

Ludlow Youth Soccer Association Policies



NUMBER OF PLAYERS TO BE PLACED ON EACH TEAM U9 – U19

GOAL: To minimize the number of players that would have to be cut due to lack of space on a team.

Under 9 – 10 Minimum number per team 10

Under 11 – 19 Minimum number per team 13

- The first team coach will be allowed to choose whatever number of players they desire as long as ALL players who have signed up can be placed on an appropriate team.
- If, after all other attempts by the Board of Directors at placing the players have failed, the first team will be required to take the maximum number of players.

Original: 6/11/97
Revised: 3/9/05

SELECTION OF PRACTICE FIELDS

GOAL: To provide the fair distribution of practice fields and times to all Ludlow Soccer Teams; LYSA, Jr. Pioneers and Ludlow Independent teams.

- LYSA shall be the scheduler for the practice times at Ludlow Soccer fields in accordance with the Recreation Commission wishes.
- LYSA will conduct a lottery to insure that all teams have an equal opportunity to select practice fields.
- For a team to be placed into the lottery they must be:
 1. An LYSA team; or,
 2. A Jr. Pioneers; or,
 3. An independent Ludlow Team who has submitted a roster that complies with the Recreation Commissions 80% residency rule; and,
 4. Free of debts owed to LYSA.
- The Lottery will be conducted at a meeting called by the Board of Directors prior to the start of each season. The coaches of LYSA teams will be notified by the Board of Directors. The Parks and Recreation Commission will be responsible for notifying eligible independent teams. The coach or designated representative must be present to participate in the lottery and field picks.
- The Board of Directors shall decide details of the lottery procedure.

Revised: 3/9/05

MEMBERSHIP MONTHLY MEETINGS

GOAL: **To increase participation and involvement in all areas of LYSA.**

- All Coaches, Instructional through U19 shall become members of LYSA.
- Assistant Coaches and parents are strongly encouraged to become members.
- New members must wait 30 days before becoming eligible to vote at a general meeting.
- The membership fee is \$3 per year and goes from January – December.
- All members will receive an email announcing each general meeting and the agenda for that meeting.
- Every team is required to have a team affiliated representative present at each meeting; Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager or Parent, Etc...

Original: 1/97
Revised 3/9/05

LYSA REGISTRATION

GOAL: To accomplish player registration in a timely, orderly and efficient manner in accordance with MYSA and PVJSL guidelines and deadlines.

- The Board of Directors will set rates for Registration semi-annually.
- Player registration will be held a minimum of three nights at a location to be decided by the Board of Directors. All age groups will register at the same time.
- Registration will be advertised in the Ludlow Register, on the LYSA website and by flyers provided by the LYSA and sent home from the elementary and middle schools.
- Try-Out date(s) will be posted on the LYSA website.
- There will be no late sign-ups unless a need to fill teams has been deemed necessary by the Registrar, Boy's Coordinator or Girl's Coordinator.
- Any player that did not play in the Fall season and signs up for the Spring season must play on the lowest team in the age group unless a tryout held between the Fall and Spring seasons is deemed necessary by the Board of Directors

Original: 5/97
Revised: 3/9/05

NON-REFUNDABLE FEES

GOAL: To ensure that all teams are assigned and maintain a reasonable number of players.

- Player registration fees paid at any sign-ups are non-refundable except in the following instances:
 1. The player is not placed on a team in the age bracket in which he or she signed up and the parents do not accept an alternative placement.
 2. Prior to the start of the season the player provides the LYSA with a letter from their doctor stating that they cannot play soccer.
 3. The player moves out of Ludlow prior to the start of the season and provides LYSA with proof of their new address.

Original: 5/97
Revised: 3/9/05

BAGS

GOAL: To provide LYSA Bags for players who have played for Ludlow Youth Soccer Association for 4 Seasons*.

- Players who sign up for the fall season at U11 and have consecutively played the previous 4 seasons in U9 and U10 shall be awarded an LYSA bag.
- The Board of Directors have the right to review any special circumstances.

* - Bags will be made available for purchase at the LYSA's cost to those players at U11 who do not meet the above requirements.

Original: 8/21/02
Revised: 3/9/05

JACKETS

GOAL: To provide LYSA Jackets for players who have played for Ludlow Youth Soccer Association for 10 seasons*.

- Players who sign up for the fall season at U14 and have consecutively played the previous 10 seasons shall be awarded an LYSA jacket.
- The Board of Directors have the right to review any special circumstances.

* - Jackets will be made available for purchase at the LYSA's cost to those players at U14 who do not meet the above requirements.

Original: 02/03/99
Revised: 3/9/05

TOURNAMENT REIMBURSEMENT

GOAL: To allow LYSA teams the opportunity to participate in tournaments locally and in other areas so that they may have the experience playing teams on a variety of levels.

