

Dartmouth FC Team Formation Policy

Overview:

The purpose of this policy is to memorialize procedures utilized by DYSA when formulating teams to participate in the Southcoast Soccer League.

In June 2018, the Southcoast Soccer League voted to implement age-based groupings for teams beginning Spring 2019, meaning that every team from each town playing in the Southcoast Soccer League will be comprised of players from the same birth year (Jan 1 thru Dec 31). , **NOT** school grade. As a town soccer organization within SCSL, DYSA is bound to implement this rule when forming our spring teams as do **ALL** other towns playing in the Southcoast Soccer League.

To formulate Dartmouth FC teams the Dartmouth FC Committee (DFCC) will adhere to the following procedures on an as-needed basis.

Step 1 – Announce Tryouts

A tryout schedule defining the time, location and age group is set and announced to all members of the soccer club via email and posted on the website. Each age group will have a minimum of two tryout dates. Registration for tryouts through the DYSA website is required. Tryouts will only be held when necessary.

Step 2 – Coaches register to coach for Dartmouth FC

DYSA will send email communication out to the organization announcing coach registration. All interested coaches must register through the DYSA website. All coaches will be required to complete a CORI check and the Concussion Protocol Training seminar if they selected to coach.

Step 3 – Tryout Coordinator & Assistant assignments

DFCC will review coaching submissions to identify the best-qualified individual to conduct the tryout as well as assistants to complete evaluations. DFCC will contact coordinators to confirm interest and availability as well as evaluators.

Step 4 – Hold Tryouts

Players should plan to arrive on time for check-in. Players should check-in at DYSA field house where they will be validated and issued a number if necessary.

Players are asked to bring an existing jersey with a number on the back of it for easier player tracking. When not available or duplicated DFCC will provide numbers for players which can be pinned on the back.

Coordinators will conduct tryouts for players. Assistants will be responsible for evaluating players using DYSA's approved evaluation form. The form will be prepopulated with each player's name and assigned number. The form will be used to record the following player attributes:

- Technical Skill – dribbling, passing, shooting, etc.
- Tactical Awareness – attacking & defending principles, spacing, movement off the ball
- Physical Abilities – speed, strength, and conditioning
- Psychological – aggressiveness, determination, discipline, sportsmanship

Assistants will be responsible for submitting their completed evaluation forms to the coordinator at the conclusion of tryouts. The coordinator will be responsible for combining the results into an Excel version of the form to compute rankings. The coordinator will also need to submit the evaluation forms to the Dartmouth FC Director.

The coordinator will be responsible for conducting drills and small sided games that allow for maximum touches for ALL players. Example tryout would be as follows:

- 10 min. - Footskills / warmup drills
- 15 min. 1v1 small sided games rotating players to ensure mixed matchups
- 20 min. 3v3 small sided games rotating players and teams to validate skill levels
- 30 min. 7v7 games with on the fly substitutions to ensure all players have adequate time.

Step 4 – Tryouts Completion

After the tryouts are completed, the coordinator and evaluators convene and discuss rankings on what they have seen and written about each player. Together they will come to an agreement on the number of teams, divisions for each team, roster placement for each player, and coaching assignments.

If a consensus of any items can't be reached by the group then the coordinator will contact the Dartmouth FC Director at which point the DFCC will meet to review the issue(s) and take the necessary actions to remedy the situation. When necessary, coaching assignments will be made by DFCC based on the following qualifications:

- US Soccer and/or NSCAA license
- DYSA coaching experience
- Volunteer work with DYSA
- In the case of matching qualifications, the DFCC will conduct a vote to determine the assignment.

As for roster/player assignment issues, DFCC will issue roster assignments based on the player rating average that was computed at the conclusion of the tryouts.

Step 5 – Team Declaration

DFCC will hold a team declaration meeting where the coordinator for each gender and age group will declare the teams and amount of players on each team at a scheduled meeting. Any players that do not receive a roster position may be granted the opportunity to play on a team that of an older birth year provided a roster spot is available on the older team. Permission to recruit will also be decided at this meeting.

For a team to be declared it must adhere to the following rules:

- 8U & 9U teams must be balanced
- 10U - 19U will be comprised of a division one and a division two team if available.
- Division one team's roster will contain players who had the highest ratings from the tryouts.
- A player is required to be rostered at their applicable birth year. If there is not an option to play at their applicable birth year then the option to play on an older birth year will be permitted. All grandfathering clauses that have previously been granted by DYSA for existing teams and/or players are no longer valid.
- Dartmouth players cannot be displaced from a team or division by a non-Dartmouth player. A Dartmouth player is defined as one of the following;
 - Resides in Dartmouth
 - Attends a Dartmouth Public School

At the conclusion of the team meetings, assigned coaches will be asked to reach out to notify families/players of roster positions. In the event of a player not having a roster position the coordinator of the age group will be responsible for notifying the family/player.

Step 6 – Preliminary Roster Submission

Assigned head coaches and/or team managers will be responsible for submitting a preliminary roster of players electronically to the DYSA Registrar using the DYSA approved online form.

Step 7 – Roster Finalization

Assigned head coaches and/or team managers will be responsible for working with the registrar to complete the necessary items of the issued team packet prior to the deadline issued by the registrar. Team packets will be submitted to South Coast Soccer League for review. Once approved the packet will be re-issued to the coach with valid player cards and approved rosters that are to be used for the upcoming season.