

DISTRICT OPERATING COMMITTEE
(DOC)
OUTLINE OF PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS

SHORT TITLE	RULE	PROCEDURE		STANDARDS	
		CURRENT	PROPOSED	CURRENT	PROPOSED
District Assignment (Affiliate Members)	1.2.1.2 PROCEDURES FOR NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS d. The Youth Council, upon recommendation of the District Operating Committee, will make the final determination of the district assignment of an Affiliate Member.	Considered by DOC when documentation received from MYSA Staff.	No Changes Proposed	Geographical Location and Request of New Affiliate Member	No Changes Proposed
District Assignment (Extraterritorial Members)	1.2.2.2 PROCEDURES FOR NEW EXTRATERRITORIAL MEMBERS e. The Youth Council, upon recommendation of the District Operating Committee, will make the final determination of the district assignment of an Extraterritorial Member.	Considered by DOC when documentation received from MYSA Staff.	No Changes Proposed	Geographical Location and Request of New Extraterritorial Member	No Changes Proposed

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Six Month Residency	<p>1.3.1 Residency Rule</p> <p>c. For purposes of league play and State Cup, a foreign player must reside and attend school in the area served for the six months prior to the beginning of the playing season. The District Operating Committee may make exceptions to the above state residency requirement on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>“Area Served” defined to encompass ND, SD, IA and WI counties listed in “Border Agreements.”</p> <p>All others petition the DOC without deadline.</p>	<p>DOC exception automatically granted for all US citizens. All others must petition the DOC</p> <p>The DOC will consider individual requests for an exception to this rule for those who are not a US citizen at the next regularly scheduled meeting following filing of a petition with MYSA.</p> <p>Automatic exceptions, as per above, granted by MYSA Staff will be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis.</p>	Ad hoc	Outlined in attached Appendix A.

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Mandatory Release	<p>1.3.4.2 PLAYER TRANSFER OR RELEASE REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>d. Member Clubs must allow player transfers for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Player relocation to a different community that exceeds a reasonable travel distance; or, 2. Player’s desire to play on a team in a more competitive division than that offered or available with the player’s current Affiliate Member. If the transferred player is registered by the receiving club at the same or lower competitive division where the player was transferred from, the transfer will become null and void. <p>GLOSSARY:</p> <p>Release, Mandatory: A release from an Affiliate or Extraterritorial Member granted to a registered player by application made to District Director or DOC when conditions substantiate release under 1.3.4.2 d. Player Transfer or Release Requirements.</p>	<p>Applications directed to District Director for District from which the player is leaving for decision.</p> <p>Appeal to DOC permitted.</p>	<p>Applications directed to District Director for District from which the player is leaving for mediation.</p> <p>In the event an agreement cannot be reached by mediation, District Director will render decision.</p> <p>District Director’s decision is final.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>“more competitive division” does NOT include same competitive division at older age level.</p> <p>The competitive division of the “team ... offered or available with the player’s current Affiliate Member” refers to the competitive division of the team upon which the Affiliate Club offered a roster position to the player seeking a mandatory release.</p>

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Over Roster	<p>1.4.1 MYSA Competitive League Team Registration</p> <p>d. Club Presidents and the District Operating Committee as described below in sections 4.2.2.2 and 4.3.2.2 may grant exceptions to maximum roster size.</p> <p>4.2.2.2 Roster Size <u>U13-16</u></p> <p>a. Teams at age levels U13 through U16 must have at least 11 and no more than 18 registered players. Club presidents may grant over roster waivers for a maximum of two players. The District Operating Committee may grant over roster waivers beyond two players after a review of a written request by the Affiliate or Extraterritorial Member.</p>	District Director recommends. DOC summarily approves.	DOC grants automatic approval of all requests submitted with District Director approval. Any request submitted by a club and not approved by the District Director must be brought before the entire DOC.	Over Rosters of one to two players routinely granted. Over Rosters of more than two granted when no reasonable playing alternative exists for additional players close to home.	No Changes Proposed

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Placement of New Team	<p>4.2.1.2 UNDER-14 THROUGH UNDER-19 COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS</p> <p>c. New teams will be placed at the lowest competitive division available. New teams can be placed at a higher competitive division at the discretion of the District Operating Committee.</p>	Club petitions DOC without deadline. DOC debates merits of petition and grants/denies petition.	Establish and publish February 1 st as deadline to petition DOC.	<p>Set forth in MYSA form entitled: PETITION FOR VARIANCE IN TEAM'S COMPETITIVE OR AGE LEVEL PLACEMENT.</p> <p>ADDITIONAL FACTORS WEIGHING AGAINST GRANTING A VARIANCE INCLUDE "CLUB JUMPING" AND "PLAYER RECRUITMENT"</p>	No Changes Proposed
Voluntary Relegation	<p>4.2.1.2 UNDER-14 THROUGH UNDER-19 COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS</p> <p>d. Promotion-Relegation Standards for Classic Leagues</p> <p>2. Relegation</p>	Club petitions DOC without deadline. DOC debates merits of petition and grants/denies petition.	Establish and publish February 1 st as deadline to petition DOC.	<p>Set forth in MYSA form entitled: PETITION FOR VARIANCE IN TEAM'S COMPETITIVE OR AGE LEVEL PLACEMENT.</p>	No Changes Proposed

