

Monticello Soccer Club - Roster-Up/Play-Up/Age Requirements Policy

Intent of the Policy:

To provide an avenue for players superior to most players at their age group/team level, to play at a level of competition that matches their individual competitive abilities. It also provides for rules that result in predictable team establishment and formation over time; and is intended to prevent displacement of age appropriate players by younger players. This policy also sets a minimum age level for traveling soccer in the Monticello Soccer Club.

Why this Policy Exists:

There are a small number of players with clearly superior skills to the group in which they would be placed by regular MYSA rules. These players would move to other clubs if not given the opportunity to qualify for a team better suited to their skills. The policy helps retain those players in the club. However, some teams do not need younger players due to adequate talent on the team or full rosters, and the club considers it preferable for the younger superior player to go to another club rather than displace a player who is appropriately age and talent matched at their MYSA team assignment.

Policy:

Roster-up is defined as playing on a team at an older age group than the player's MYSA assigned age group and being permanently rostered to that team. Roster-up is designed to enhance player development ONLY, NOT to enhance team competitiveness.

Any player that wishes to Roster-up to another age level must first provide a written request to the Board before the registration deadline. There must be room on the higher-level team without over-rostering. The request would be evaluated by the Board and any desired consultants (i.e., other trainers or coaches) to determine the validity and reasonableness of the request, and a recommendation would be made by the Board as to the action to be taken. If the board recommends consideration of the request, the coaches of the two involved teams will be consulted as to the talent level of the player and the impact on their teams from the requested move. The board will then decide on whether to allow the roster-up.

A player may force the board to allow a roster-up by demonstrating that he or she is one of the top five players on the "roster-up" team. The player will appeal to the board for a roster-up evaluation. A team try-out will then be conducted by an experienced soccer coach not currently familiar with the team involved. If the player fails to achieve the top five ranking, the player will be responsible for paying the evaluator their usual and customary fee. If the player does achieve a top five ranking, the cost will be paid by the MSC.

Play-up is defined as a player borrowed from a lower age or competitive level team to participate on a higher age or competitive level team at games or tournaments when the higher-level team needs extra players. Play up is designed to help teams that are short on players. A secondary (but

ONLY secondary) purpose is to give better players at lower age groups a chance to compete at a higher level.

Each team's coach/trainer should identify their top five players and send the list with the player's contact information to their league coordinator. These players should be given preference to playing up when the need arises. The player and the player's coach must agree that the play-up will not adversely affect the player's assigned team. The "play-up" team's coach should return the player's pass to the player's assigned coach as soon as possible after the play-up game is completed.

Players under the age of U14 will only be allowed to play up 1 age level unless specifically approved by the Board. Players U14 and older may, if circumstances warrant, play up to 2 age levels above their true age level subject to the approval of the Board.

A player must be a true U8 (based on MYSA birth date guidelines) at the time the season starts play (fall and summer) in order to participate in traveling soccer. All players younger than U8 are encouraged to participate in the Recreational League. U8 and U9 players will play together on U9 level teams, U9 players may only play-up to U10 if there are enough players on the U9 team(s) and there is room on the U10 team.

In the event (at any age level) there are more play-up requests than roster spots on a team, a tryout will be conducted of those interested by a soccer coach not currently familiar with the players with the fee of that coach to be paid by the players trying out.

Goalkeeper roster-ups and play-ups will be determined by the separate Goalkeeper Policy.