

ALASKA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

POLICY & PROCEDURE

POLICY TOPIC: Membership Club/League Policy

POLICY NO: AYS000104-214

POLICY: Alaska Youth Soccer Membership

AFFILIATION:

The Alaska State Youth Soccer Association shall be made up of all soccer leagues, associations, and clubs within Alaska that desire to affiliate and that meet the requirements of "affiliates in good standing"

MEMBERS:

Members of this corporation are individuals who are associated with or active participants in the affiliated leagues, associations, and clubs. There shall be two classes of members: 1) Voting and 2) Associate Members who have no vote.

- A. Qualifications of Voting Members: The voting members of this corporation shall be elected members of the Board of Directors of this corporation including the District Commissioners and the Members-At-Large.
- B. Qualifications of Associate Members: Any individual who is associated with or who actively participates in the activities of any affiliated league, association or club shall be an associate member of this corporation. Associate members have no voting privileges. Election of an individual as a voting member of this corporation shall terminate his or her membership as an associate member of this corporation.
- C. All youth soccer clubs, leagues, associations, etc. may gain membership in Alaska Youth Soccer ASYSA through application.
- D. Voting and Associate membership shall be without regard to that individual's race, color, religion, national origin, or sex.

YOUTH PLAYER:

A youth player must be properly registered to an Affiliate Club each seasonal year; a youth player is registered for a seasonal year from the moment the player or the player's representative executes the registration form, commits to the club, and pays the appropriate fees. "**Youth Player**" means an individual who is an amateur player and who has not reached 20 years of age prior to December 31 for the current seasonal year. Birth Year Registration; players register according to a Jan 1 to Dec 31 timeframe.

SEASONAL YEAR:

The "**Seasonal Year**" means the soccer year which begins November 1 – October 31; the state open tryout window will start directly after the completion of the Alaska State Cup Tournament and will continue through October 31.

The Transfer for Competitive Player procedure will not apply to the player that is transferring from within the state open tryout window; there will be no paperwork, fee or wait period required; all *Players Financial Obligations* must be met with the current Registered/ Affiliate Club. Once the player commits to a Club a transfer will be required even if no games or practices have occurred or they are still within the state open tryout window period.

SANCTIONED EVENT:

Each Affiliate Club, League and/or Association must be a full member in good standing with Alaska Youth Soccer and US Youth Soccer to be granted permission to host sanctioned tournaments, camps, and leagues. Tournament, camp, and league affiliate organizers are required to apply for the AYSA Host Sanctioned Event by submitting the required application before the designated deadline and pay the required application fee. The Affiliate hosting a sanctioned event must submit the Post-AYSA Report with the AYSA State Office within 30 days of the event completion; before a renewal will be considered. Intra Club Sanctioned Events must submit the required application before the designated deadline and follow the sanctioned event guidelines and policies. The application fee will be waived at the time of submission. Any hosting entity, league, club, team, or individual that does not strictly abide by the requirements, constitution, bylaws, applicable rules, general procedures policies, and specific regulations set forth by the Alaska Youth Soccer Association, and/or does not pay the required fees on a timely basis, will forfeit their right to host future events. If a sanctioned event has scheduling conflict with an AYSA Sponsored programs or events, AYSA will take precedence.

ADULT VERIFICATION FOR SANCTIONED EVENTS; Affiliate applicants please ensure all adults including those not registered with an Alaska Affiliated Club have submitted an AYSA background check application, reviewed the AYSA Code of Conduct, and completed the Abuse Prevention Training prior to interaction with athletes and AYSA sanctioned sports activities.

PAYMENT POLICY FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES:

All Affiliate leagues, associations or clubs are required to pay membership dues three times per year for new players registered with AYSA for the year. The soccer year is 1 Nov- 31 Oct, membership fees are due: 30 Dec, 30 Apr, and 30 Aug. A late fee of \$500 will apply after the due date. Insufficient funds or bounced checks will incur \$100 fee. Affiliate leagues, associations, and clubs must submit recreational player names via excel to AYSA with payment.

AFFILIATES IN GOOD STANDING:

Leagues, associations, or clubs in good standing are those that have made full payment of all dues and completed all registration requirements.

Each affiliate will submit an annual club report that includes current board members, administration staff, coach staff and all contact information. These requests will be sent from the state office with timelines and deadlines.

Each affiliate shall submit copies of its constitution, by-laws and rules and regulations to the State Association upon request to ensure that they are consistent with state and national rules.

Each affiliate shall retain its autonomy, but will adhere to the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the State Association and will always act in a manner to protect the interest of AYSA.

Each Club, League and/or Affiliate Association shall;

- 1) Annually register with Alaska State Youth Soccer Association its players, coaches, board members, and administrators, and
- 2) Comply with requirements pertaining to state, regional interstate, national, and international competition, and other competitions approved to be sponsored by Alaska State Youth Soccer Association and US Youth Soccer and as required by the Federation.