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Discretionary Promotion / Relegation	<p>4.2.1.2 UNDER-14 THROUGH UNDER-19 COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS</p> <p>e. Promotion-Relegation Standards for Classic Leagues</p> <p>2. Relegation</p> <p>c. The District Operating Committee has the absolute right to change a team's declared competitive division to properly and fairly place teams. At the discretion of the District Operating Committee, a team may be allowed to play at an older playing age than that of the team's players.</p>	Club petitions DOC without deadline. DOC debates merits of petition and grants/denies petition.	Establish and publish February 1 st as deadline to petition DOC.	Set forth in MYSA form entitled: PETITION FOR VARIANCE IN TEAM'S COMPETITIVE OR AGE LEVEL PLACEMENT.	No Changes Proposed
League Schedules	<p>4.1.5 League Schedules</p> <p>a. The District Operating Committee sets league schedules.</p>	Playing nights and open/end dates established one year in advance and published on MYSA website.	No Changes Proposed	Ad hoc	No Changes Proposed

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Competitive Divisions # League Formation	<p>4.2.1 League Organization</p> <p>4.2.1.1 Under-13 COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS</p> <p>MYSA provides multiple levels of play, with Classic 1 being the most competitive division and Classic 3 the least competitive. Within each competitive division, there may be one or more leagues. The availability of competitive divisions and number of leagues is determined by the District Operating Committee at its discretion. Team assignment at the Under-13 age level is self-selected.</p> <p>4.2.1.2 Under-14 through Under-19 COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS</p> <p>a. MYSA provides multiple levels of competitive play, with Premier being the most competitive division and Classic 3 the least competitive. Within each competitive division, there may be one or more leagues. The availability of competitive divisions, number of leagues, and assignment of teams to those leagues is determined by the District Operating Committee at its discretion.</p>	<p>Competitive Levels:</p> <p>Well established. Changed only after extended review and comment by DOC and Member Clubs.</p> <p>League Formation:</p> <p><u>U9 and U10:</u> Geographical clusters w/ focus on limiting travel.</p> <p><u>U11 and Above:</u> Grouped by District boundaries w/ District Director movement of teams to balance league play.</p>	<p>Competitive Levels:</p> <p>Unchanged</p> <p>League Formation:</p> <p><u>U18/U19:</u> See Attached Proposal on Appendix B</p>	<p>Competitive Levels:</p> <p>None</p> <p>League Formation:</p> <p>None</p>	<p>Competitive Levels:</p> <p>None</p> <p>League Formation:</p> <p>None</p>

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# Number of Games	<p>4.2 League Operation U13 and Older</p> <p>4.2.2.1 NUMBER OF GAMES</p> <p>The District Operating Committee sets the number of league games.</p> <p>4.3 League Operation U9, U10, U11 and U12</p> <p>4.3.2.1 NUMBER OF GAMES</p> <p>The District Operating Committee will set the maximum number of scheduled games for U10 and younger leagues.</p>	DOC reviews on an ad hoc basis and on an ad hoc schedule.	No Changes Proposed	Unknown (General consensus of preference for 10-12 games)	SEE ATTACHED PROPOSAL ON APPENDIX C (Under Construction)
Voluntary Relegation (Premier)	<p>11.2 Placement in a Premier League</p> <p>c. Promotion-Relegation Standards for Premier Leagues</p> <p>2. Relegation</p>	Club petitions DOC without deadline. DOC debates merits of petition and grants/denies petition.	Establish and publish February 1 st as deadline to petition DOC.	Set forth in MYSA form entitled: PETITION FOR VARIANCE IN TEAM'S COMPETITIVE OR AGE LEVEL PLACEMENT.	No Changes Proposed
District and State Tournament Policies	<p>4.4 MYSA Sponsored Tournaments</p> <p>b. The District Operating Committee publishes specific district and state tournament policies.</p>	Unknown	---	Unknown	---

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# State Tournament Seeds	<p>4.4.2.1 QUALIFICATION AND DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS</p> <p>a. Number of Teams - Each state tournament bracket will have a minimum of four teams. The District Operating Committee will set the maximum number of teams for each age group and division except Premier. The Premier divisions will have four teams.</p>	Determined at DOC meeting after leagues formed.	No Changes Proposed.	Ad hoc, with preference for an even number of teams.	SEE ATTACHED PROPOSAL ON APPENDIX D
# District Tournament Seeds	<p>4.4.2.1 QUALIFICATION AND DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS</p> <p>c. <i>District Tournament Procedures</i></p> <p>4. The District Operating Committee sets the number of seeds in each district.</p>	Determined at DOC meeting after leagues formed.	No Changes Proposed.	Ad hoc, typically allocated based upon relative number of teams in each District.	No Changes Proposed.

