

MC United Team Formation FAQs



MC United's team formation decisions are intended to be fair, reasoned, and systematic, balancing the individual needs of coaches, parents and players with the Club's "big picture". Below is some additional information to help parents, coaches, and players understand how MC United's teams are formed.

Who is on MC United's Team Formation Committee?

MC United's Team Formation committee is comprised of:

- Boys' Team Formation Chairperson
- Girls' Team Formation Chairperson
- Head of Coaching
- Registrar
- MCU President
- In addition, the committee seeks input from coaches and parents, as needed, in order to make informed decisions when forming teams.

How does the process work?

- Based on the rules and other factors described below, players are assigned to age-appropriate teams by the Team Formation Committee. These preliminary rosters are then submitted to the Central Wisconsin Soccer League/Wisconsin Youth Soccer League for final approval and then player cards are issued.
- Team formation takes about 6 to 8 weeks to complete after registration closes. Because of these timelines, it is often necessary to have registration windows that seem "early" (for example, December/January or May/June) compared to the actual seasons during which games and tournaments are played.
- Fall tournament-only teams are generally formed with a smaller pool of players compared to spring. So parents, players, and coaches should be aware that team placement can change from fall to spring. Players should not necessarily expect to be on the exact same team from fall to spring, or from one season to the next.
- In some cases, depending on the numbers of players who have registered at certain age groups, it may be necessary to combine ages when forming a team (for example, U11 and U12 players may play together on a U12 team). It is more common for this to occur during the fall. In this situation, a player may "play up" an age group in the fall, but then return to his or her age group in the spring.

How do I know my child's "soccer age"?

- Effective August 2016, players register according to birth year. This aligns U.S. Soccer with international standards and national programs (all other 208 FIFA countries use birth year).
- <http://www.pghdynamo.org/doclib/US%20Soccer%20Birth%20Year%20and%20Season%20Matrix.pdf>
- "Soccer Age" is based on the Year Season Ends – Birth Year
 - Examples (MCU season runs fall to spring, so the season ends in spring):
 - 2020 – 2003 = U17
 - 2020 – 2005 = U15
 - 2020 – 2007 = U13
 - 2020 – 2009 = U11
 - 2020 - 2010 = U10

What rules must MC United follow when forming teams?

- "Soccer age" eligibility rules based on the player's date of birth
- Players cannot play "down" in age under any circumstances
- U10 and under: may play up a maximum of 2 years
- Roster maximums (the number of players on a team) are set by Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association
 - U10 and under = 14
 - U11 and U12 = 16
 - U13 and up = 18 (game day roster of 18; 22 on formal roster)
- U10 and under rosters must change by 50% from one season to the next (in other words, teams at the younger ages cannot stay together from one season to the next)
 - See CWSL rules section R at:
 - http://www.cwslweb.org/files/CWSL_Rules_and_Regulations_01-125-2018.pdf
- WYSA rules concerning when and how tryouts are conducted for state league teams
 - <http://www.wiyouthsoccer.com/about/policies/>

What if we miss the registration deadline?

- A player that misses the registration deadline can request to be put on a "waiting list". The "waiting list" is maintained for several weeks after the registration deadline closes and during the period in which teams are formed and then submitted to the Central Wisconsin Soccer League for approval. Players on the waiting list are offered spots on an "as available" basis during the team formation process.
- Once teams are formed and rosters are submitted to CWSL for approval, no late registrations are allowed, except under very limited circumstances. These may include:
 - The "late" player is filling a spot on a team that lost a player(s) due to injury, relocation, attrition, or other factors.
 - When adding a player to a Classic team, players on the waiting list mentioned above are given the "right of first refusal" before allowing a new player to

register. In the case of a state league/tryout-based team, any player may be added mid-season at the discretion of the coach.

- The addition of a player mid-season does not adversely impact the overall roster size.
- The player is new to the area and was not aware of the registration deadlines.

What other factors does MC United consider when forming teams?

- Players must be at least U9 to register for MC United in the fall and at least U8 to register for MC United in the spring (this is in the interest of player safety)
- Manage roster sizes (we try to avoid large or “over-rostered” teams when possible)
- Combine age groups, if needed
- When there are multiple teams at the same age group, create fair/“even” teams in terms of skills based on coaches’ evaluations [no “A” and “B” teams for Classic league]
- Assign goalkeeper(s)
- No tryouts/state teams before U12
- Provide players access to highest levels of competition by forming state league teams
- Other factors considered on a case-by-case basis (specific coach, team, or friend requests are generally not considered when forming teams)

Useful links:

Wisconsin Youth Soccer Policies

<http://www.wiyouthsoccer.com/about/policies/>

Central Wisconsin Soccer League Rules

<http://www.cwslweb.org/>