

# EXETER -WEST GREENWICH YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION “EWG YSA”

## DEVELOPMENTAL/COMPETITIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS



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## **TEAM DEFINITIONS**

- **DEVELOPMENTAL TEAM:** Any team U10 and below for which the players are selected on the basis of talent or merit or any team for which tryouts are held.
- **COMPETITIVE TEAM:** Any team U11 and above for which the players are selected on the basis of talent or merit or any team for which tryouts are held.
- **TOURNAMENT TEAM / INDOOR TEAM:** An EWGYSA rostered team which may include guest players and is put together for the sole purpose of playing in a tournament / indoor session of another sanctioned, non-league competition. A tournament / indoor team exists only for the duration of the tournament / indoor session. Team shall follow procedures outlined in “Tournament Play.”

## **DEVELOPMENTAL PHILOSOPHY**

EWGYSA developmental philosophy shall be to provide players the opportunity to develop skills at an elevated level for the purpose of self-improvement and compete against the developmental soccer programs offered through other similar associations. EWGYSA developmental program shall be: non-result oriented, 50% playing rule applied to all players, and strong emphasis on player participation at various positions. Such participation will benefit EWGYSA and increase interest in the game of soccer.

## **COMPETITIVE PHILOSOPHY**

EWGYSA competitive philosophy shall be to bring together the most skilled players of EWGYSA to compete against the competitive soccer programs offered through other similar associations. Such participation will raise all the participants’ skill levels, the level of play, and also contribute to the success of the local school districts’ athletic programs. EWGYSA Competitive Soccer Program shall endeavor to assemble and train the strongest teams possible for each division to best represent EWGYSA. It is the objective to strive to win but provide each player playing time, since participants will not improve without playing.

## **GENERAL POLICY**

- All USYSA Sanctioned State Association (hereafter known as SSA) (with its national affiliate), RI Interscholastic League, and EWGYSA guidelines will be adhered to for administration of the developmental and competitive programs. (See [www.soccer-ri.com](http://www.soccer-ri.com) and/or [www.riil.org](http://www.riil.org)).

- EWGYSA's Recreation Program is affiliated with EWGYSA's Developmental/Competitive Program; however, it is managed separately.
- Assuming enough player interest, EWGYSA will participate in the U8 and U10 Developmental Program and the U12 through U19 Competitive Program. Where possible, teams will be separated by gender, but if player interest is limited, co-ed teams may be formed which would participate in the boys' division.
- EWGYSA endorses and recommends that each Developmental/Competitive Team participate in at least one tournament per season.
- EWGYSA's policy is to grant transfers to other soccer associations to allow a player the opportunity to play where he/she wishes unless it violates SSA rules. Transfers will be approved and documented by the Developmental/Competitive Director and/or Coordinator in conjunction with the governing soccer bodies for the State of Rhode Island (ex. Soccer Rhode Island, SuperLiga). Transfers (temporary/permanent) must be initiated by the parent / guardian of the transferring player, assuming the player is under the age of majority, and submitted to EWGYSA pursuant to the requirements set forth by the governing soccer bodies for the State of Rhode Island.

## **DEVELOPMENTAL/COMPETITIVE PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

The Developmental/Competitive Program Director ("Director") is responsible to administer EWGYSA's Developmental/Competitive program within SSA and EWGYSA guidelines. This individual may act on behalf of the Executive Committee ("EC") and is required to report and advise the EC of any actions taken with minutes being taken at any EC or Board meeting documenting such decisions and actions by the Director.

## **DEVELOPMENTAL/COMPETITIVE COORDINATOR**

The Developmental/Competitive Coordinator ("Coordinator") will carry out administrative matters relative to EWGYSA's Developmental/Competitive program in accordance with appropriate guidelines and in cooperation with the Director. The Coordinator is EWGYSA's point of contact with the SSA Registrar.

## **COACHES**

- Adults with an interest in coaching a EWGYSA Developmental and/or Competitive team will present their interest by completion of an application which sets forth the desired age/gender of the preferred team along with a summary of their coaching

credentials and qualifications. Developmental/ Competitive coaches from the preceding season will receive notification from the Director that coach selections will be made for the following Developmental/Competitive season which runs from August 1 through July 31. Other parents within the EWGYSA Recreational and Developmental/Programs will also be notified of the opportunity to coach a EWGYSA Developmental/Competitive team and the application requirements for such positions. Application information may also be posted on the EWGYSA website and Facebook pages. Each interested individual must submit a completed EWGYSA Developmental/Competitive Coach's Application and forward it to the Director by an established due date.

