



EVANSVILLE SOCCER CLUB

P.O. BOX 335
EVANSVILLE, WI 53536



Player Passing Policy for League Play

This policy must be followed when your team is short of players and you, as the coach, elect to borrow players from another ESC team. The chart below indicates how many bench players (substitutes) you should have in order to achieve the targeted roster size. Under normal circumstances, you should only ask players from other teams to join you for a game only when you are below your target roster size.

Age Group	Number of Field Players	Number of Bench Players	Target roster size	Maximum roster size	Minimum roster size
U9/10	7 v 7	4	11	13	7
U11/12	9 v 9	4	13	15	9
U13 – U18	11 v 11	5	16	22*	9**

* U13 and older teams may only suit up a maximum of 18 players for each game.

** U13 and older teams rostered with 9 players must be board approved.

Club and Coach Protocol

- Players must be age appropriate. Specific circumstances may justify a request for an over-age waiver. Such requests are handled on a case-by-case basis.
- ***Always*** look laterally (same age bracket) first, regardless of skill and league placing (Recreational and Competitive teams are in the same league). MAYSA/WYSA has implemented new passing rules to allow age-appropriate passing between all teams. Younger players may still play up, generally no more than one age level, but should not be requested until it's been determined that no age-appropriate players are available.
 - For example a team coach should first look for age and skill appropriate players from another team in the same age bracket. If no players are available, then the coach in need of players may look to the next younger age group for players.
 - There may be some coach discretion when deciding which players they are going to request, however any request made outside of this policy must be discussed with the commissioner and/or board.
- Correspondence must be coach to coach. A coach should not approach an individual parent or player and ask if they are interested in playing with their team UNLESS they have discussed with the coach first. This is a violation of the "Coaches Code of Ethics" and as a club we want to provide the opportunity to everyone.
 - The coach of the team being asked for players should talk to the parents. If the coach doesn't think it's a good match for one of their team member, an individual conversation should happen between that coach and the parent. We want to be sure the player is ready and is playing in a safe environment.
- Coaches should ask all their players if they are interested in playing with another team and encourage them to talk to their parents ahead of time.
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- A coach should use judgement as to whether or not he/she is open to player passing a team member on any given day. A player's first obligation is to the team for which he or she is registered, so playing for another team as a guest player should not impact the player's ability to play on his/her rostered team. For example, if a team has 3 games in one weekend, the coach may decide that he/she would not like to allow the player pass option to the team. This should be communicated clearly to the coach requesting the player and the parents of that player on your team.

Protocol for coaches when using Player Passers

- The borrowed player *should not* be a starter, unless the team is short of players and the coach has no other option. Your rostered team should be your starting players.
- The borrowed player is given limited time on the field. They should not be given more or even equal playing time as a rostered player, unless the team is short of players and the coach has no other option.
 - These expectations should be established with the player and parent of the child that is being borrowed.

Exceptions – As with any policy, there may be exceptions. Any dispute or violation of the policy should be escalated to the commissioner who will gather the facts, then discuss with the board and/or a smaller subset of the board. Some logical exceptions may be:

- Your team is in a tournament and you need a deeper bench than you normally would on a league scheduled game day
- Hot weekends – you may need some extra players to allow extra water breaks.
- The club has teams in the same or adjacent age brackets that have small rosters and are sharing players. However, the protocol should be considered first at all times.
- The club has made concessions for players whose parents are coaching. The player *should not miss their rostered team's games to player pass to their parent's team*. However, the player may, within reason, pass more frequently because the parent is the coach and the player is likely already at the game. The club is also flexible (within reason) with the age appropriate guideline in this same case. In no case will a player be rostered on more than one team.

Policy Violation

All coaches shall comply with this policy. Any deviation from this policy will be investigated by the league commissioner. Confirmed violations will be subject to the ESC Complaint and Disciplinary Procedure Policy.