



# INDIANA SOCCER

## REGISTRATION RULES

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# CHAPTER ONE – GENERAL

## **RULE 1.1 PURPOSE**

- A. The rules contained herein shall govern Member Organizations and all members of the Indiana Soccer Association (hereinafter "Indiana Soccer") in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the association's constitution and bylaws. All competitions shall be governed by the rules stated herein, unless the rules of a specific competition state otherwise.
- B. These state rules are intended to provide a uniform set of guidelines governing: player eligibility, registration, team formation, player assignments, rules and standards of sportsmanship and conduct for all Member Organizations.
- C. Any issues not addressed by these rules shall be governed by the rules, policies and procedures of the United States Youth Soccer Association ("US Youth Soccer") and the United States Soccer Federation ("USSF").

## **RULE 1.2 LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP (Indiana Soccer BYLAWS ARTICLE 6)**

### **SECTION 1.2-1 AFFILIATED MEMBER ORGANIZATION**

An Affiliated Member Organization (Club) is an organization of four (4) or more teams (unless the Executive Board approves a lesser number of teams) which is a soccer organization with its headquarters in Indiana, registered with Indiana Soccer, which supports and actively promotes the purpose and activities of Indiana Soccer by providing soccer playing and/or educational opportunities for its members.

### **SECTION 1.2-2 ALLIED MEMBER ORGANIZATION**

Allied Member Organizations are those sports organizations which govern programs in, or allied to, soccer as a sport, do not field teams and are not qualified as Affiliated Member Organizations. Recognition of an organization by Indiana Soccer as an Allied Member Organization shall be extended to the governing body of said organization, and not to the general membership or programs of the said organization.

## **RULE 1.3 MEMBER ORGANIZATION RULES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **SECTION 1.3-1 AFFILIATED MEMBER ORGANIZATION RULES**

- A. An Affiliated Member Organization (Club) may elect to adopt rules to govern play within its own organization. These rules should not conflict with Indiana Soccer rules, the Bylaws of Indiana Soccer, the rules of US Youth Soccer or USSF.
- B. Organizations seeking to be an Indiana Soccer Affiliated Member must provide a copy of their current rules and bylaws for review by Indiana Soccer. If said organization doesn't have its own bylaws and rules of play, then they must adopt same before Indiana Soccer will act on the application. The organization shall also provide a brief description of its purpose, the board of directors with directory information and an approximate number of teams including age groups and gender. If the organization has less than four (4) teams then it must also submit a petition for a temporary waiver of the requirement that is good for one year. The application shall also identify the Risk Management Coordinator for the organization. Once all required documents are received, the Indiana Soccer staff will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval/rejection of the Club application. The Board of Directors vote on each application.
- C. Once a member, written notification of subsequent changes to the organization's bylaws must be made to Indiana Soccer forty-five (45) days before suggested changes go into effect.
- D. Indiana Soccer will notify in writing both the Affiliated Member Organization and the Indiana Soccer Board of Directors in the event an organization's rule or rules appear to be in conflict with the Indiana Soccer Bylaws, rules, or policies to the extent such changes may: "Preclude

teams of the Affiliated Member Organization from participating in competitions sponsored by the Indiana Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer; or “Jeopardize continued membership in Indiana Soccer. If Indiana Soccer does not notify the Affiliated Member Organization that a rule is in conflict within thirty (30) days of submission by the Affiliated Member Organization to Indiana Soccer then the rule shall be effective.

A recommendation or finding by Indiana Soccer is not binding on any Affiliated Member Organization unless and until acted on and approved by the Indiana Soccer Board of Directors. The review process is intended to provide early identification, discussion and resolution of potential rule conflicts, to the mutual benefit of the Indiana Soccer and its Affiliated Member Organizations.

#### SECTION 1.3-2 AFFILIATED MEMBER ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Each Affiliated Member Organization shall be responsible for insuring proper registration of its players and teams, proper accounting for fiscal transactions and accurate and timely reporting as required to Indiana Soccer.
- B. Each Affiliated Member Organization will plan and conduct player registration prior to each playing seasonal year and will establish the dates for closing of registration and initiation of the team formation process for its own organization.  
Registration documentation is due prior to the players participation. Fee payment is due to Indiana Soccer 30 days after invoices are posted. Failure to meet these deadlines will result in late fees being assessed to the Club.
- C. Each Affiliated Member Organization will annually on or before August 1, provide Indiana Soccer with a listing of the officers of their Board of Directors in a format established by Indiana Soccer. In the event there is a change in such information, the organization shall provide an update to Indiana Soccer within two (2) weeks of said change.
- D. No Affiliated Member Organization may conduct or sponsor any competitive league competition for teams which are six (6) years old or younger.

#### SECTION 1.3-3 ALLIED MEMBER ORGANIZATION RULES FOR LEAGUES

- A. Any League (an organizing body scheduling games between clubs) must affiliate with Indiana Soccer as an Allied Member Organization by payment of an affiliation fee of \$100. The affiliation fee shall be due and payable on August 1<sup>st</sup> of each seasonal year.
- B. With the payment of the affiliation fee each League will submit to Indiana Soccer a copy of league rules, regulations, bylaws, articles of incorporation, and/or constitution if applicable
- C. Each League will annually provide Indiana Soccer with a listing of the officers of their Board of Directors. In the event there is a change in such information, the organization shall provide an update to Indiana Soccer within two (2) weeks of said change.
- F. An Allied Member Organization (League) may adopt additional rules or modify the Indiana Soccer rules to govern play within its own organization. However, any additional or modified rules must not be in conflict with the Indiana Soccer rules and bylaws or the rules of US Youth Soccer or USSF.