- The Director will present the coaching applications to the EC at a meeting prior to the tryout. The EC will then select the head coach for each age and gender for which EWGYSA is forming a Developmental/Competitive team. It is possible that the EC may recommend assignment to an age and gender group not identified as a preference on the coach's application. Upon selection, the Director will contact each applicant for that age and gender group to inform him/her of the selection. The EC may recommend an assistant coach to the selected head coach.
- From time to time, EWGYSA may partner with an outside organization to provide coaches for EWGYSA Developmental/Competitive teams. Said coaches may be paid individuals with said costs either being borne by the players on the team, EWGYSA, or some combination thereof, at the discretion of the EC. As with volunteer coaches, these outside coaches will be required to comply with EWGYSA policies and regulations and will be subject to the same disciplinary procedures for violations of same.
- All coaches will be required to undergo and pass a background check to ensure the safety of the players participating in the EWGYSA Developmental/Competitive program. Any coach who refuses to undergo a background check or does not receive an approved rating, or equivalent thereof, will be barred from coaching.
- The EC may also discipline or entirely release a coach from his/her coaching duties whenever administrative requirements are not satisfied, or applicable rules, regulations, or policies are not followed, or when conduct is unacceptable or otherwise detrimental to EWGYSA.. Unacceptable conduct may include, but is not limited to, intimidation, cursing, harassment, an act resulting in the imposition of a fine, playing a non-rostered player, dishonesty, etc. The Director is responsible to keep the EC informed of issues of this nature.
- In the event that circumstances arise which require potential discipline of a coach, the EC will conduct a meeting to address the situation in greater detail and the coach at issue will be given the opportunity to appear before the EC prior to a final decision.

- No interested party may establish a Developmental/Competitive team without filing the application to coach and receiving subsequent approval of the EC.
- Once Developmental/Competitive teams are formed and rosters are completed, any change in a team's roster must be reviewed and approved by the Director and/or Coordinator.
- Coaches will advise of their preferred level of play (i.e. the division) for which their team will participate in the upcoming season(s), in compliance with any regulations set forth by the governing soccer bodies of the State of Rhode Island. However, the Director/Coordinator reserves the right to reject this preference and enter the team in a different division if circumstances so dictate. In the event that a different division is being contemplated by the Director/Coordinator other than the preferred division requested by the coach, the Director/Coordinator will consult with the coach to determine which division is most appropriate, but ultimately, the division placement will be decided by the Director/Coordinator. It should be noted that EWGYSA recommends challenging players to aspire and grow by placing teams in divisions where competing talent is comparable or above that of the EWGYSA team.
- The approved coach must work with the Director and Coordinator to establish rosters and complete all administrative paperwork for each season and any tournaments for which the team intends to participate.
- The EC will appoint a new head coach if the originally appointed coach cannot complete his/her coaching duties.

## **TEAM CREATION**

- All Developmental/Competitive players from the prior season will be notified of registration/tryout dates for the next season. All Recreational players will also be notified of the registration/tryout dates for the next Developmental/Competitive season so as to afford the opportunity for any interested player to participate in tryouts for the Developmental/Competitive program.
- Players will be assigned to a U8 – U19 team based on the following criteria: Registration, preferably online, will be completed and fee paid prior to tryouts for the upcoming Developmental/Competitive season. All are welcome to attend and participate in tryouts. All participants planning to play in the upcoming Developmental/Competitive season must attend a tryout session. Presently, two tryout sessions at each age division are offered in June, though attendance is only required at one session. However, participation in both tryout sessions is recommended, as the

highest score received at the two tryout sessions governs. The participant's skills will be rated/evaluated and a score assigned by an evaluator. This score will be used to place the player in the rating pool for the appropriate age and gender group. It is not guaranteed that this score, once it is included in the rating pool, will ensure a roster position. If a player does not participate in tryouts, he/she will be placed on a wait list unless roster space is available on the lowest tiered team in that particular age/gender, subject to approval by the coach of that team and approval by the Director and/or Coordinator.

