

US Youth Soccer National Rules

The following National Rules must be followed by all teams entering the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series, Region I Championships and WWSA State Championships.

Any team that is planning on making any changes to its existing roster MUST make certain that all National Rules are followed prior to making any changes.

Player movement that requires state approval according to these rules must be submitted using the WWSA Player Team Status Form.

Any club or team with questions on how to comply with these rules should contact Jude Greene or Dave Laraba first, if you cannot reach those people contact John Newton.
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The complete US Youth Soccer rule books are available from the WWSA office or on the US Youth Soccer website.

<http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/aboutus/DownloadCenter.asp>

Bylaw 106. Seasonal Fiscal Years

The seasonal year and fiscal year of USYSA each begin on September 1 of one calendar year and end on August 31 of the following calendar year.

RULE 201. Player Registration

Section 1. A youth player must register each seasonal year in the State Association in which he or she resides with his or her parent or parents or guardian or guardians, or, for a student in residence at a boarding school, college, or university, the player may register in the state in which the boarding school, college, university, or division of the college or university is located. Any other questions of residency may be determined by the State Association in which the player is registered to vote or holds a current drivers license.

Section 2. (a) Any youth player wishing to play on a team of a member of a State Association other than the State Association where the player is a registered, must receive written permission from-

- (1) the State Association where the player is registered; and
- (2) the other State Association of the team on which the player wishes to play.

(b) Permission must be obtained each seasonal year.

Section 3. A youth player is registered for a seasonal year from the moment the player or the player's representative executes the registration form and pays the appropriate fees.

Rule 221. Team Eligibility

Section 1. The National Championships competitions shall be open to any team whose players are registered with the US Youth Soccer through a State Association if the team is in compliance with all of the following requirements:

- (1) The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered youth players (as defined by US Youth Soccer).
- (2) The team must be in good standing with its State Association and must be in compliance with, and has not violated, any of the bylaws and policies of US Youth Soccer.
- (3) The team must be entered in the competition of the State Association in which at least 50 percent of its players are registered.
- (4) The team must complete in at least 4-team approved league during the current seasonal year in its State Association, US Youth Soccer Regional League or US Youth Soccer National League, or with its State Associations permission in another State Association, except for the U-19 age group for boy's and girls. The league competition must consist of a minimum of one game against each of 3 different teams participating in the league. Whether participation in any amateur league under this policy shall qualify a youth team for Championship shall be determined by each State Association.
- (5) Teams that can have a maximum of 18 players must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and National Championships by maintaining a minimum of 9 players common to the rosters of both competitions, and teams that can have a maximum of 22 players must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and National Championships by maintaining a minimum of 11 players common to the rosters of both competitions.
- (6) The team may not be a select team.

Section 2. (a) (1) A team may not roster any player who was previously rostered during the seasonal year to another team, or the same team, unless a written request, stating the reason why this action has been requested, has been made to and approved by the State Association on a form provided. At the time a team names its national Championship roster it may not have more than 5 previously rostered players.

- (3) A player is considered rostered to a team not later than when the player first participates for the team in any competition approved by a State Association or its member leagues, clubs, or teams. A State Association is not required to consider the following as a rostered player:
 - (A) a player on a school team when the State Association administers school programs: or
 - (B) a player on a recreational team.

(b) (1) A team may not release voluntarily, or involuntarily any player from its roster unless a written request, stating the reason why the release has been requested, has been made to, and approved by, the State Association on a form provided.

(2) A team may release voluntarily a player from its roster only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons:

- (A) The player has violated bylaws, policies, or requirements of the Federation, US Youth Soccer, the State Association, or the member of the State Association through whom the player is registered.
- (B) The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what constitutes a reasonable travel distance is subject by the definition by the State Association.
- (C) The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.

Section 3. Every team participating in the National Championships., including the qualifying leagues, shall have a team roster and will present a game roster for every match or competition.

(1) Team Roster

The team roster shall be approved by the State Association where the team resides. For the U15 and younger teams, the team roster shall not have more than 18 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. For U16 and older teams, the roster may have up to 22 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Every team roster shall have a minimum of 7 players on the roster at all times.

Rule 224. Player Eligibility

Section 1. A player must be properly registered and rostered in accordance with the rules of US Youth Soccer and the State Association.

Section 2. A player may play for only one team in National Championship competitions in any seasonal year. If a player is named to the roster of a team under section 6 and 7 of Rule 221, the player may not be on the roster of any other team for National Championship competitions for that seasonal year.

Section 3. A player who has been suspended may play after the player's term of suspension has expired.

Section 4. When a State Association allows a player to be rostered on more than one team, the first team to which the player is rostered is the only team with which the player may participate in National Championships competitions for a seasonal year, except-

- (1) if a player is rostered to more than one team in the same day, the player must designate on that day the only team for which the player is to be rostered for National Championships competitions and failure to so designate on that day makes the player ineligible for any national Championships competitions for that seasonal year; and
- (2) as provided by section 2 of Rule 221.