RESIGNATION:

Any member club may resign from membership in Alaska Youth Soccer by submitting a written resignation to Alaska Youth Soccer. Members clubs may remove all members or a portion of their membership (by not having all members under Alaska Youth Soccer, the club is no longer a Full Member Club and certain benefits are not included with membership). A vote is not required to accept a resignation from a member club. The resignation will be effective upon receipt by Alaska Youth Soccer or upon the effective date noted in letter of resignation. A member's resignation does not relieve the member of any obligation to pay any fees that had been accrued and were unpaid before the effective date of the resignation. Member clubs resigning or removing portion of their membership during the soccer seasonal year will be obligated to pay fees for all members registered prior to the of effective date of resignation.

NEW MEMBER CLUB PROTOCOL:

Formation of a new club with ALASKA YOUTH SOCCER, must meet the 4 teams minimum and following the Alaska Youth Soccer Association guidelines set forth.

PROCEDURE:

Guideline for New Club Formation:

- A. Minimum of four teams to make a club/league
- B. Have by-laws and slate of officers
- C. 501(3) C status or operate under an Association's 501(3) C (one year to obtain, approval of club)
- D. Approval by the AYSA State Office for temporary status until all items are in place
- E. Send a current copy of officers on an annual basis.
- F. New clubs will have one year to establish the 4-team minimum and maintain the AYSA Good Standing standards; before Full Membership status is approved.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

Member benefits are designed to aid in the creation, implementation, execution of programming and services aimed at growing, enhancing, and improving the sport of soccer in Alaska. AYSA offers members full and partial membership benefits based on the affiliate organization status. Member Benefits outline below.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

Reference- Member Benefits Outline

Automatic Voting Member Benefits: (Included with your yearly registration)

- Insurance for coaches, players, and Clubs (secondary medical, liability)
- US Youth Soccer and USSF Membership
- Administrative Services
- Provides registration services includes player and club registration, administrative forms, and approvals.

- Provides information, educates clubs on policy, rules, and procedural changes at the state, regional, and national level.
- Provides mediation for disputes among clubs, players, coaches, and/or referees.
- Liaison between Clubs and USYS and USSF.
- Risk Management Services (includes Concussion Awareness & Compliance)
- Coaching Education and Equipment Grants (includes access to Alaska Director of Coaching)
- Participation in the Alaska State Cups, Regional and National Tournaments
- Participation in the State-Run Leagues
- Adult Verification and Clearance (includes a national background check; individual fee required)
- USSF Referee Education and Certification (oversight and education opportunities for referees and assignors)
- Recognition, club directory, and advertising opportunities through the AYSA Website
- Regional and National Publications

Special Program Member Benefits: (available to Full Members)

- Participation in the Alaska Development Program (ADP) and ODP Program
- TOPSoccer Program (Application)
- Participation in the Coaching Council
- Yearly Recognition Awards (Coach, Administrator, Volunteers, Referees)
- Yearly Educational (Clinics, Trainings, Workshops)
- Ability to obtain Tournament and League Sanctioning (Application)
- Coach and Player Leadership Development Opportunities
- Recreational Advisor Opportunities
- Eligibility to Host Alaska State Cup
- Foraker Group: Club Affiliate Members (no annual charge; member rates for services)

Full National Member Opportunities:

US Soccer Connect: The Official Registration/Management Provider of AYSA: US Soccer Connect (Powered by Blue Star Sports) is an all-in-one integrated sports management ecosystem for US Soccer members.

Abuse Prevention Systems: Member organizations can participate in the required abuse prevention training for their adult coaches, officials, and volunteers for free.

Target United Cup: US Youth Soccer partnered with Target to offer the Target United Cup! These tournaments are designed for affiliated member association, and clubs to offer a great soccer experience to recreational soccer teams.

US Youth and Target: Through a partnership with US Youth Soccer, Target has made grants available for 501(c)(3) organizations affiliated member associations, and clubs offering soccer programming to players ages 5-18 years old.

SAT and ACT PowerPrep Programs: Through a partnership with US Youth Soccer, **FREE SAT and ACT Test Prep Programs Available to US Youth Soccer Athletes.**

Associate Member Benefits:

- May participate in Coaching Education Opportunities (fee may be required) if space available
- May participate in Leadership Development Opportunities (fee required) if space available
- May participate in AYSA Sanctioned Tournaments, and Leagues
- May participate in State Cup if teams qualify in a State Sanctioned League
- Players may participate in the Alaska Development Program (ADP)
- Host secondary TOPSoccer program (Application)
- Registration Assistance

Risk Management

- Insurance (secondary medical, liability)
- Processing Adult Verification and Clearance (Limited to registered members)