Written notification of subsequent changes to the league's rules must be made to the Indiana Soccer forty-five (45) days before suggested changes go into effect. Indiana Soccer will notify the League in writing in the event a league's rule or rules appear to be in conflict with the Indiana Soccer Bylaws or the Indiana Soccer Registration Rules. If the Indiana Soccer does not notify the League that a rule is in conflict within thirty (30) days of submission by the League to Indiana Soccer then the rule shall be effective.

The review process is intended to provide early identification, discussion and resolution of potential rule conflicts, to the mutual benefit of the Indiana Soccer and its Allied Member Organizations (Leagues).

#### SECTION 1.3-4 ALLIED MEMBER ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LEAGUES

Each League shall be responsible for ensuring that all registered teams/players are properly

rostered with Indiana Soccer or approved US Youth Soccer Member Organizations.

**RULE 1.4 LEVELS OF COMPETITION**

The Indiana Soccer Association sanctions play among teams at Five (5) distinct levels:

- A. Recreational
- B. Recreational-plus
- C. Travel
- D. Adult
- E. Olympic Development

Unless otherwise stated, these rules apply to all players and teams in all levels.

**RULE 1.5 LEGAL MATTERS – SUSPENSION**

Any person who becomes a defendant in a legal matter which is contrary to the good of soccer may be suspended during the pendency of that proceeding. Upon completion of the proceeding, the person may petition the Indiana Soccer Executive Committee for reinstatement. Any person who has been convicted of a crime that is of the type that must be reported under the Sex Crimes Registry is ineligible from being a coach, player, administrator, referee, officer of a club or league of Indiana Soccer or any organization under the control or jurisdiction of Indiana Soccer.

## CHAPTER TWO – REGISTRATION OVERVIEW

### **RULE 2.1 SEASONAL PLAYING YEAR (Indiana Soccer BYLAWS - ARTICLE 5)**

The seasonal playing year of Indiana Soccer shall begin on the first day of September in each year and end on the last day of August in the following year.

### **RULE 2.2 REGISTRATION**

Affiliated Member Organizations will register all soccer players, coach, team managers or any other team assistants or administrators, and soccer teams that are sponsored, financed, coached or administered by the club, league, association or organization whether they be male or female, members of traveling teams, competitive teams or in-house recreation programs.

**Note: Only those players and adults that are registered with Indiana Soccer will receive full Indiana Soccer membership benefits.**

### **RULE 2.3 REGISTRATION FEE**

The annual player registration fees for affiliated member organizations of Indiana Soccer shall be established by vote of the membership. As players are added, fees shall be due and payable 30 days after invoices are posted for player registration. No Affiliated Member Organization shall vote if its membership dues and player registration fees are not paid. Late fees may be assessed for payments not received by the published deadlines.

### **RULE 2.4 CLUB REGISTRAR**

All Indiana Soccer Affiliated Member Organizations (Clubs) will appoint or elect a Club Registrar. The Club Registrar will serve as a liaison between Indiana Soccer and the Club. Responsibilities of the Club Registrar are as follows:

- A. Serve as the only contact for registration purposes.
- B. Notification to their administrators of all pertinent Indiana Soccer registration deadlines, fees and procedures.
- C. Collect registrations from all Club members and submit to Indiana Soccer with payment per Rule 2.3
- D. Process additional registration changes throughout the seasonal year.
- E. Communicate Indiana Soccer messages and requests to the Club board

### **RULE 2.5 CLUB RISK MANAGEMENT CONTACT**

All Indiana Soccer Affiliated Member Organizations (Clubs) will appoint or elect a Club Risk Management Contact. The Risk Management Contact will serve as the liaison between the Indiana Soccer Risk Management Personnel and the Club. Responsibilities are listed below but not limited to:

- A. Ensure that all adults in the Club that have significant contact with players or Club funds have a current background check
- B. Ensure that Club practices good risk management policies in regard to goal safety and field and player safety in general
- C. Ensure the Club has a Safe Sports Act policy
- D. Ensure the Club is compliant with the Indiana State Law for concussion management.
- E. Ensure that the Club practices sound fiscal management
- F. Develop a Risk Management Plan for the Club

### **RULE 2.6 RESIDENCY**

A player must register in the state in which he or she resides with his or her parent(s) or guardian(s). In the case of a student in residence at a boarding school or college or university, the player may register in the state in which the boarding school, college, or division of the college or university is located. Any other questions of residence in this case may be determined by the state in which the player is registered to vote or holds a current driver's license.

**RULE 2.7 OUT-OF-STATE PLAY**

A resident of Indiana must register with Indiana Soccer in order to be eligible to play in another U.S. Youth Soccer state association. Players will be insured through the state that rosters them for play. Indiana Insurance will not cover these players once released to play in another state. Failure to register in Indiana will place the player in bad standing with US Youth Soccer and invalidate the player's insurance coverage. A player wishing to play in a non-resident state for a US Youth Soccer sanctioned team must complete and return an Indiana Soccer Resident Player Registration Request form and appropriate fee to the Indiana Soccer office for approval. All players or teams wishing to compete in a US Youth Soccer sanctioned league operating in a state other than the state in which they are registered, must inform the state office of this play

**RULE 2.8 PLAYERS NOT RESIDING IN INDIANA**

Players not residing in Indiana are allowed to register on an Indiana Soccer team with permission from the State Association of the state in which they reside following the procedures outlined in Rule 2.6 (above).

**RULE 2.9 FOREIGN PLAYERS REGISTERING IN INDIANA**

Any player that is 12 or older that was born in a foreign country or is or has been registered in a foreign country (including Canada and Mexico) must follow the US Soccer policies for player waivers and registration. Clearance is granted through US Soccer Federation.

**RULE 2.10 FAILURE TO COMPLY**

Failure to comply with the "Indiana Soccer Registration Rules" may result in the offending Club, coach, assistant coach, manager/trainer and/or team representative, and players being suspended from soccer activities.