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# Placement of Returning MRL Teams	5.0 Midwest regional league There may be instances where teams compete in the MRL, but do not participate in another MYSA state run league. In the event these teams wish inclusion into MYSA state run leagues, the District Operating Committee (DOC) will determine league placement.	Unknown	Establish and publish February 1 st as deadline to petition DOC.	Unknown	Utilize same standards as set forth in MYSA form entitled: PETITION FOR VARIANCE IN TEAM'S COMPETITIVE OR AGE LEVEL PLACEMENT. Note: Placement at the C1 or Premier competitive division is likely, provided the team's roster remains substantially intact relative to the previous year's roster.
Publish List of Qualifying Premier Teams	11.2 Placement in a Premier League b. The District Operating Committee (DOC) will review the leagues' results and publish a list of the following year's preliminary qualifying teams by mid September.	Staff Function	No Changes Proposed.	NA	NA

APPENDIX A

SIX-MONTH RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

STANDARDS FOR GRANTING EXCEPTIONS

The DOC has discretion to waive the requirement that players living outside the area served by MYSA (i.e., Minnesota and select counties in Wisconsin and North Dakota listed in “Border Agreements”) reside and attend school in the area served by MYSA for six months prior to the beginning of the playing season in order to participate in State Cup and League Play.

Commencing with the 2007 Summer Season, the DOC has elected to exercise this discretion by automatically granting all US citizens a waiver of this requirement. Players who wish to participate in MYSA’s State Cup and/or leagues who are not a citizen of the US must petition the DOC for a waiver. Factors considered by the District Operating Committee when considering a request to waive this requirement include (i) whether the player has a connection to the area served by MYSA other than playing soccer, and (ii) whether the player has no other reasonable opportunity to participate in soccer at his/her appropriate competitive level unless they play with a Minnesota team.

When the player’s only connection with the area served by MYSA is soccer and reasonable playing options exist outside the area served by MYSA, the DOC is unlikely to grant an exception to this rule.

APPENDIX B

PROPOSAL TO CONSOLIDATE U18 AND U19 LEAGUE STRUCTURE

EFFECTIVE BEGINNING WITH THE 2007 SUMMER SEASON

EXISTING PRACTICE

MYSA offers four competitive divisions (Premier, Classic 1, Classic 2 and Classic 3) at both the U18 and U19 age levels. Team placement is based upon the competitive status earned by the team from the prior year, with “New Teams” starting at C3.

CONCERNS WITH EXISTING PRACTICE

The number of U18 and U19 teams that register to play with MYSA each summer is typically too low to form a viable league at each age level and each competitive level. This typically results in a combination of competitive levels and/or genders at U18 and U19 once a team count can be taken. Such “after the fact” adjustments cause some level of consternation amongst the teams involved in the combined league (i.e., some U18 C2 teams are not thrilled to find out they will be playing U18 C1 teams).

PROPOSED PRACTICE

The DOC has consolidated MYSA’s U18 and U19 League Structure from eight (8) total leagues to four (4) - U18 Premier, U19 Premier, U18/U19 C1 and U18/U19 C2.

Teams in the U18/U19 Premier League will continue to be subject to MYSA’s rules regarding Premier Leagues [Rule 11] including promotion and relegation. Games played by U18 Premier Teams against U19 Premier Teams would count towards promotion/relegation of the U18 Premier Teams under Rule 11.2.

All other U18 and U19 Teams may self-select as between the U18/U19 C1 and the U18/U19 C2 competitive divisions.

BENEFITS

Allows formation of viable leagues.

Should prevent most after-the-fact combining of competitive levels and/or age levels.

Allows teams who have gained or lost significant talent to play at a more appropriate competitive level.

CHALLENGES

Requires U18 and U19 teams to exercise appropriate discretion and self-evaluation when selecting a competitive level to avoid creation of leagues with a vast disparity in the quality of the teams within the league.

APPENDIX C

LEAGUE FORMATION STANDARDS

[UNDER CONSTRUCTION]

APPENDIX D

GUIDELINES FOR REALLOCATION OF SEEDS TO STATE

Unused seeds to State will be reallocated to other Districts in accordance with the guidelines set forth below.

If less than four teams remain, the bracket is cancelled.

Unused seeds are reallocated to the District with the smallest ratio of seeds/teams participating in playoffs.

Example:

North (6 teams with 1 participating in playoffs) (2 seeds)

South (9 teams with 5 participating in playoffs) (2 seeds)

East (10 teams with 10 participating in playoffs) (2 seeds)

West (11 teams with 8 participating in playoffs) (2 seeds)

The unused seed in the North is reallocated to the East as they have the lowest ratio of seeds/teams participating in playoffs.

South: $2/5 = 40\%$

East: $2/10 = 20\%$

West: $2/8 = 25\%$