

# MCCSA COMPETITIVE & ALL-STAR TEAMS DEVELOPMENT

## Rules and Application to Form

Constructed and intended as an addition to extant (revised, December 2007) MCCSA constitution and by-laws **Article IX, Sections 2 and 3.**

Approved by MCCSA Board on December 3, 2007

Subject to minor clarifications that do not compromise the spirit of fair, objective and equitable competitive team formation intended by both MCCSA Rules for Competitive/All-Star Team Formation and the MCCSA Competitive/All-Star Team Formation Application.

### Mission

*“To provide opportunities for all youth who register with MCCSA to develop a love for the game of soccer by teaching them skills and making the game fun.”*

*We emphasize the development of self-esteem, good sportsmanship, fitness, achievement, teamwork, and skills through the playing of the game. We will provide educational opportunities to further develop all players, coaches, referees and league administrators.*

### *MCCSA Guiding Principles:*

*\*Kids Come First*

*\*Winning is Secondary*

*\*Everyone Plays*

*\*Positive Coaching*

*\*Good Sportsmanship*

*\*Open Registration*

*\*Balanced Teams*

*\*Parental Involvement*

# MCCSA RULES FOR COMPETITIVE & RECREATIONAL ALL-STAR TEAMS

## ***I. PURPOSE***

Competitive soccer programs are intended to allow players with superior skill and expressed desire to experience a level of competition beyond that afforded by a recreational program. These guidelines will govern play for age groups U 9 and above. MCCSA has recognized the need to establish distinct guidelines for competitive teams, many of which may not be appropriate for recreational play.

## ***II. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTROL***

- A. **Administrative Guidelines:** Unless otherwise stated, MCCSA adopts the rules of the USYSA as stated in the USSF Official Administrative Rulebook. These rules govern all the KYSA competitive teams and apply to all intrastate and interstate games, including the state cup. The terms Competitive and Select can be used interchangeable within these Rules and Guidelines.
- B. **Competitive Committee:** A Committee consisting of representatives from the MCCSA board, chaired by the Competitive Coordinator and including at least two other members of the MCCSA board will administer the activities of Age groups U-9 and older, Competitive teams, Recreational All-Star teams and player development programs. The committee will provide the leadership and guidance necessary to provide the highest level of soccer training possible for competitive players. The Committee will handle any disputes arising within the competitive system.
- C. **The Seasonal Year** for MCCSA shall be August 1 thru July 31 with two (2) playing seasons.
- D. **Player Registration:**
  1. *Recreational All-Star:* A recreational player is committed to his/her team for the current playing season and will be placed in open registration for the next season. A recreational player may move up to a competitive team between the Fall and Spring seasons. If a player is selected to a Recreational All-Star team they will pay the difference between the regular Recreational fee and the Competitive fee that the board has established for that year.
  2. *Competitive:* A competitive player is committed to his/her team for the remainder of the Fall and Spring seasonal year or until the team re-rosters. If a competitive player moves to another team (Recreational or Competitive) between the Fall and Spring seasons, the player must be released from his/her competitive team.
- E. **Age Group:** Age group classifications will be determined by the player's actual age on July 31 as per KYSA age limit Definitions immediately prior to the season year begins. Teams are formed in age classifications that allow the maximum participation.

- F. **Levels of Play:** There shall be several levels of play within MCCSA as follows:
1. *Recreational All-Star:* Recreational play shall be offered to all the youth of Murray and Calloway County to promote the growth of and appreciation for the game of soccer. Coaches are strongly encouraged to equalize playing time and, when practical, permit players to play different positions throughout the season, provided they meet all the specific criteria listed in throughout these rules.
  2. *Competitive:* Competitive play shall be offered as complement to the MCCSA recreational program as opportunity for players with the desire, ability and/or potential to develop above average soccer skills to compete with and against other players with similar interests. Participation is restricted to those players who are selected through the tryout process.

### **III. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

- A. All players on a team must be properly registered with MCCSA and KYSA.
- B. *Registration Forms and Fees:* MCCSA will conduct player registration prior to each season. All player registration forms and fees will be collected by the Team Coach or Team Manager. The Team Coaches or Team Managers will submit registration forms and fees to MCCSA. The MCCSA Fall Competitive Player Registration Fee must be paid during the Fall Registration period. Players registered for the Fall season that intend to play in the Spring season must pay 50% of the Spring registration fees by October 1, with the remainder due by January 31. All payments submitted after the due dates will be subject to MCCSA late registration fees.
- C. *Player Obligation:* All players must be informed they are bound to their competitive team for the entire year both Fall and Spring seasons. If a player wishes to quit a team, he/she can not be forced to remain on a team. They will be eligible to play for a recreational team at the next open registration or request a transfer to another competitive team. Releases to another competitive team will be allowed in limited circumstances approved by the Competitive Committee. A player will be required to pay a re-registration fee when transferring teams during the seasonal year.
- D. Coaches may not drop a player involuntarily but may submit a request to the Competitive Committee to review their roster.
- E. In the event of a team allowing an ineligible player to participate in a sanctioned game(s), those games will be forfeited and any such persona and coach will be sanctioned based on KYSA and USSF administrative regulations.
- F. *Recruiting/Poaching.* Coaches, players, parents and any MCCSA Board member or volunteer may not induce a registered player of a team to leave his/her team before the end of the playing season. Any person found to have illegally recruiting would be suspended for a period of no less than

