



POLICIES & PROCEDURES FOR RETENTION IN & PROMOTION TO THE GREAT LAKES/MIDWEST CONFERENCES (GLC/MWC)

Indiana Soccer applies the following criteria when considering and application for team retention (returning) in the US Youth Soccer Great Lakes/Midwest Conferences.

1. **Teams who competed in the Premier I, Premier II, or PQ Divisions of GLC/MWC** the immediate prior season are approved to return to GLC/MWC even though their previous performance may cause relegation to GLC/MWC 1st Division. They must also meet the roster continuity policy.

2. **Teams who competed in the 1st Division of GLC/MWC** the immediate prior season. If teams finish in the bottom of their play group (see table below) **AND** meet the roster continuity policy,
 - They will be relegated to ISL Premier **UNLESS**
 - They finish in 1st or 2nd place in Indiana Soccer State Cup competition that year, then the teams will retain their place in the GLC/MWC.

Number of teams in their play group	Finish in play group	Automatic relegation
5 or less teams	Last place	Yes
7, 8, or 9 teams	Last two places	Yes
10, 11, or 12 teams	Last three places	Yes

3. **Teams that finish above the places identified in the chart AND** meet the roster continuity policy will retain their recommendation to play in GLC/MWC.

4. **Roster Continuity:** Indiana Soccer reviews the rosters of all GLC/MWC applicants. Even though GLC/MWC does not have the same requirements for player continuity as Indiana Soccer (60%), Indiana Soccer expects that teams returning to the GLC/MWC are the same team. Teams with less than 60% of the players returning will **NOT** be recommended to participate in GLC/MWC play that season.

5. **Adding** new players will not be considered for recommendation to GLC/MWC.

6. **League Standings in the Indiana State League's (ISL) Premier Division**
 - a. Teams must participate in the ISL Premier Division during the most recent available season of ISL competition to be eligible for promotion into GLC/MWC.

- b. Teams that finish in 1st and 2nd place in ISL Premier Division 14U Spring season and 15U–18U in the previous season are recommended for promotion into the GLC/MWC **UNLESS** roster continuity is **NOT** met (criteria #4). Teams finishing below 2nd place will not be considered.
- c. If a team applies to GLC/MWC that did not participate in ISL's Premier Division (but played in a US Youth League), that team will not be considered for GLC/MWC. They need to play at least one season in ISL's Premier Division.
- d. Teams applying to GLC/MWC for Fall 14U, Spring 13U, and Spring 14U seasons will be reviewed by the teams participating in the previous season's ISL Premier Division. How teams finish in ISL Premier will be the number one criteria and Cup play will be secondary. The final recommendation will be made by the ISL Commissioner.
- e. 14U teams that compete in ISL play in the fall **AND** utilize trapped players (a 15U player) will not be eligible for promotion the following season.

7. Minimum Coaching Standards

- a. All coaches on the team bench coaching in a GLC/MWC game must have at the minimum a US Soccer "D" Coaching License or equivalent as determined by GLC/MWC Manager (i.e., minimum NSCAA Advanced National Diploma).
- b. Proof of a current license/diploma must be submitted to the State Director of Coaching.
- c. Proof consists of a copy of the license/diploma and/or license number (in case a copy cannot be located).

8. Team's League Placement

- a. A team's placement belongs to the club it was registered to at the time of earning the placement.
- b. If a team moves to a different club, the placement earned in the previous season does not move with the team unless the previous club approves the move. No consideration is given to the percentage of the players moving to the new club. (This was approved at the 2018 AGM DOC meeting.)

The ISL Commissioner will submit recommendation to the GLC/MWC Manager for final approval.

The ISL Commissioner will decide all matters not provided for in these policies and procedures.