- EWGYSA reserves the right to eliminate tryouts at certain age groups and/or gender due to a lack of player participation. In those situations, if EWGYSA is fielding a team, the Director and/or Coordinator will work in conjunction with the assigned coach to hand select those players for that team based upon the skills of the interested players.
- EWGYSA reserves the right to form co-ed teams at various age groups if participation levels are not sufficient to create one gender teams. All co-ed teams will be required to participate in the boys' divisions. Parents of players will be given the option of declining participation in a co-ed team.
- Tryouts will be held in June for age groups U8 through U19 Boys and Girls, subject to the caveats set forth above where EWGYSA may opt to eliminate tryouts at certain age groups or gender due to lower player participation numbers. A U6 player may attend the tryout for placement in the U8 age group, but no players below U6 will be permitted to tryout without prior approval from the EC. (See "Challenging Up" below)
- Players will be evaluated at tryouts by individuals selected by EWGYSA to assess the skills and talents demonstrated by those participating players. It is the intent of EWGYSA to provide all players with a fair opportunity to qualify for a Developmental/Competitive team so evaluations will be as neutral based as possible. Participating players are prohibited from wearing any attire which identifies that player by name (i.e. no competitive jerseys with last names on the back are permitted). Further, at the discretion of EWGYSA, tryouts will consist of players being assigned numbers which will be worn during any tryout session so that the evaluation process is as "blind" as possible as to the player's identity.
- Evaluators shall score the participating players based upon criteria established in advance of tryouts by EWGYSA and the Director/Coordinator. Each player will receive a separate score from every tryout that player attends. The lowest score from the multiple tryouts will be the governing number for consideration of selection to a Developmental/Competitive team, with all higher evaluation scores being dropped from consideration.

- Upon the completion of all tryouts, players will be ranked based upon their respective tryout scores within the appropriate age/gender. Players that score in the top third of those participating in the tryouts will be eligible for consideration for the top flight team (Academy included). Coaches will then select their roster from those players who fall within the top third of the evaluations, regardless of a player's specific ranking within that top third. Coaches for U12+ teams will also be afforded three (3) "wild card" selections to fill out their roster. These selections can be from ANY of the players who participated in the tryouts at that particular age/gender, regardless of that player's tryout score. This is intended to allow coaches to select goalkeepers, other positional players needed for the roster, players that failed to perform at tryouts for whatever reason (ex. illness), and/or an assistant coaches child. Coaches at the U10 level will be afforded one (1) "wild card" player selection from the pool of players trying out at that age/gender. No "wild card" selections are available to U8 coaches, as team selections at that age will be purely on ratings. Players that score in the bottom quarter of the tryout for a particular age/gender are not required to be placed on the top level Developmental/Competitive team (i.e. the "A" team) for a particular age/gender and are assigned to the top flight team only at the discretion of that team's coach in conjunction with oversight by the Director. However, players scoring in the bottom quarter of a given tryout pool for a specific age/gender shall be assigned to non-top level teams (i.e. the "B" or "C" teams) if roster space allows for their placement.
  - *EXAMPLE:* If 60 U12 Boys tryout for a team, the top third would consist of 20 players. Assuming the maximum 14 player roster is desired, the coach could select ANY 11 players from this group of 20 within the top third. The coach is NOT required to take the top 11 but can take any 11 from this group of 20. Then, the coach would use his three wildcard selections to choose ANY three other players from the entire 60 player tryout pool. Once the roster for the first team is created, any subsequent team would operate under the same scenario with a new "top third" governing after the first 14 players are placed on the first team. This scenario would continue for as many teams as can be formed, assuming coaches are found for said teams, to complete multiple competitive teams based upon the number of interested players. Note, though, that only the top flight team is permitted to eliminate the bottom quarter of evaluated players from consideration so bottom quarter scoring players should be allotted to teams if roster space permits.
  - *EXAMPLE:* If 27 U12 Boys players tryout for the team and again assuming the coach desires a 14 player roster, the consideration pool would consist of the top 9 players (top third). ALL of these players automatically make the team. Thereafter, the coach would select any 2 players from the second third



of players in the tryout pool (i.e. players ranked 10-18), regardless of the players' ranking within that second third, bringing the roster to 11 players. Then, the coach would use his three wildcard selections from the entire 27 player pool to complete the 14 player roster.