**RULE 2.11 IHSAA RULE 15-3.2 TEAM SPORTS (after high school season)**

- A. Students may participate in team sports contests as members of a non-school team provided no more than the following number of students who have participated in the previous year as a member of one of their school teams in that sport are members of the same non-school team at the same time. Soccer - 7.
- B. Clubs should refer to the IHSAA for complete policies regarding High School play outside of the school programs.

**RULE 2.12 INCORPORATION OF USSF REQUIREMENTS**

To the extent these rules or the Bylaws of Indiana Soccer do not include all those provisions that are required by the US Soccer Federation to be included, said US Soccer requirements are hereby incorporated by reference as those requirements may be amended from time to time.

## CHAPTER THREE – YOUTH RECREATIONAL SOCCER

Recreational soccer programs are intended to provide the opportunity for all interested children within the area served by the Member Organization (Club) to participate in and enjoy the game of soccer without regard for athletic ability or soccer skills, up to the limit of the Member Organization's ability to accommodate them.

*Specific guidelines are contained herein for recreational team formation and player assignment.*

- A. The team formation process shall be random in nature.
- B. Criteria for player assignment shall include no consideration for the ability of the player except to aid in balancing the strength of teams.
- C. All forms of recruiting, invitations, and tryouts for a specific team are prohibited.

### **RULE 3.1 TYPES OF TEAMS (US YOUTH SOCCER RULE 103)**

US Youth Soccer recognizes two types of teams. Teams with females only are Girls Teams. All other teams are Boys Teams.

Recreational programs may register with Indiana Soccer as Coed teams (both girls and boys). Coed teams are allowed to play in Coed divisions or boys' divisions only.

### **RULE 3.2 AGE LIMIT DEFINITIONS AND ROSTER LIMITATIONS**

#### SECTION 3.2-1 PROOF OF AGE

Affiliated Member Organizations will require all recreational players to present proof of age when they register to play. Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the United States or birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency, Board of Health records, passport, alien registration card issued by the United States government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, driver's license or a certification of an American citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates will not be accepted.

#### SECTION 3.2-2 TEAM AGE DIVISIONS

Age divisions for recreational teams shall be comprised of players from the same birth year.

5 & Under	6 & Under	7 & Under	8 & Under	9 & Under
10 & Under	11 & Under	12 & Under	13 & Under	14 & Under
15 & Under	16 & Under	17 & Under	18 & Under	19 & Under

\*Age divisions may be determined by the Club to best serve their membership

At the discretion of the Affiliated Member Organization (Club), exceptions in the age divisions, maximum number of rostered players and maximum number of field players may be necessary to balance teams. These changes shall be made in the best interest of the development of the sport of soccer.

#### SECTION 3.2-3 GAME ROSTER SIZE AND NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON THE FIELD

The recommended maximum roster size for:

5U & 6U: Game Roster not to exceed six (6) players  
Number on field at any one time not to exceed four (4) players however three (3) is recommended. No goalkeeper will be used.

7U & 8U: Game Roster not to exceed eight (8) players  
Number on field at any one time not to exceed four (4) players  
Goalkeeper is optional. If a goalkeeper is used he/she should be changed each quarter.



- 9U & 10U: Game Roster not to exceed twelve (12) players  
Number on field at any one time not to exceed seven (7) players one of which shall be a goalkeeper.
- 11U & 12U Game Roster not to exceed sixteen (16) players  
Number on field at any one time not to exceed nine (9) players one of which shall be a goalkeeper.
- 13U – 19U Game roster not to exceed eighteen (18) players  
Number on field at any one time not to exceed eleven (11) players one of which shall be a goalkeeper.

Exceptions to the roster size and number of field players may be made at the discretion of the Affiliated Member Organization (Club) providing such exceptions are in the best interest of the development of the sport of soccer.

### **RULE 3.3 TEAM REGISTRATION**

#### **SECTION 3.3-1 DEADLINES & Late Fees**

Recreational Registration:

Players must be registered with Indiana Soccer at the start of the player's participation.

Late Fees:

A \$1/player late fee may be assessed for any Club registrations paid 30 days after the invoice due date.

#### **SECTION 3.3-2 RECREATIONAL REGISTRATION**

Recreational players are registered to Affiliated Member Organizations (Clubs) and further registered with Indiana Soccer by submission of requested information for all players, coaches and administrators to the Indiana Soccer office and payment of appropriate fees prior to the established deadline date. Information needed includes:

- A. Full name,
- B. date of birth (players only),
- C. player gender
- D. address, city, zip
- E. phone
- F. email address.

Affiliated Member Organization's Registrar should submit player list via electronic submission.

### **RULE 3.4 ROSTER CHANGES**

#### **SECTION 3.4-1 ROSTER ADDITIONS**

Players may be added to recreational programs at any time during the seasonal year.

Appropriate information and fees for all new members shall be submitted to Indiana Soccer. The added player is registered to a recreational association from the moment the player or the player's parent or guardian signs the Affiliated Member Organization's registration form and pays the appropriate fees to that Club.

#### **SECTION 3.4-2 DOUBLE ROSTERING and PLAYER TRANSFERS**

- A. Registered recreational players may simultaneously play recreational and recreational-plus or travel.
- B. For players transferring intra-club during the seasonal year from recreational to recreational-plus or travel, the Club will pay to Indiana Soccer the difference between the recreational player fee and the recreational-plus or travel fee (Upgrade fee)
- C. For players transferring inter club, the new Club will pay the full registration fee.

## **RULE 3.5 TRAVEL AND TOURNAMENTS FOR RECREATION**

Recreational teams may participate in sanctioned tournaments providing recreational divisions. Participation in district area Club sponsored US Youth Soccer Target Cups is encouraged.