- LYSA will pay for (1) tournament per season per team for ages U10 and older.
- LYSA will pay a maximum of \$400 per team per tournament. The LYSA does not pay for any associated travel fees or expenses.
- LYSA will supply patches needed for any team U10 and older.
- LYSA teams U10 and older are invited to play in the Columbus Day Tournament for no fee.
- Teams that do not provide an adequate number of volunteers to work at the Columbus Day Tournament may be denied tournament reimbursement by the Board of Directors for the upcoming season.

Original: 01/06/99
Revised: 3/9/05

PLAYERS PLAYING UP

GOAL: To limit children from playing outside their age / grade appropriate bracket.

- No child may play outside their age / grade appropriate bracket unless:
 1. No age/grade appropriate team exists.
 2. A need to fill a team exists in an older age group. All players in the appropriate age group must be selected before an underage player can be placed on a first team.
 3. Their parent is coaching the team in the higher age group.

Original: 3/9/05

COLUMBUS DAY TOURNAMENT VOLUNTEERS

GOAL: **To ensure that LYSA's main fundraising event is a successful, profitable and adequately staffed tournament.**

- Each team (U9 – U14) in the LYSA is required to provide volunteers to help staff the Columbus Day Tournament.
- Teams that do not provide an adequate number of volunteers to work at the Columbus Day Tournament may be denied tournament reimbursement by the Board of Directors for the upcoming season.
- Confirmation of volunteer involvement will be by the sign-in sheet located at each tournament location.

Original: 3/9/05

U9 AND U10 TEAM MAKEUP

GOAL: To provide a fair and appropriate distribution of talent on U9 and U10 teams and maintain teams that are competitive in their respective age brackets.

- U9 Teams: Players entering the U9 age group shall have their teams selected by a committee of the age group coaches, coordinators an/or the Board of Directors. If deemed necessary by the Coordinator or Board of Directors, a tryout will be arranged by the Coordinator to assist in identifying player's abilities to properly place them on teams. The U9 age group will be a blended team. Each team will consist of equal numbers of players of varying abilities.
- U10 Teams: Players entering the U10 age group shall have their teams selected through a try-out process. Teams shall be established on ability level. The A team coach shall select his/her players first, followed by the B team coach, C team coach, etc.

Original: 3/9/05

COACH SELECTION PROCESS

GOAL: To provide our youth with the most experience and qualified coach based on the eligible candidates.

- Once selected a coach shall remain coach of his/her team for the Fall and Spring season unless he/she is removed from that position in accordance with Article IX of the LYSA ByLaws.
- Coaches must submit an application at the completion of the Spring season if they desire to coach the following Fall season.
- The following items will be reviewed when evaluating a coach.
 - Previous playing experience
 - Coaching experience
 - Current coaching licenses held
 - Interview
- The Board of Directors will have the final decision in determining the coaches for each age group.

Original: 3/9/05

ZERO TOLERANCE REQUIREMENTS

GOAL: To provide a safe and positive environment to players, coaches and spectators.

- This policy applies to all coaches, players, parents and other supporters.
- The LYSA follows the Zero Tolerance policies set established by the Pioneer Valley Junior Soccer League (PVJSL). Any violation of these policies is subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.
- It is the responsibility of the Coaches to ensure the PVJSL Zero Tolerance requirements are adhered to. This policy will apply to all times prior to, during and following a game at the soccer field and its immediate surrounding areas.

Original: 3/9/05

COACHING

GOAL: To provide LYSA players with the best and most qualified coaches available.

- REQUIREMENTS
 - Travel coaches
 - G Coaching License
 - F Coaching License
 - CPR Certification
 - Instructional/Clinic Coaches
 - G Coaching License, strongly suggested
 - CPR Certification, strongly suggested
- EDUCATION
 - All coaches in good standing with the LYSA shall be reimbursed for the following coaching courses:
 - G License Course – Full reimbursement
 - F License Course – Full reimbursement
 - E License Course – Full reimbursement
 - D License Course – One-Half (1/2) reimbursement
- Coaching appointments shall be for 1 year. Each age group coach shall be subject to annual review by the Board of Directors and/or Boys/Girls Coordinator(s).

Original: 3/9/05

TRYOUT PROCEDURES

GOAL: To establish a fair and uniform means of identifying a player's ability through a tryout process.

- Tryouts for teams entering U10 and U11 shall be organized and conducted by independent evaluators. Independent evaluators must be one of the following, but cannot be a family member of a player or have any interest in the placement of a specific player on a specific team.
 1. Member of the LYSA Board of Directors.
 2. Another coach within the LYSA or PVJSL.
 3. Any other person requested by the coach and approved by the Board of Directors.
- Tryouts for teams entering U12 and older may either:
 1. Follow the above guidelines for U10 and U11 tryouts; or,
 2. First team coaches may organize, run and evaluate the players of their age groups with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- Tryouts are a tool used in the player selection process. They are not the sole deciding factor.

Original: 3/9/05