- *EXAMPLE:* If only 12 U12 Boys players tryout for the team, assuming the same 14 player roster, the coach is required to take the top third from the tryout evaluations (4 players). The coach would then be required to take all of the second third players (4 more players). Thereafter, the coach would be required to take the top scoring player in the bottom third (i.e. 9<sup>th</sup> highest scoring player) because that player is not in the bottom quarter. However, for the top flight team (i.e. the "A" team), the coach is NOT required to select the last three players in the bottom quarter of the tryout pool. The coach may elect to take some/all of those bottom quarter players but is not required to do so. This leaves the team with a roster of 9 players, allowing the coach to fill the roster by either adding those players from the bottom quarter and/or finding non-tryout players to join the team. This protects the integrity of the skill level of the team so that a top flight team is not forced to select a player for the roster that may not be ready for that level of competition simply because the player tried out and there weren't enough players participating in the tryouts. This provision does not apply, though, to non-top flight teams (i.e. "B" and "C" teams) so that if the above scenario pertained to a second U12 team being formed, this "B" team would be required to take all three of the players scoring in the bottom quarter before it could recruit non-tryout players for the roster.
- 6/2015 EWGYSA has partnered with the New England Revolution to create two pilot "Academy" teams at the U10 Boys and U12 Boys levels. Until EWGYSA determines otherwise, these teams will be formed under the same guidelines set forth herein with a slight exception. Teams will be created based upon the tryout score in the order of the player's ranking, though three wildcard selections will be permitted at the discretion of the Director and assigned Revolution coach. Thus, the top 11 highest scoring players will be offered an invitation to join this Academy squad, along with three other wildcard selections from the entirety of the tryout pool at that particular age/gender. As participation in the Academy program requires an increased time and financial commitment in both the fall and spring seasons, players who make the Academy teams in these age groups will be offered the option of participating in the pilot program. If an invited player is willing to make the time and financial commitment to the team, he will be added to the roster. If he is not, he will be dropped to the next tiered team at that age group the next highest scoring player from the tryout pool will be extended the

invitation instead until the roster is filled with the number of players desired by the Coach in conjunction with the Director.

- A coach must select a minimum of three (3) less than the maximum roster from those players who registered on time and have been rated/evaluated in the tryout for that particular age group and gender (see also above criteria). At the discretion of the Director, depending on the number of participating player at tryouts, the coach of a U16+ team may, by the date established by the SSA for official submission of a team roster, select additional players to fill a roster. No coach in any age group is required to roster to the maximum number. It may also be determined that another team be formed at a particular age group/gender, and in which case, the minimum roster size may be adjusted at the discretion of the Director. Regardless, it is EWGYSA's intent to distribute players based on the tryout evaluations. If multiple teams are formed at the same age/gender, in consultation with the Director as per the divisional placement policies set forth above, it is anticipated that the "first" team would be placed in a higher skilled division than the "second" team whenever possible and appropriate. It is the desire of EWGYSA to provide as many players the opportunity to be on a Developmental/Competitive roster.
- Players will be assigned to a team in the appropriate age group and gender unless otherwise specified by the player's parent, subject to any approval that might be required by the EC.
- Players in younger age groups may opt to "challenge up" to an older age group. However, no player shall be permitted to challenge up two age groups, if such challenging up results in that player skipping an entire age group (ex. U8 player challenging up to U12, skipping participation at U10). Players desiring to challenge up must have played at least one year at their correct, lower age group. If a player desires to challenge up to an older age group, the player must tryout with that older age group to secure a tryout score among those older peers. If the challenging up player does not make ANY team at the older age group, in order for that player to play on his normal, lower age group team, the player must ALSO tryout at the younger age group to secure a tryout score at the lower, age-correct division. Further, prior to participation in any tryouts, the player must declare his/her preference for age group with that preference governing the selection process. For example, if a U10 player wishes to challenge up to U12 and declares U12 as his/her first preference, then the U10 player MUST play U12 regardless of which U12 team that player makes. The player does not have the option of declining assignment to the U12 "C" team, for instance, to play on the U10 "A" team. However, if the challenging up player does not make any U12 team (i.e. he/she is "cut"), then the player has the option of playing at the lower, age-correct group,

PROVIDED THAT the player also tried out at that lower age-correct group. The above policies also apply to gender, with girls interested in trying out for boys' teams being required to declare their first preference, while also being required to try out for the girls' team as well, in the event that they are "cut" from the boys team and wish to slide over to the girls' team if they do not make the boys' team..