### **SECTION 3.5-1 IN STATE**

- A. Recreational teams participating in tournaments within Indiana must make sure Indiana Soccer and US Youth Soccer have sanctioned the tournament.
- B. Teams are encouraged to carry medical release forms signed by the parent or guardian

### **SECTION 3.5-2 TARGET CUP**

- A. The US Youth Soccer Target Cup provides recreational soccer players an opportunity to experience a consistent and high quality statewide tournament in a fun, family-like atmosphere. It fosters stimulation and excitement about soccer in an effort to increase the recreational players' interest in and love for the game.
- B. All players have the right to participate in competitions where they can develop and exhibit their skills while enjoying themselves. The US Youth Soccer Target Cup provides recreational players this opportunity and places emphasis on participation, as opposed to competition.
- C. Indiana Soccer sponsors district US Youth Soccer Target Cups in several areas in Indiana and entry is open to any Indiana Soccer Rec or Rec + registered team.

## A. CHAPTER FOUR – RECREATIONAL-PLUS SOCCER

The use of tryouts, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any recreational-plus team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited.

Teams accept as participants any and all eligible applicants (subject to reasonable terms).

\*Exception: U15 and above recreational-plus teams may reject players if necessary to avoid conflict with the IHSAA rule limiting the number of players from the same high school participating in soccer.

### **RULE 4.1 TYPES OF TEAMS (US YOUTH SOCCER RULE 103)**

US Youth Soccer recognizes two types of teams. Teams with females only are Girls Teams. All other teams are Boys Teams.

Recreational programs may register with Indiana Soccer as Coed teams (both girls and boys). Coed teams are allowed to play in Coed divisions or boys' divisions only.

### **RULE 4.2 AGE LIMIT DEFINITIONS AND ROSTER LIMITATIONS**

#### SECTION 4.2-1 PROOF OF AGE

Affiliated Member Organizations will require all recreational-plus players to present proof of age when they register to play in Indiana Soccer. Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the United States or birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency, Board of Health records, passport, alien registration card issued by the United States government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, or a certification of an American citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates will not be accepted.

#### SECTION 4.2-2 TEAM AGE DIVISIONS

Age divisions for recreational-plus teams shall be comprised of players from the same birth year.

7 & Under	8 & Under	9 & Under	10 & Under	11 & Under
12 & Under	13 & Under	14 & Under	15 & Under	16 & Under
17 & Under	18 & Under	19 & Under		

*\*No recreational-plus divisions for 6 & Under age teams or younger*

#### SECTION 4.2-3 CLUB PLAYER POOLS (Club Pass)

Players may be registered to Club player pools by gender and age. There will be no limit to the minimum or maximum number for these player pools. (Clubs may choose to register players on specific teams.)

#### SECTION 4.2-4 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS FOR EVENT ROSTERS

EVENT ROSTERS are a list of players who are identified to play for a specified team. EVENT ROSTERS may change anytime during the playing year by the Club. (Exception: CUP EVENT ROSTERS are subject to cup rules and will "freeze" at the time announced by the Tournament and Cup Committee. Clubs using player pools to register players must declare EVENT ROSTERS for league and tournament play. Maximum event roster limits will be determined by the event.

#### SECTION 4.2-5 STATE VARIATIONS

A Indiana Soccer may permit variances in Sections 4.2-3 through 4.2-4 of this rule in the best interest of the development of the sport within the state.

#### RULE 4.3 COMPETITIVE RESTRICTIONS

##### SECTION 4.3-1 LEAGUE RESTRICTIONS

No Affiliated Member Organization may conduct or sponsor any recreation- plus league competition for teams who are 6 & Under or younger. 6U Rec+ pool play may be added in communities or leagues if they petition Indiana Soccer and are approved.

#### RULE 4.4 PLAYER REGISTRATION

##### SECTION 4.4-1 PLAYER FEES

The Indiana Soccer membership establishes player fees.

##### SECTION 4.4-2 DEADLINES AND LATE FEES

Recreational-Plus Registration:

Players must be registered with Indiana Soccer at the start of the player's participation.

Late Fees:

A \$1/player late fee may be assessed for any Club registrations paid 30 days after the invoice due date.

##### SECTION 4.4-3 PLAYER REGISTRATION

Recreational-plus players are registered to Affiliated Member Organizations (Clubs) and further registered with Indiana Soccer by submission of requested information for all players, coaches and team administrators to the Indiana Soccer office and payment of appropriate fees prior to the established deadline date. Information needed includes:

- A. Full name,
- B. date of birth (players only),
- C. player gender
- D. address, city, zip,
- E. phone.
- F. email

The Club Registrar must submit players via current on-line registration system. Indiana Soccer, upon receipt of the proper documentation and fees, will provide:

- A. Stamped, signed official roster when required for Indiana Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer sanctioned events
- B. Passes for all players, coaches and team administrators.

##### SECTION 4.4-4 PLAYER, COACH, ADMINISTRATOR PASSES

US Youth Soccer passes will be issued to recreational-plus team players, coaches and Team administrators. A District Registrar must sign the pass after a picture has been affixed and player birthdates have been verified. The card must be laminated to be considered valid.

Member Clubs now have options to upload player birth certificates to the player profile documents tab. When this is done, the birthdate can be verified by the state office registrar, Teams with verified birthdates for all players will not need to have the birthdates verified by a Club registrar prior to card lamination.

##### SECTION 4.4-5 CLUB COACH'S PASS

Each Affiliated Organization may have a card(s) issued to its director of coaching or designee(s) which shall be recognized as a coach's pass for any team in that Affiliated Organization for purposes of league or tournament play in. The Club shall pay the stated fee for each coach issued a Club Coach's Pass. In addition, the coach may also be listed on each Club team roster.

#### SECTION 4.4-6 PENALTY FOR FORGERY

Forgery of Registrar's signature on a player pass is considered a serious offense and will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee for appropriate action.

