

## CAL NORTH PLAYERS AND TEAMS POLICY

### A. DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
USYS	United States Youth Soccer Association
Association	Identifies top level entities known as California Youth Soccer Association or Cal North. Referred to as Cal North in this policy.
Affiliated Organization	A structured organization operating within a specified community or otherwise defined geographical area within a given Cal North District, whose purpose is to offer soccer play to the players registered with the Affiliated Organization.
Club Pass Player	A rostered player participating in a competition with a team within the same Affiliated Organization as the team on which the player is officially rostered.
Competitive Player	A player registered with an Affiliated Organization who is placed on a team roster through a selection process such as tryouts.
Competitive Team	A team having a roster of competitive players. The team is eligible for travel and competition outside of the team's Affiliated Organization. Team must have a minimum of seven (7) players and a maximum of twenty-two (22) players on the roster.
District	A geographical subdivision within the Cal North boundaries under which there are Affiliated Organizations.
Guest Player	A rostered player participating in a competition for a team in any Affiliated Organization or USYS organization and the player is not officially rostered on the team for purposes of competition play.
Recreational Player	A player registered with an Affiliated Organization who is placed on a team roster on an equal strength basis.
Recreational Team	A team having a roster of recreational players. The team is not eligible to play outside of the team's Affiliated Organization's District except for recreational events sponsored by the Association. Affiliated organizations may have a varied minimum or maximum number of recreational team roster size limits.
Team Administrator	A registered adult who is rostered to a team as a Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager, or Team Trainer.
TOPSoccer Player	A player registered with an Affiliated Organization who participates in a community based TOPSoccer program that is designed to meet the needs of players with physical

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	and/or mental disabilities. TOPSoccer players are placed on teams according to ability NOT by age.
Seasonal Year	The period of time beginning September 1 of one calendar year and ending on August 31 of the immediately following year.
TOPSoccer Team	A team having a roster of TOPSoccer players.

### B. APPLICABILITY OF POLICY

This policy only applies to Cal North and youth players or team administrators registered through Cal North or any of Cal North's Affiliated Organizations.

### C. GENDER OF TEAMS

1. USYS recognizes two (2) types of team genders:
  - a. Teams with females only are girls' teams.
  - b. All other teams are boys' teams.

### D. AGE GROUPS

1. Age groups shall be composed of youth players who are of age on or before the last day of December of the current year.
  - a. 19 years of age and under (U19 / 19U)
  - b. 18 years of age and under (U18 / 18U)
  - c. 17 years of age and under (U17 / 17U)
  - d. 16 years of age and under (U16 / 16U)
  - e. 15 years of age and under (U15 / 15U)
  - f. 14 years of age and under (U14 / 14U)
  - g. 13 years of age and under (U13 / 13U)
  - h. 12 years of age and under (U12 / 12U)
  - i. 11 years of age and under (U11 / 11U)
  - j. 10 years of age and under (U10 / 10U)
  - k. 9 years of age and under (U9 / 9U)
  - l. 8 years of age and under (U8 / 8U)
  - m. 7 years of age and under (U7 / 7U)
  - n. 6 years of age and under (U6 / 6U)
2. A player's age group of registration is determined by subtracting the player's birth year from the end year of the seasonal year. For example, if the seasonal year is 2022-2023 and the player birth year is 2010, the player's age group of registration is G listed above.
3. Affiliated organizations may combine age groups in the best interest of developing the sport.
4. Players may play in their age group of registration, or an older age group, but are not permitted to play in a lower age group. Affiliated Organizations may make limited exceptions for recreational players with Medical Play Down.

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### E. TEAMS

1. Teams may be classified as Competitive, Recreational, Recreational Pool, TOPSoccer or Disbanded.
2. Identical team names shall not be used for more than one team in the same age group within an Affiliated Organization.
3. The age group of a team is determined by the oldest birth year of the players rostered on the team per the age groups identified in Section D(1).
4. Every team shall have an official team roster. Official team rosters must be presented when requested by the match or competition.
5. A team roster may have up to twenty-two (22) youth players at any given time during the seasonal year. Competitive teams shall have a minimum of seven (7) players on the roster at all times.
6. A Team Administrator must have completed all risk management requirements in order to be assigned to a team or having any contact with players.
7. Minors who are head coaches must have an assistant coach or team manager who is at least eighteen (18) years old, who has completed all risk management requirements, and who will be present at all team functions.
8. Team administrators must not carry any identifying documents including but not limited to player birth documents, or other sensitive information for any team administrator, parent, or player.
9. Cal North may grant temporary permission to an Affiliated Organization team to participate in Sanctioned Events with a team of an organization that is not a Cal North Affiliated Organization.

### F. PLAYER MOVEMENT

1. A **Player Add** is the assignment of a player to a roster. Players cannot be added to a team roster if they are already assigned to the approved roster of a different team.
2. A **Player Release** is the removal of a player from a roster.
  - Voluntary releases must be initiated and approved by the parent/legal guardian (or player if 18 or older), and by an authorized Affiliated Organization administrator(s) in order to be completed.
  - A player may be involuntarily released from a team by an authorized administrator for the following reasons:
    - a. The player has violated US Youth Soccer, Cal North or Affiliated Organization rules.
    - b. The player has moved beyond a reasonable distance.
    - c. The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the seasonal year.
    - d. The player's current team is not developmentally appropriate for the player.
    - e. The player's team has been disbanded.

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3. A **Player Transfer** is the movement of a player from a finalized roster to another roster in a different Affiliated Organization, or the movement of a released player to a finalized roster in a different Affiliated Organization.
  - a. A team may have an unlimited number of transfers off a team.
  - b. Transfers must be initiated and approved by the parent/legal guardian (or player if 18 or older), and authorized Affiliated Organization administrator(s) in order to be completed.

### **G. GUEST PLAYER / TEAM ADMINISTRATOR**

1. A guest player/team administrator is defined as a player or team administrator with an approved Cal North member pass who is not listed on the official roster of the Cal North team with which the player/team administrator is participating in a particular event.
2. Players may guest play for teams in their age group of registration, or an older age group, but are not permitted to play in a lower age group.
3. A player or team administrator who is suspended cannot participate as a guest player/team administrator.
4. The credentials for the guest player/team administrator must be for the same seasonal year as those being used by the team on which the player/team administrator will be guesting.
5. The soccer age of a player is defined by the player's birth year as identified in Section D(1), not the age of the team on which the player is officially rostered. A player may guest on teams in the player's age group, or any team that is in an age group older than the player.
6. Competitive players may not guest play on a Recreational team
7. The maximum number of guest players a team is allowed is seven (7) per game.
8. The decision to allow guest players or team administrators is at the discretion of the playing league or tournament in which a team is playing.