- The Director will confidentially maintain the tryout evaluation results for all players until the conclusion of that Developmental/Competitive season.
- Because SSA and Interscholastic League Guidelines (See [www.soccer-ri.com](http://www.soccer-ri.com) and/or [www.riil.org](http://www.riil.org)) dictate some U16+ teams' structure, the following criteria will also be followed: High school students who play Junior Varsity (JV) or Varsity (V) soccer will be placed on U16+ teams where space is available. High school students who do not play JV or V soccer may be assigned to the appropriate age and gender groups. It may be required that an age mix may be necessary for these teams to participate in the Competitive Program. Only in unusual circumstances may the EC be petitioned to approve any other placement.

## **FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

ALL players will be assessed a **\$60.00** EWGYSA registration fee at or before the commencement of evaluations/tryouts for each upcoming year. This fee is non-refundable unless a player does not make any Developmental/Competitive team or a team is not ultimately formed at that age group or gender, whereupon the non-evaluation portion of the registration fee will be refunded upon request. Note that this is not a "tryout" fee but is a registration fee that must be paid by all players, regardless of whether they participated in tryouts. If a player participates in the tryouts process and is not selected for a team, a portion of the registration fee can be refunded. This fee is subject to change at the discretion of EWGYSA.

### **RELATED TEAM FEES:**

- SSA League Team Registration fee. (Mandatory)
- Referee(s) fees for the season. (Mandatory)
- Uniforms. (Mandatory)
- Participation in tournaments. (Optional)
- Patches for tournaments. (Mandatory for Patch Tournaments)
- Participation in indoor soccer (Optional but highly recommended)

NOTE: The official SSA soccer program year begins on August 1 and ends on July 31.

COACHES: Each coach is responsible to manage the administrative and financial particulars related to their team's participation in various elements of the Developmental/Competitive program.

## **UNIFORMS**

- Developmental and Competitive teams will wear the colors (red/black and gray/white, Academy Teams wear Black) of EWGYSA. The EWGYSA logo will be visible on all uniforms. All uniforms will conform to the SSA regulations/guidelines.
- U8 through U19 teams will wear the uniform selected by the EC.
- The Director will arrange (with EC approval) a vendor, date, place, and time to size and order uniforms for all teams. It will be the responsibility of the Director to inform all coaches of the arrangement, and it will be the responsibility of each coach to have all team players' orders for their uniforms at that time.

## **GENERAL RULES, REGULATIONS & GUIDELINES**

- All participants (players, coaches, and spectators) will exhibit exemplary sportsmanship and refrain from confrontation. These are priorities of our association.
- Drivers should be cautious when entering and leaving the parking area as children do not always pay attention. All drivers are expected to follow the directional signs at the fields regarding the flow of traffic on the premises.
- When entering/exiting the fields from the parking lot, for safety reasons, players/spectators should use the pathway through the woods and not the road by the gate.
- Pets are not allowed in the soccer complex or on the fields.
- Tobacco and/or alcohol are not allowed on the fields, parking lot, or surrounding grounds.
- In order to protect property, there shall be no hanging from goals, digging up of the fields, or any other malicious activities.
- Players and coaches should be on one side of the field and spectators on the other side.
- No one will view any game at the goal ends of the field.