#### SECTION 4.4-7 INTER-CLUB TRANSFER OF TEAM

It is the policy of Indiana Soccer that by registering with or through a Club, a team has made a commitment to that Club for one seasonal year. However, a travel team may transfer its registration between Affiliated Member Organizations (Clubs) using the following procedure:

- A. A signed letter from the president of the initial Club, releasing the team from the initial Club must be delivered to the Indiana Soccer State Registrar.
- B. A signed letter from the president of the receiving Club accepting such transfer must be delivered to the Indiana State Soccer Registrar.
- C. The original roster and all player passes associated with the initial team must be returned to Indiana Soccer.
- D. A team transfer fee of \$100 will be assessed and paid by the receiving Club, after which a new roster and player passes will be issued.

If a team does not obtain a release from the initial Club, the team may petition for said release to Indiana Soccer. The US Youth Soccer rule that speaks to the 5-player maximum transfer limit for the US Youth Soccer National Championships Series will not apply to the said team transfer if the transfer is approved and completed.

### **RULE 4.5 REGISTRATION CHANGES**

#### SECTION 4.5-1 PLAYER ADDITIONS

Players may be added at any time during the seasonal year provided:

- A. Player was not previously rostered during the current seasonal year to another Club (if this is true, the player must be transferred, not added)
- B. The Club Registrar shall submit the new information in the required format with the appropriate fee. Coaches, managers and administrators may be added at any time during the seasonal year.

#### SECTION 4.5-2 INVOLUNTARY RELEASE (DROP) OF PLAYER

A Club may release (drop) a player from the club player pool or team roster without permission of the player under the following circumstances:

- A. The player has not paid the applicable Club fees by the published date.
- B. The player cannot participate due to a physical or medical condition which prohibits the player from playing and which was not in existence or apparent at the time the player rostered with the team.
- C. The player has been suspended for the balance of the seasonal year or an indeterminate period of time.
- D. For any reason allowed by Indiana Soccer, USSF or US Youth Soccer rules..
- E. The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what a reasonable travel distance is subject to definition by Indiana Soccer.

If a player is released (dropped) without the player's consent, a letter shall be sent to the player before he is released stating the reason or reasons for such action at least five (5) calendar days before the action. Current player pass and a copy of said letter must be attached to the drop form and sent to Indiana Soccer. A player who has been released (dropped) may play for a new Club during the current seasonal year providing:

- A. The player is in good standing with the Club he/she is leaving
- B. The player has been properly transferred, has received a player pass for a new Club.

#### SECTION 4.5-3 TRANSFERS

- A. Transfers per team:

1. A team may have unlimited transferred players
2. A club may transfer players between teams in the Club without cost at any time.
- B. Recreational player: A recreational player added to a travel or recreational-plus team during the seasonal year will not be considered a transfer to the new team.
- C. Player transfer procedure: The Club Registrar may transfer players on recreational-plus teams:
  1. Transfers WITHIN the same Club at any time during the seasonal year.
  2. Transfers to teams OUTSIDE the original Club will be processed:
    - At any time, if the team from which he is transferring dissolves or fails to form.
    - Upon release from the original Club
    - If release is denied by original Club, upon petition and approval from the State Office.
- D. Transfer fees and deadlines:
  1. Free if the transfer is to a team within the same Club as the original team
  2. Current registration fee will be charged for transfers to a new Club
  3. Transfers can occur at any time throughout the seasonal year

#### SECTION 4.5-4 DOUBLE ROSTERING (Secondary Players)

- A. Players may register on up to two teams or two Clubs per seasonal year providing the following conditions are complied with:
  1. Players must indicate at registration their primary Club. The player pass will indicate "secondary" for all secondary players.
  2. Double rostering will be allowed at the initial time of team registration or at any time otherwise allowed by these rules, when the player additions indicating primary or secondary on the roster, are sent to Indiana Soccer by the primary Club registrar.
  3. Players may change their designation as primary or secondary with the written permission of the primary coach, the return of both the primary and secondary cards to Indiana Soccer and the appropriate fee.
  4. Players may be added as secondary to another Club's team only with the written permission of the player's primary coach.
  5. A player may not be rostered on more than two (2) teams.
  6. A secondary player may only play in a game for their secondary team when it is not in conflict with a game from their primary team.

#### RULE 4.6 TRYOUTS

The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any recreational-plus team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited. Teams accept as participants any and all eligible participants. (subject to reasonable terms).

Exception: U15 and above recreational-plus teams may reject players if necessary to avoid conflict with the IHSAA rule limiting the number of players from the same high school participating in soccer

## CHAPTER FIVE – YOUTH TRAVEL SOCCER

Travel soccer programs are intended to provide players with advanced skills and an expressed desire to experience a level of competition beyond that afforded by a recreational program. Clubs may establish their own criteria for player selection and team assignment provided there is no conflict with the Indiana Soccer Bylaws, this rule document, or US Youth Soccer Rules.

### **RULE 5.1 TYPES OF TEAMS (US YOUTH SOCCER RULE 103)**

US Youth Soccer recognizes two types of teams. Teams with females only are Girls Teams. All other teams are Boys Teams.

### **RULE 5.2 AGE DEFINITIONS AND ROSTER LIMITATIONS**

#### SECTION 5.2-1 PROOF OF AGE

Clubs will require all travel players to present proof of age when they register to play in Indiana Soccer. Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the United States or birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency, Board of Health records, passport, alien registration card issued by the United State government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, or certification of an American citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. A state Driver's License will be acceptable. Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates will not be accepted.

#### SECTION 5.2-2 TEAM AGE DIVISIONS

Age divisions for travel teams shall be comprised of players from the same birth year.

