

# **BASA COMPETITIVE AND TRAVEL SOCCER GUIDELINES**

**Aug 4, 2011**

Competitive and Travel soccer is a higher level of play than found in the in-house program. BASA expects registered Competitive Travel teams to play in PA West Division that best benefits the players and team.

Parents should understand that registering a child for Competitive and Travel soccer does not guarantee that they will be placed on a team. Rosters will be developed using the registration criteria contained in these guidelines.

Attendance at all practices and games is expected. Competitive and Travel teams usually practice at least twice a week and play games on Sunday afternoons. By registering, parents are committing their child to this schedule.

## **Definitions:**

**Board** – the Blackhawk Area Soccer Association (BASA) Board of Directors.

**Coaching Committee** – the coaching committee consists of the Vice President, Coaching Director, Travel Coordinator and Referee Coordinator.

**Excused Absence** – a player may be excused from practices and games due to injury, illness, school related activities, or any other legitimate reason as defined by the coach and Board.

**Good Standing** – any soccer player who has no history of unexcused absences at practices and games in previous seasons or has shown no other behavior that was determined detrimental to the team. A player must have one season of in-house soccer experience to determine good standing.

**Moving Up** – any soccer player who must solely on the basis of their age, move to the next level of play.

**PA West Divisions** - Classic / Competitive = division 1, 2, 3 – may have try outs or skill demonstration and no playing time requirements  
Competitive = division 4 – club may have try outs or skill demonstration and no playing time requirements  
Travel = division 5 and 6 – may have try outs and skill demonstration, playing time requirements for only U12 and lower age brackets

**Playing Season** – August 1<sup>st</sup> of one calendar year through July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year, includes fall and spring.

**Playing Session** – the period of play for either fall or spring not both.

**Playing Up** – any soccer player who based on experience, talent, ability and skill, or lack of players to roster a team in his/her age bracket who moves to an older age bracket.

**Travel Players** – a player who is rostered with PA West to play travel soccer.

**Same Team** – equals more than 50% of the original roster from the previous travel session

### **Registration Criteria:**

The Board has determined that the following criteria will be used to roster travel teams. Each criterion is dependent upon the player being in good standing and has registered by the last registration date posted for the upcoming session.

The one season of in-house soccer experience requirement may be waived by participating in a skill demonstration for the Coach and Coaching Committee, to determine that the player has the skills to compete at this level.

### **PA West Classic and Competitive Divisions:**

Tryouts or skill demonstrations to qualify player for this division may be required if deemed necessary by the Board.

All players playing in Classic and Competitive divisions are not guaranteed equal playing time.

If there are enough players to roster more than one team for an age group, skill demonstrations may be held to determine which players to place on those teams. The teams may be split according to skill, and when possible, will play in different skill appropriate divisions.

### **PA West Travel Divisions:**

Tryouts or skill demonstrations to qualify player for this division may be required if deemed necessary by the Board.

All efforts will be made for all players playing U12 and lower in Travel divisions to play one half of each game except for absence, injury, illness or discipline problem

If there are enough players to roster more than one team for an age group, skill demonstrations may be held to determine which players to place on those teams. The teams may be split according to skill, and when possible, will play in different skill appropriate divisions.

If a family has more than one child playing travel and it is determined that the younger child has the skills to play up with his/her sibling, the Board shall consider this request.

Rosters shall be determined as early as possible to give players who may not get onto a team, adequate time to find another club.

Players wishing to register for travel, U16 and below, who are rostered on other teams outside BASA that conflicts with the travel schedule must have the Coach's and Boards approval to be rostered.

### **Attendance in all Divisions:**

Attendance at all practices and games is expected. Failure to attend practice or games for other than legitimate reasons as defined by the Coach and Board may result in lost playing time for disciplinary reasons.

Chronic absences from practices and games will be brought to the attention of the Board as soon as possible and before the end of the session that the chronic absences occurred. Chronic absences may result in loss of good standing with the association which will have an impact on future travel registrations.

### **Playing Up:**

A request may be made to the Board to allow a player to play up, if that player demonstrates the skill and ability to move to a higher age bracket or there is a lack of players to roster a team in their age bracket. Parents must complete and sign a consent waiver and submit it to the Board. This request must be confirmed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board.

### **Late Registration:**

Players who register late will be placed on a team if there is room after everyone else is rostered including those players playing up.

### **Travel Coaches:**

Anyone wishing to coach a travel team must submit their interest in writing to any member of the Board. A coaching resume must accompany this request. Such items must be received by the date established by the Board. All coaches are not guaranteed to keep their positions through both fall and spring seasons and may be replaced as recommend by the Coaching Committee.

### **Travel Uniforms:**

If a travel team is to use a different uniform other than the BASA uniform, the uniforms must be approved by the board and be within the PA West uniform rules.

### **Travel Practice and Games:**

Only approved fields by BASA for all travel activities may be used. Any game or make up game from the regular schedule or friendly games with clubs that use the same field during the regular season are considered approved by BASA. All scheduled games are to be played in accordance to PA West Youth Rules.

### **PA West Open Tournament:**

All activity involved with PA West Open Tournament must meet the tournament rules.