## **GUIDELINES FOR PLAYERS**

Playing on a competitive team requires a higher level of commitment than that of the Recreational Program. Since the main goal of the EWGYSA Developmental / Competitive Soccer Program is to foster and improve upon the skills of all participants, players who desire to participate and are selected to any team are expected to maintain an appropriate level of effort and commitment. Outside activities that prevent players from attending regular practices and games disrupts the intent of the program and is unfair to the coaching staff and team players. In fairness to all EWG Developmental / Competitive Teams and to ensure the integrity of the program, the following guidelines apply:

- Players will respect and abide by the rules of the game.
- Players are expected to maintain an appropriate level of effort and commitment.
- Players should attend and participate in all practices and games.
- Players must inform the coach of any practice or game that he/she will be late or miss.
- Players will be required to remain with the team and coach throughout the duration of the game unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- Players injured during a game must either kneel down or sit/lay on the field before the referee may blow his/her whistle to stop play.
- Players and parents are required to sign a Developmental/Competitive form acknowledging that both the player and the parent have received and read the document regarding the expectations of them with respect to participation in the Developmental/Competitive program.

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR COACHES**

All coaches of EWGYSA shall be required to:

- Be certified / licensed by the SSA to coach the assigned age group, if required. The Association will share the cost upon presentation of the appropriate course completion certificate at the following rate: one-third of the cost for a D-license or higher-level certification course and full payment for all other certification courses.
- Attend the team formation meeting or send a representative.
- Conduct themselves in a professional manner.
- Endorse and display good decorum at all times.

- Discourage the concept that winning is the only worthwhile result and encourage players to do their best for the entire game, regardless of the outcome.
- Convey to the players and parents the EWGYSA Rules & Regulations for the Developmental/Competitive Program either by handout or direct them to the EWGYSA website.
- Comply with Association and SSA fees.
- Complete, at the first meeting for Developmental/Competitive Coaches, a Risk Management Form, if required, authorizing a background check prior to assuming control of a team or authorize such background check by a means approved by the state governing body (ex. background check through Got Soccer). Any issue that surfaces as a result of the background check will be administered by the Director and adjudicated by the Executive Committee in an executive session. EWGYSA reserves the right to remove a coach from his/her position for detrimental conduct that arises after an approved background check has been obtained.
- Notify each player by the end of July of their status with the team.
- Notify the Director when sitting a player out for a game for disciplinary action.
- Implement the 50% playing rule for U-10 age groups and below.
- During ‘Tournament Play / Indoor Session’ coaches must ask all members of their team to participate in the tournament, where possible. Because of limits in game roster formats, coaches should give preference to the non-selected players for the next tournament. Coaches must ask all rostered players on their team to participate in a tournament before asking a guest player to participate.

## **GUIDELINES FOR COACHES**

- Coaches will manage practice. Length of practice should coincide with age group of players. Coaches cannot require players to attend more than two practices per week.
- It is strongly recommended that each coach establish a system to manage finances/administrative requirements for the team prior to and during the season. It is suggested that each coach recruit an adult to manage money and assist with administrative matters.
- Any policy that requires a player to miss a game, other than for disciplinary action, shall be as equitable as possible.
- Coaches should ensure that their team leaves no debris, clothing, or equipment after all games, whether home or away.

- Coaches should make a determination as to when practices are cancelled and how the information is communicated.
- Game cancellations will be in accordance with SSA guidelines.
- Coaches must provide input or information to the Association through written suggestion or by speaking to an Executive Committee member.
- Coaches must explain EWGYSA's policies to parents. Coaches should also direct the parent to a committee member or refer to them to the EWGYSA website – [www.EWGSoccer.org](http://www.EWGSoccer.org).
- Coaches must attend age specific training conducted and/or endorsed by the SSA, if required. A copy of the certificate and a request for reimbursement must be submitted to the EC for consideration.
- Coaches may receive local training through various opportunities coordinated by EWGYSA.
- Coaches are responsible for setting up the goals and flags if their team is scheduled for the first game at EWGYSA. Likewise, coaches are responsible for removing the goals and flags if theirs is the last game scheduled.
- Coaches shall counsel players when it is perceived that unsportsmanlike conduct is exhibited.
- Coaches and players will shake hands of the opposing team at the end of the game and with the referees, if appropriate.
- All coaches are required to notify the Developmental/Competitive Director of all known injuries requiring visits to the doctor's office, emergency room, or hospital. Concussion protocols must also be followed, as required by the governing soccer body for the State of Rhode Island. All Association players and coaches are insured for injury.