7 & Under	8 & Under	9 & Under	10 & Under	11 & Under
12 & Under	13 & Under	14 & Under	15 & Under	16 & Under
17 & Under	18 & Under	19 & Under		

#### SECTION 5.2-3 CLUB PLAYER POOLS (Club Pass)

Players may be registered to club player pools. There will be no limit to the minimum or maximum for these player pools. (Clubs may choose to register players on specific teams.)

#### SECTION 5.2-4 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS FOR EVENT ROSTERS

EVENT ROSTERS are a list of players who are identified to play for a specified team. EVENT ROSTERS may change anytime during the playing year by the Club. (Exception: CUP EVENT ROSTERS are subject to cup rules and will "freeze" at the time announced by the Tournament and Cup Committee. Clubs using player pools to register players must declare EVENT ROSTERS for league and tournament play. Maximum event roster limits will be determined by the event.

#### SECTION 5.2-4 STATE ISSUED ROSTERS

State Rosters will be issued for tournament and league play provided the player numbers fall within the following limits:

7U-8U aged teams	minimum of 4 players	maximum of 10 players
9U-10U aged teams..	minimum of 7 players	maximum of 12 players
11U-12U aged teams	minimum of 9 players	maximum of 16 players
13U-19U aged teams	minimum of 11 players	maximum of 22 players

Teams with player numbers outside of these limits will be issued pool lists for league play and be required to request an event roster for tournament play.

## **RULE 5.3 PLAYER REGISTRATION**

### **SECTION 5.3-1 PLAYER REGISTRATION**

Players are registered to member Clubs and further registered with Indiana Soccer by submission of requested information for all players, coaches and administrators to the Indiana Soccer office and payment of appropriate fees. Information needed includes:

- Full name,
- Date of birth (players only),
- gender
- Address, City, Zip,
- Phone
- Email address

### **SECTION 5.3-2 DEADLINES AND LATE FEES**

All players must be registered and paid prior to training or competing with the Club. Registration fees not paid within 30 days from date of invoice will be assessed a \$1 per player late fee.

Indiana Soccer, upon receipt of the proper documentation and fees, will provide the Club with:

1. Passes for all players, coaches and team administrators.
2. Official roster when required for Indiana Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer sanctioned events
3. When a team roster exceed the number of allowable rostered players, a Pool Roster will be issued. This Pool Roster is not a valid document to be used for tournament play.

### **SECTION 5.3-3 CLUB PASS**

- A. The Club Pass process is designed for *intra*-club use only.
- B. Players may play with another age appropriate team in the same Club.

### **SECTION 5.3-4 DOUBLE ROSTERING**

Players may register on up to two teams per seasonal year providing the following conditions are complied with:

1. Players may be added as secondary to another club's team only with the written permission of the player's primary coach.
2. Players may change their designation as primary or secondary only with the written permission of the primary coach.

### **SECTION 5.3-5 PLAYER, COACH, and ADMINISTRATOR PASSES**

US Youth Soccer passes will be issued to travel players, coaches and administrators. A Club Registrar must sign the pass ***after*** the birthdate has been verified. The card must have a photo and be laminated to be considered valid.

Member Clubs now have options to upload player birth certificates to the player profile documents tab. When this is done, the birthdate can be verified by the Indiana Soccer Registrar. Teams with verified birthdates for all players will not need to have the birthdates verified by a Club registrar prior to card lamination.

### **SECTION 5.3-6 CLUB COACH'S PASS**

Each Affiliated Organization may have a card(s) issued to its directors of coaching or designee(s) which shall be recognized as a coach's pass for any team in that Affiliated Organization for



purposes of league or tournament play in. The Club shall pay the stated fee for each coach issued a Club Coach's Pass. In addition, the coach may also be listed on each Club team roster.

#### SECTION 5.3-7 PENALTY FOR FORGERY

Forgery of Registrar's signature on a pass is considered a serious offense and will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee for appropriate action.

#### RULE 5.4 REGISTRATION CHANGES

##### SECTION 5.4-1 PLAYER ADDITIONS

Players may be added at any time during the seasonal year provided:

- A Player was not previously rostered during the current seasonal year to another club (if this is true, the player must be transferred, not added)
- B The Club Registrar shall submit the new information in the required format with the appropriate fee. Coaches, managers and administrators may be added at any time during the seasonal year.

##### SECTION 5.4-2 INVOLUNTARY RELEASE (DROP) OF PLAYER

A Club may release (drop) a player from the club player pool or a team roster without permission of the player under the following circumstances:

- A. The player has not paid the applicable Club fees by the published date for which the fees were due and payable.
- B. The player cannot participate due to a physical or medical condition which prohibits the player from playing and which was not in existence or apparent at the time the player rostered with the Club.
- C. The player has been suspended for the balance of the seasonal year or for an indeterminate period of time.
- D. For any reason allowed by Indiana Soccer, USSF or US Youth Soccer rules.
- E. The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what a reasonable travel distance is subject to definition by Indiana Soccer.

If a player is released (dropped) without the player's consent, a letter shall be sent to the player before he is released stating the reason or reasons for such action at least five (5) calendar days before the action. Current player pass and a copy of said letter must be attached to the drop form and sent to Indiana Soccer. A player who has been released (dropped) may play for a new Club during the current seasonal year providing:

- A. The player is in good standing with the team or Club he/she is leaving
- B. The player has been properly transferred and has received a player pass for the new Club.

##### SECTION 5.4-2 TRANSFERS

A transfer is the movement during a seasonal year of a currently or previously registered player from one Club to another.

Additional Information: A player who transfers from and to different Clubs is counted as a single transfer and is counted towards the "to" Club and the maximum of five (5) transfers allowed for A US Youth Soccer National Championship Series team (state cup team).

