

ALASKA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

POLICY & PROCEDURE

POLICY TOPIC: **Developmental Competitive Team U- 10 and Younger**

POLICY NO: PP060307

POLICY Alaska Youth Soccer Association (AYSA) Affiliate Club and /or association may form developmental competitive U -10 teams. The developmental competitive U -10 teams will fall under the Competitive Guidelines by U.S. Soccer, US Youth Soccer and AYSA. The U -10 team roster size will not exceed 14 players; with the field format for teams being played 7v7.

PURPOSE: The intent of this policy is to ensure that a player U -10 and younger are placed on team base on their birth year range and play appropriate league play per age. A player that falls under the above guidelines may not play more than one (1) year up in an age bracket.

PROCEDURE:

1. Affiliate Club and /or Association may hold advertised tryouts as the selection process during AYSA approved Tryout Window and Supplemental Tryout window.
2. Players: must be properly registered with Alaska Youth Soccer Association in accordance with the rules of US Youth Soccer (Policy on Players and Playing Rules, 201 and 209) and be placed on a valid team roster in the with current seasonal year
3. For developmental purposes players will be given an equal amount of game time in each game.
4. Approved Affiliate Club and /or Association teams may attend in-state tournament which have U -10 divisions.
5. Registered Affiliate Club and /or Association teams may not register for in-state recreational tournaments. Teams may not also travel outside the state for tournament, league games, or camps.
6. U -10 teams may play up one year to a 11-U age bracket for in-state league or tournament following U -11 field formatting. U -10 teams will not qualify to attend Alaska State Cup.
7. The length of the game for U -10 teams will be two 25-minute halves.
8. All players on U -10 teams or younger shall not head the ball directly from the air in any game, practice, or competition, nor shall these players practice heading the ball in any organized team setting.

U -9 Team Formation:

1. Affiliate Club and /or Association may form U -9 developmental competitive true age teams: teams will fall under the Competitive Guidelines by U.S. Soccer, US Youth Soccer and AYSA.
2. For developmental purposes players will be given an equal amount of game time in each game.
3. U -9 teams formed from developmental pool to play intra-league or inter-league within Affiliate Club and /or Association Home District.
4. U -9 teams may not travel outside the state for tournament, league games, or camps.
5. U -9 teams roster size not to exceed 14 players.
6. U -9 teams will not play in a game format larger than 7v7: two 25-minute halves.
7. U -9 teams may play up one year to a U-10 age bracket for in-state tournaments following U-10 field formatting. U -9 player or teams will not qualify to attend Alaska State Cup.

U -8 Team Formation:

1. Affiliate Club and /or Association may form U -8 developmental **recreational** true age teams: teams will fall under the Recreational Guidelines by U.S. Soccer, US Youth Soccer and AYSA.
2. For developmental purposes players will be given an equal amount of game time in each game.
3. U -8 teams formed from developmental pool to play intra-league or inter-league within Affiliate Club and /or Association Home District.
4. U -8 teams may not travel outside the state for tournament, league games, or camps.
5. U -8 teams roster size not to exceed 10 players.
6. U -8 teams will not play in a game format larger than 4v4: **four 12-minute quarters.**

7. U -8 teams may play up one year to a U-9 age bracket for league and / or tournament following U-9 field formatting. U -8 player or teams will not qualify to attend Alaska State Cup.

Team Roster Formation -True Age:

Affiliate Club and /or Association teams must have a minimum number of **true age players** placed on a valid team roster to be considered a Developmental Competitive team under Alaska Youth Soccer Association.

U -10 - 8 True age players: roster maximum will be 14

U -9 - 8 True age players: roster maximum will be 14

Teams with less than 14 on a roster can request a **True Age Variance**; which may pro-rate the number of true age players required for the team.

Affiliate Club and /or Association teams must have a minimum number of **true age players** placed on a valid team roster to be considered a Developmental Recreational team under Alaska Youth Soccer Association.

U -8 - 6 True age players: roster maximum will be 10

The Affiliate Club and /or Association must submit the completed **True Age Variance Request** form to the Alaska Youth Soccer Office to be processed; a valid team roster must accompany the True Age Variance Request form.

Notification of **Team Status** will be provided within five business days by AYSA. Notification of Approval must be received prior to team first seasonal year practice, game, or tournament.

Team Roster changes that occur after the initial AYSA approval must be submitted to the AYSA Office immediately.

Penalty fee will be imposed for affiliate team failing to submit proper paperwork and receive approval AYSA before the start of participation, practice, and / or first game. Team Penalty Fee of \$50.00 will be applied to team registering and they may be at Risk of Losing “Good Standing” Status.

Failure to follow AYSA policies may result in affiliate team being placed in Not Good Standing and disqualified from any sanctioned league games and tournaments.

Alaska Youth Soccer Association recommends the Player Development Initiatives approach be used for all U-8, U-9 and U-10 youth teams. Affiliate Club and /or Association with developmental programs may not form U-8 or younger competitive teams.

Affiliate Club and /or Association Sanctioned Leagues may combine U-9 and U-10 age groups to form one division: using U-10 developmental competitive policy and guidelines.