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR REFEREES**

- Referees will abide by United States Soccer Federation, SSA, RISA, and EWGYSA Rules of Play.
- Referees must arrive thirty minutes prior to the game and should inspect the field to ensure that no hazards exist and that the goals are properly anchored before commencing play. Referees will inspect the players and their equipment 15 minutes prior to the start of the game. Late comers must be inspected before they are allowed to participate in the game at the referee's next opportunity.

- Referees will wear the proper uniform, shirt tucked into shorts, and conduct themselves in a professional manner.
- Referees must also have a whistle, stop watch, and pens. Referees must have red and yellow cards and, if applicable, flags. The cards should be kept in the pocket. Flags are required only if an assistant referee is needed to work the lines.
- Referees should refuse to discuss any call with spectators. They should always remain non-confrontational.

## **REFERREE ASSIGNMENT RULES**

The Referee Coordinator manages the assignment of referees for Developmental/Competitive games in accordance with SSA Guidelines:

- Criteria used to determine assignments are as follows:
  - Level of grade attained.
  - Displayed professionalism.
  - Appraisals/Evaluations
  - Effectiveness in handling situations.
  - Displayed maturity.
- Dependability – Refusal or unexcused absence to referee a game(s) will require the Referee Coordinator to reassess the future assignment of games to the referee. It is the responsibility of the referee to insure his/her availability when accepting assignments. Referees who repeatedly refuse assignments will not be given priority when assigning games. Each referee must earn the privilege to be assigned a game to officiate.

## **TOURNAMENT PLAY**

- Tournament play includes any organized play, including indoor winter sessions at any venue outside of any Developmental/Competitive league game that EWGYSA participates in. All applicable EWGYSA rules and regulations shall apply to tournament play and the indoor winter sessions.
- The guidelines that follow are intended to facilitate the preparation for a team to participate in a tournament. Experience has taught that this process is successful as long as there is a coordinated and timely effort.
- The Director and Coordinator will work together to assure all rules that apply are



followed. This will include the SSA, EWGYSA, and tournament rules regarding roster size, number of players, age and gender, and the number of guest players allowed. The Coordinator and Director will also inform coaches of available tournaments where the information is readily available. The Coordinator will supply the coaches with three copies of the roster, unless previous alternative arrangements where both parties agree have been made.

- The coach's responsibilities will be to follow rules and guidelines for tournament play. They will need to submit travel forms to the Coordinator and/or fill out "E-Travel" forms provided by the SSA website in a timely manner. **Initial team rosters must be submitted 30 days before the tournament. No team roster changes shall be permitted 15 days before the tournament.** Coaches shall submit player names and/or player ID numbers to the Coordinator for entry into a database and assignment to teams. Coaches shall acquire and submit any signed releases needed for guest players.
- Coaches failing to submit required tournament information to the Coordinator in a timely manner may be assessed a fine(s) by the SSA and/or EWGYSA Executive Committee. Any applicable fines shall be paid by the coach and shall not be passed on to the players.
- Coaches shall manage any and all fees associated with the tournament and submit their team's application and any other required forms to the tournament director.
- The coach shall assure all players are registered and insured for play at the venue being utilized for the tournament. Coaches shall invite all players from their approved spring roster before inviting guest players to join the team for indoor soccer and any tournaments. Coaches seeking to invite guest players to join their team for indoor soccer and/or a particular tournament shall coordinate and communicate with that player's usual head coach within EWGYSA before inviting the player.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

- EWGYSA's Developmental/Competitive Rules and Regulations constitute EWGYSA's Developmental/Competitive Program Management. The procedures contained herein supplement that document.
- Registration Period: Tryouts will occur sometime between late May and early July with online registration being available for the weeks leading up to the selected tryout dates. All forms and fees shall be completed online or given to the Director.
- Registration Data Management: The Competitive Director will provide the Registrar with all Registration Forms to input player information into the Association's database.

The Registrar will provide, by age group and gender a list of registered players for the upcoming tryout.