- A. Recreational player: A recreational player added to a travel or recreational-plus team during the seasonal year will not be considered a transfer to the new team.
- B. INTER CLUB Player Transfer Procedure/Clarification:
  - 1. Permitted only upon written release from an official such as the Club president or director of coaching of the current Club.
  - 2. Accepting Club will owe the appropriate fee (see fee schedule)

3. Player pass must accompany the drop/transfer form sent to Indiana Soccer
4. If the current Club denies the request for player release, the player may petition Indiana Soccer in writing for such release.
5. The petition will be reviewed and if approved the transfer will occur and the accepting Club will owe the transfer fee.
6. If the petition is denied the player will not be allowed to transfer to the new team.

## **RULE 5.5 TRYOUTS**

### **SECTION 5.5-1 ADVERTISING**

Advertising by any Club or other entity for the purposes of recruiting or for try-out attendance, will not be allowed at any Indiana Soccer-sponsored event. Materials of this nature being displayed at the site of any Indiana Soccer event must be removed prior to and during the staging of the event. Any offending party is subject to disciplinary action by Indiana Soccer.

A Club may display its tryout dates on its website at any time. A Club or team may advertise tryouts in newspapers or by public notice at any time.

### **SECTION 5.5-2 ALLOWABLE CONTACT**

A player(s) may not be contacted by a coach, parent, team manager, or other Club affiliate, for the purpose of recruiting until the first Monday following the conclusion of the Indiana Cups programs or until such player(s) has committed to another Club for the upcoming seasonal year. Such contacts may not violate 5.5-3. Player commitment is defined in section 5.5-5.

### **SECTION 5.5-3 RULES REGARDING PLAYER CONTACT AND INDUCEMENT**

- A. Except as specifically allowed by these rules, no person shall contact a registered player to guest-play or tryout for a team/club without first contacting the player's current seasonal year coach and obtaining permission to speak to the player or the player's representative, i.e., parent, guardian, etc. No contact with the player or a representative of the player, i.e., parent, guardian, etc. is allowed until permission to speak with them has been obtained from the player's current seasonal year coach. Violation of this provision may constitute a recruiting violation.
- B. No coach, assistant coach, trainer, team representative, Club representative, registered player, parent, or advertisement may offer any kind of inducement to a player(s) to play on his/her respective team/club. Coaches are responsible for the actions of all of the above listed participants involved with their team/club. Forms of inducement include, but are not limited to: free T-shirts, free uniforms, free camps, college scholarships, free or discounted travel costs, etc. Any statement, positive, negative or otherwise which could affect the decision of a player(s) regarding choice of teams/clubs shall constitute improper contact. This rule applies to verbal discussions, letters, brochures as well as radio and television advertisements.
- C. Unless otherwise set forth herein, no coach, Club representative, assistant coach, trainer, or team representative may conduct any soccer related activity with any Indiana Soccer registered player who is registered on another team/club except during tryouts or if the player is a guest player with the written permission of the player's current seasonal year coach.
- D. Should a complaint of player contact be of an inter-association matter, then the complainant shall file his/her written complaint directly with Indiana Soccer, who shall, if there is sufficient evidence provided by the complainant in their written complaint, investigate and render a decision. Either party may then file an appeal with Indiana Soccer's Executive Committee.
- E. Failure to comply with the above rule constitutes a violation of Indiana Soccer's directives concerning wrongful recruitment and shall be punishable by suspension of the guilty parties, i.e., coach, assistant coach, team manager, for a time to be determined. These sanctions range from individual suspensions up to and including club access to Indiana Soccer sponsored activities which may include Cup participation. Allegations against registered players are subject to review before punishments are considered and punishment periods are at the discretion of Indiana Soccer. Either party may file an appeal of the decision with Indiana Soccer's Executive Committee.

- F. These rules apply to any Club that has any portion of their members receiving benefits from Indiana Soccer.

#### SECTION 5.5-4 TRYOUT DATE RESTRICTIONS

- A. Players will not be allowed to tryout, practice, work out or register with a coach, team or Club for an upcoming seasonal year until on or after the published date for travel tryouts for the upcoming seasonal year. This rule does not preclude a player from practicing with a team as an authorized guest player.
- B. Any player violating Rule 5.5 is ineligible to play for that team the upcoming seasonal year
- C. Clubs cannot conduct open meetings, camps, trainings, games etc of any kind for any non-Club members before the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of allowable tryouts.

#### SECTION 5.5-5 PLAYER COMMITMENT

- A. According to US Youth Soccer Policy Rule 201 Section 3  
A player is registered for a seasonal year from the moment the player or the player's representative executes the registration form and pays the appropriate fees.
- B. Indiana Soccer considers a player committed to a member Club for the period of one seasonal year once the registration form is signed and the fee or a portion of said fee equal to or in excess of twenty five (\$25.00) is paid to the Club.
- C. The Club's Registration form that is offered to the player or parent for signature must include clear and legible language that informs the signee of the one seasonal-year commitment that the player is making to the Club. Indiana Soccer recommends that each person signing the registration form initial next to the one seasonal-year informative language
- D. A signed Club scholarship application will NOT satisfy the payment fee language noted in 5.5-5 B.

Note that anyone accused of violating any of the aforementioned will be afforded due process as stated by US Soccer.

## **GLOSSARY**

### ***ABUSE***

Abuse is a verbal statement or physical act that implies or threatens physical, emotional, or psychological harm.

### ***ADD (PLAYER)***

Addition of a player who has not been rostered to a team during the current seasonal year.

### ***AFFILIATE MEMBER (CLUB)***

An Affiliated Member Organization is an organization of four (4) or more teams (of any type) which is a soccer organization with its headquarters in Indiana, and registered with Indiana Soccer, which supports and actively promotes the purpose and activities of Indiana Soccer by having soccer-playing and/or educational opportunities for its members and has been approved as an affiliated member by the Indiana Soccer Board of Directors. Subject to adherence to all other Indiana Soccer guidelines, Clubs of three (3) or fewer teams may be considered for membership.

