if they have a pass or not.

Coaches should always have three (3) copies of their approved roster at each game PLUS player and coaches passes. One roster is for the referee and one for the opposing team's coach.

U10 Developmental Travel Rec players do not have player passes, but coaches have passes. All U10 Developmental Travel Rec teams do have certified rosters.

Referees must check rosters and passes before every game played in South Central District regardless of it is a league game or a friendly game.

Playing Time

SCD rules require that every player on a "recreation plus" travel team play at least half the game, except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline. This rule is absolute. If it is established by the Commissioner that players are not being given their rightful playing minutes, the game will be deemed a forfeit and the club in violation will be subject to associated fines. Further, SCD may elect to take steps to discipline the offending coach or coaches. Do not let the desire to win the game interfere with the prime objective of recreation travel soccer – playing for the fun of the game and learning the game!

FIVE-GOAL RULE

SCD uses a rule in all recreational travel divisions that is meant to keep the competition healthy between teams.

- If at any time during the game, one team achieves a five-goal advantage over the other, the team that is ahead must remove one player from the field and play down until the five-goal margin is gone.
- If the team holding the five-goal lead increases their lead, another player must be removed and the team must play down two players until the goal margin is returned to five goals.
- No team will be required to remove more than two players in this situation. Teams are reminded that removing weaker players defeats the purpose and intent of this rule. Teams with five-goal leads should focus on removing stronger players first.
- If this rule comes into play during the game, SCD rules requiring all players on recreation travel teams to play half the game are held in abeyance. Again, taking time from the weaker players works against the intent of this rule.

In the event the game finishes with a goal differential greater than five goals, the coach of the winning team is required to provide an e-mailed explanation describing the circumstances leading to this final score. This explanation must accompany the reported game score. If the team has a second game with a winning margin in excess of five goals, the president of the associated club is required to provide a written explanation of the circumstances of this second score and further address steps being taken to avoid another similar result. Failure to provide the first letter will result in assessment of fines to the parent club. A second violation, even if explained by the club president, may result in the offending team be subject to associated fines.

Coaches are strongly advised to ensure their team parents understand this rule prior to the start of the season. Please respect the feelings of the players involved from both teams when dealing with this situation.