- Tryout Day: Any player registering the day of the tryout will have his/her form and fee given to the Competitive Director or designated representative for inclusion on the appropriate age/gender group scoring sheet. The Registration Form information will be input to the database and added to the list of eligible players for the appropriate coach to select from.
- Selection of Coaches: Before the scheduled tryouts, the Executive Committee during an Executive Session will select coaches.
- Coaches' Meeting Preparation: After the Executive Committee meeting the Competitive Director will forward the names of selected coaches to the Registrar for input into the database. The Registrar will download all applicable age/gender group data (Name, DOB, Score, Gender, Jersey #, Phone #, Address, Pass #, Waiver Requests, Remarks Column) into an Excel document applicable for each selected coach and forward it to the Competitive Coordinator. The Registrar will list only those players who have registered by the tryout date (timely registered). After receipt of these documents the Competitive Coordinator will schedule a coaches' meeting as soon as possible.
- The Coordinator will provide the Director with a copy of each document.
- Coaches' Meeting: The Director will give the applicable document(s) to the coaches for them to make team roster selections as set forth in greater detail above. The Director will explain the meaning of data on the listing paying particular attention to waiver requests (see Developmental/Competitive Rules and Regulations). Coaches are responsible to coordinate with other coaches and contact selected players for assignment.
- Team Formation: After the coach completes player selections, he/she will submit a roster to the Coordinator. The Coordinator will assign the jersey number for each player who does not have one. If a coach does not have enough roster players, he/she will contact the Director for a late registration listing and/or age group/gender information.
- Passes/Jerseys/Insurance: The Coordinator will assign pass numbers to those players who do not possess one and inform the Registrar of that information as well as the jersey number assigned. The Registrar will update that database and forward the list of to-be-insured players to the SSA with a check from the Treasurer.
- Late Registrations: Forms and fees will be given to the Coordinator who will forward the form to the Registrar, send the fee to the Treasurer, and email the Registrar with

updated information. Any player who registered after the tryout date will be placed on an alternate list, unless roster space is available on the lowest tiered team in a particular age group. A coach may not select a player from the alternate list until all timely registered players have been assigned, except as otherwise set forth above.

- Evaluations: The Coordinator will email/mail evaluation forms to each coach two to three weeks before the end of the season. Tryout criteria will be used. Each coach will return the forms to the Coordinator by the last week of the season. The evaluations will be sent to the Registrar for inclusion in the Association's database for use in the next Developmental / Competitive Season.
- The Competitive Director will provide a complete set of rules for the Developmental/Competitive program in a timely manner upon request.

### **TRYOUT REQUIREMENTS FOR EWGYSA "STRIKERS"**

- You must attend a tryout session to be held on **the dates specified by EWGYSA, presently scheduled to occur in June of the prior competitive year**. Please bring a ball, shin pads & water to the tryout. Please do not wear any competitive team uniform (jersey or shorts). Your skills will be rated/evaluated and a score assigned by an evaluator. This score will be used to place you in the rating pool for the appropriate age and gender group. If you don't show for a tryout, you will be placed on a waiting list and may be assigned to a team subject to a coach's selection in accordance with EWGYSA Rules and Regulations for the Developmental/Competitive Program.
- Tryouts will be held for age groups U8 through U19, boys and girls, though on occasion, due to a lack of participants, EWGYSA reserves the right to eliminate tryouts at certain age groups, as set forth in greater detail above. More than one team may be formed; it is the intent to distribute players based on the rating pool. Any player with a birth date not falling within an age group may not be assigned to a team in an older age group unless a waiver is requested and granted in accordance with EWGYSA Rules and Regulations for the Developmental/ Competitive Program by the Executive Committee.
- Your parent/guardian may request on the Developmental/Competitive Registration Form that you play in an older age group. Please see the EWG Developmental/Competitive Rules and Regulations for details regarding "challenging up" to an older age group. The Director will maintain the rating pool documents until the season is over. Your parent/guardian may call the Competitive Director to answer any questions.

- A coach may select any player(s) from the rating pool to complete a roster, as set forth in the selection criteria noted above. No coach is required to roster to the maximum number. If the rating pool exceeds maximum roster size then the minimum team roster for U8 will be 10 players, U10 will be 16 players, U12 will be 18 players, and U14 will be 20 players. However it is the desire of the Association to provide as many players the opportunity to be on a roster.
- A player who does not register on time or does not attend a tryout will be placed on an alternate list for assignment to a team. It is left to the discretion of the team coach, with the approval of the Director, to select a player from the waiting list only after team creation criteria have been satisfied.