### ***ALLIED MEMBERS***

Allied Member Organizations are those sports organizations which govern programs in, or allied to, soccer as a sport, do not field teams and are not qualified as Affiliated Member Organizations.

### ***CLUB PASS***

A system that provides for Indiana players from the same Club to participate in league and cup games with another team in their Club – providing the players are age appropriate for the team and meet player level restrictions (See the Indiana Soccer League (ISL) Club Passing Document for league club passing rules.)

### ***CLUB REGISTRAR***

A person who is identified and responsible to the Club and to Indiana Soccer to transmit and receive rosters, player passes and other such documentation as to players, teams and Clubs for the benefit of said Club.

### ***DISTRICT***

One of twenty (20) geographical subdivisions of the Indiana Soccer Association Inc..

### ***DISTRICT COMMISSIONER***

A District Commissioner is appointed by Indiana Soccer to represent and be a liaison for the Affiliated Member Organizations (Clubs) within his or her District.

### ***DROP***

Release (drop) means to remove a player from a roster by filing an appropriate release (drop) form and receiving Indiana Soccer approval to drop a player(s)..

### ***ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY***

Eligible to play means registered, not under suspension.

### ***EVENT ROSTER***

A list of players eligible to participate in a single event such as a league game, tournament or cup play.

### ***FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS (FIFA)***

The world governing body of the sport of soccer.

### ***FRIENDLY GAME***

A match played between any two Indiana Soccer or US Youth Soccer member teams that is outside of league or tournament play.

**GAME ROSTER**

A list of players who will participate in a particular competition or game

**GUEST PLAYER**

A registered player participating in a competition for a team to which the player is not rostered.

**INDIVIDUAL PLAYER**

An individual player is a player registered with Indiana Soccer but not with a specific team. An individual player will receive a generic card stamped "tournament play only" or "League Play Only".

**MEDICAL RELEASE**

A form whereby the parent or other legal guardian of a player consents in advance to allow medical treatment of the player without said parent or other legal guardian being present. Said form shall also include information regarding who is financially responsible for said treatment, the medical insurance information, any allergies the player may have and the name and other directory information of the player's physician. (This form is not required to be notarized).

**NATIONAL STATE ASSOCIATION (NSA)**

An affiliated member association of US Soccer representing all leagues, Affiliate Members, teams and players within the territory assigned to the NSA by the USSF National Council.

**PRIMARY PLAYER**

When a player is rostered to two teams, the 1<sup>st</sup> team the player is rostered to will be considered their primary team. In order to be eligible for National or State Cup Competition, double rostered players must be listed as primary on the cup team roster.

**RECREATIONAL CLUB**

Recreational soccer programs are intended to provide the opportunity for all interested person(s) within the area served by the Affiliated Member Organization (Club) to participate in and enjoy the game of soccer without regard for athletic ability or soccer skills, up to the limit of the Member Organization's ability to accommodate said person(s)

**RECREATIONAL-PLUS LEAGUE**

A structured group which collects fees from, and schedules inter-club games between recreational-plus teams from Affiliated Member Organizations. Travel and recreational-plus member leagues are Allied Member Organizations of Indiana Soccer.

**TRAVEL LEAGUE**

A travel league collects fees from, and schedules inter-club games between travel teams from Affiliated Member Organizations or approved US Youth Soccer affiliates. Travel Leagues are Allied Member Organizations of Indiana Soccer.

**REGION**

One of four geographical subdivisions of the territory of US Youth Soccer. Indiana is one of fourteen (14) member state organizations in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Region.

**REGISTRATION**

Players are registered by an Affiliate Member Organization with Indiana Soccer for the seasonal year by submitting the required information and fee. Travel and recreation-plus players must be registered to a specific team.

**ROSTER**

A list of registered players available to participate in a match.

**ROUND ROBIN FORMAT**

A system used for play-offs or tournaments where teams are placed in groups and all teams play each other once. Teams accumulate points based on game outcomes, and these points determine advancement to the final round of competition.

**SEASONAL YEAR**

Seasonal year is September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31st. Seasonal year includes fall spring, and summer seasons.

**SECONDARY PLAYER**

Players are allowed to roster on two teams. One as primary and one as secondary. Double rostered players listed as secondary on a roster, are ineligible for National or State Cup Competition. Secondary play is only permitted when the game is not in conflict with the primary team's schedule. A secondary player must give priority to his/her primary team before play with the secondary team.

**SUSPENSION**

Suspension means the temporary withdrawal of rights and privileges such as, but not limited to, the right to play, coach or otherwise administer or participate (directly or indirectly) in the game of affiliated soccer. Any person or group (team, Club, league, board, etc.) that has been suspended shall be in less than good standing for the entire term of suspension with all rights and privileges withdrawn unless specifically stated otherwise by the suspending authority.

**TEAM**

A recognized entity organized for the purpose of playing the sport of soccer.

**TEAM ROSTER**

A list of registered players eligible to play for a team in the seasonal year or a particular event.

**TOURNAMENT TEAM**

A team comprised of players who may or may not be registered to more than one team who are rostered on the tournament team, only for the purpose of attending:

- (1) A tournament sanctioned by another National State Association or
- (2) International tournaments sanctioned by Indiana Soccer

A Tournament Team is not eligible to play in any of the Indiana Soccer Cups competitions.

**TRANSFER**

The movement of a currently or previously rostered player onto another team roster or a player who returns to the same roster within the current seasonal year.

**UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION (USSF)**

The United States Soccer Federation, the national governing body of soccer in the United States and recognized by FIFA and the United States Olympic Committee.

**US YOUTH SOCCER**

The United States Youth Soccer Association (US Youth Soccer), a division of US Soccer.

**YOUTH PLAYER**

A youth player is one who has not reached the age of nineteen (19) years prior to January 1 of the current seasonal year.