

# **Elite Tryout and Teaming Policy**

All players shall tryout with their respective age group.

The teaming committee, (Director-of-Travel, Director-of-Coaches and President) shall make the final decision regarding the team age groups. This decision shall be made promptly after the tryout sign-ups. All players shall tryout for the appropriate teams as determined by the teaming committee.

The teams shall be filled from the lowest age group first. Thus the U9 team shall be filled first, then U10, U11 etc.

All players shall play in their respective age group except with the following exception.

- A player will be allowed to play up an age level if the following criterion is met.
  - The older age group has room available on the roster; a younger player shall not take the roster spot of an older player who is playing in their respective age group no matter the talent level of the players involved.
  - The team for the player's appropriate age group will have at least half of the maximum number of substitutes allowed by the state roster if the player leaves.
  
- Example: a U10 player may play in the U11 division if the following criteria are met.
  - The U11 team has room on its 14 person roster.
  - The U10 team will still have at least 8 players on the roster (2 substitutes which is half of the maximum 4 substitutes allowed by the state roster)

Boys shall not play on a girl's team. Girls are allowed to play on a boy's team if there is not a team in her age group or a team a year older for her to move up to. If both of these criteria are met, the girl will be allowed to attend the boy's tryout for her respective age group. The coach will select the team on talent alone; sex shall not be a factor in the team selection.

A coed team may be formed if there are not enough girls or boys to form their own team. If there are enough girls to form a team, but not enough boys to form a team the boys will have to tryout for an older boy's team and the girl's team will be formed.

The team coaches will make the team selection; the teaming committee will approve all selections before the players are notified of making the team. The teaming committee has the authority to override a selection made by the coach.

The players on the oldest teams will be notified first. If there is room for a player to move up to the next age level, the coach of the team the player tried out for will ask (during the notification that the player has made the team) if they desire to play on the older team. The player must make this decision at the time of the notification. If the

player desires to move up and the criteria above are met, then the player will be allowed to move up. If only two roster spots are available on the older team, and three players or more desire to move up, the coach of the older team will select which two players will be allowed to move up. **The decision to move up must be made at the time of the notification. Once the decision is made the decision will stand for the rest of the year.**

If cuts are required during tryouts, the players who are cut will be offered the opportunity to be an alternate. Alternates are allowed to practice with the team. The alternate shall be allowed to attend any *league* game in the place of a missing player. If a roster player will be missing for a tournament it will be up to the team coach to decide whether to invite the alternate player to the tournament as a guest player. In summary, if a roster spot is available during a league game the coach must invite the alternate to participate in the game. However the coach does not have to invite the alternate to tournament. The alternates will pay the club on a game by game basis. Alternates must purchase a uniform. Alternates will be ranked by ability by the team coach after the tryout. The alternate with the highest rank will always be asked to guest player first. If the first alternate cannot attend, then the second ranked alternate will be asked next, and so on.

**U9 and U10 players shall not have an official tryout. All U9 and U10 players shall be placed on a team. If more players want to participate than allowed on a roster the teaming committee will create a fair policy to equalize the number of games offered to each player. The fees will be adjusted accordingly.**

No player can change teams during the year.

### **Adding players during the traveling year:**

If a team has less than half of the maximum number of substitutes allowed by the state after the teams are officially formed on August 1<sup>st</sup> additional players may be added until the half of the maximum number of substitutes is met. These spots will be filled on a first come first serve basis. Once this level is met no additional players may be added to the team for the duration of the year.

If a team loses a player during the course of the year, this player will not be replaced unless the number of substitutes on the roster falls below half of the maximum number of substitutes allowed. The roster spot will be filled on a first come first serve basis. If more than one player is interested, a try-out will be held to fill the spot. Only the roster spot vacated shall be filled.

### **Optional/Small Sided Tournament Team Selection Policy:**

For any optional tournaments, or small sided tournament, which requires a state approved roster, ISA player passes, or where the Elite team name will be used or the team uniform worn the following teaming policy shall be followed.

For tournaments where the roster sizes would require a team to be split into more than one team (i.e. 6v6 tournaments, and optional winter tournaments), players will be assigned to teams based on skill level, with the highest skilled players being grouped together. If only one team can be formed, the sole team will be selected by skill level. The head coach will have the responsibility to select the team/s.

The coach must send out a request to all rostered players at least one week in advance of selecting the teams (this must be done before registering for the tournament) asking which players would like to participate. The coach shall take as many teams as possible. The coach cannot leave players home in order to form one super team in lieu of taking two teams. The minimum roster size shall be based on the tournament minimum roster size. The number of players on each team shall be split evenly. If there are an odd number of players who want to attend, the head coach will decide which team gets the extra player.

# **ELITE Competitive Play Policy for U11 and Older**

It is ELITE Board policy that all tournaments are to be played at a competitive (vs. league) level.

This means that at tournaments, coaches are directed by the board to “Play to Win.”

What this entails is that the U11 coaches and older, at their discretion and honest assessment will play the players in the positions where they are currently excelling or where they are needed by the team. Coaches will also decide playing time per player given where that player is at in their current development and need for the team. This means that playing time will not be equal among all players, especially during Championship games.

If this becomes a concern for you as a parent, please discuss with your coach what skills your child should be working on to improve and to possibly earn more playing time. (U10 teams play for “Participation” and not in the Competitive brackets. For all U10 teams and younger, all attempts will be made to even out playing time over the course of the games.)

It is also ELITE Board policy that all IPSL and ICCR regional league games are to be used as player development for our tournament teams. This is where coaches will try to even out play time, sometimes over the course of a few games. This may be affected by a player’s practice attendance record.

During League games, coaches will practice players in their tournament positions, but will also choose and encourage players to play in newer positions. It is important for every player to understand the full range of the field and all of its positions.

\*\*\*Remember that EVERY position on a soccer field is as important as the next. It takes an entire team, acting correctly in their positions, to move a ball up the field to score goals. AND it takes an entire team to protect and possess the ball to defend their own goal from being scored against.\*\*\*

## **ELITE School Policy**

It will be ELITE and Coach policy to put School Functions first.

If a player has a SCHOOL sport or function (band, orchestra, vocal, academic competitions ...) they are allowed to miss practices if necessary.

If players have other activities outside of school, such as dance, travel sports teams, Little League..., it is up to the discretion of the coach regarding the missing of practices.

\* Players are expected, however, to make all games; IPSL, ICCR and Tournaments.\*

## **ELITE Alternate Program**

The Burlington Area Soccer Club has decided to allow the use of alternates in the Elite Program.

What does this mean?

- You will be able to practice with the current Elite team.
- If there is an opening for an IPSL game (a player is sick, etc.) you will be invited to participate. We will always take a full roster to IPSL games.
- If there is an opening for a tournament you may be invited at the coach's discretion. We may not take a full roster to tournaments.

If there is more than one alternate for a team, the alternates will be ranked according to ability by the coach at the beginning of the year. The number one alternate will always be asked to participate first, if alternate number one cannot participate in the game, then alternate two will be asked, if alternate two cannot participate then alternate three will be asked, and on down the line.

To be an alternate you will need to pay an initial \$90 fee for the player pass and uniform. If you participate in an IPSL game you will be required to pay \$10 per game. If you participate in a tournament you will be required to pay \$30 per tournament.

We encourage each alternate to also participate in the BASC/YMCA rec-league since we cannot *guarantee* that your son/daughter will be able to participate in any games.

The BASC feels that if a player wants to be exposed to traveling soccer than we should provide the opportunity. Add to the fact that as the teams get older and roster sizes increase we will need new players to fill out the teams. Therefore it is important that we train new players now, not later.