one (1) year, to be determined by the competitive committee. KYSA guidelines apply.

- G. Guest players are permitted. A guest player is a registered player participating in a competition for a team to which the player is not rostered. (KYSA rule for guest players apply).

#### **IV. TEAMS**

##### **A. Formation of Teams:**

1. Teams will be formed using the guidelines established by the KYSA. Team formation and player assignment guidelines that govern recreational teams do not apply to competitive/tournament/all-star teams.
2. Teams will be formed using the MCCSA application to form a competitive team and submit it to the competitive committee.
3. Teams can establish their own criteria for player selection and team assignment; provided there is not a conflict with the KYSA and/or MCCSA Constitution, By Laws or Rules. Team formation by school affiliation is permitted at U-12 level and above.
4. Age Groups
  - a. Competitive teams may be formed based on single birth year beginning at age group U9 and above.
  - b. Teams may also be formed in 2-year age groupings if necessary.
5. Tournament and Recreational All-Star Teams
  - a. Team will be formed for the sole purpose of playing in a tournament or other sanctioned competition.
  - b. Coaches shall nominate players and form recreational All-Star teams after the midpoint of the Fall season. They must fill out the Application to form a Competitive Team and submit the application to the Competitive Coordinator to be presented to the Competitive Committee for approval.
  - c. If there is a sufficient number of players for more than one team, players shall be divided by blind draw or by a meeting of All-Star team coaches.
  - d. Any team U-11 and under or an All-Star team may not be formed on the basis of school affiliation.

##### **B. Roster/Player Cards**

1. Every competitive team has to have an affiliate prepared roster that will be supplied by the MCCSA Registrar, which lists all registered players and coaches. A roster **MUST** be turned in to the center Referee at every game, whether it be an affiliate prepared roster or a hand written roster with each player's name and number. If a roster is not given to the center referee then that game will not be allowed to take place.
2. No team may roster more than what KYSA Rules allow for their age division. The official Roster needs to be signed by the appointed KYSA State official. The MCCSA Registrar will supply 4 copies of

the Official Roster at the beginning of the season when the teams complete the team application form and the competitive committee has giving its approval to form.

3. Player Cards will be supplied with 7 days notice after approval of the roster and issued by the Registrar based on MCCSA Registration guidelines and policies.

C. *Tryouts*

1. The Competitive Committee will choose three tryout dates during the first three full weeks of June. These dates will be decided by May 1.
2. MCCSA will advertise the annual tryouts. A Competitive Committee designated representative will oversee the tryouts and in conjunction with the approved coach select the members for the team.
3. Tryouts are critical to the function and success of a select soccer club. Teams are formed from the most competitive players available and are available to all youths on a fair and equal basis.
4. All players will be required to tryout for their teams annually.
5. Competitive teams may hold additional advertised tryouts after the annual tryouts and/or between seasons in order to fill roster vacancies at their own expense.
6. Tryouts must be open to all youths.
7. Teams registered for the Fall season may add players to their Spring roster without additional tryouts. The number of players added will be limited to 25% of the maximum KYSA roster size for their age group.

D. *Player Selection* will be made on the basis of player skill, attitude, performance and potential. In order to have a tryout format that is consistent among teams and that assures, to the extent feasible, players will be treated fairly and forthrightly in the process. The following policies will be adhered to:

1. No prospective player for a competitive team will be offered a place on the team prior to tryouts. Under special circumstances (e.g. injury or other mitigating circumstances), an established player may be excused attendance at a tryout with the expressed understanding that his/her suitability for a team will be assessed on level of performance in the preceding season and upon approval of the Competitive Committee.
2. The coaches, in consultation with the Competitive Committee, shall determine the format of the tryouts.
3. Players will be assigned a number, and coaches shall refer to players during the tryouts only by their number.
4. No player will be informed of placement on a team at a tryout.
5. Players shall be informed of their status following tryouts as quickly as possible. Players selected will be informed within 72 hours. All players not selected will be informed (by telephone, letter or Email) of their status within 72 hours of the final tryout by the Team Coach.

6. Trying out for a team represents an implied commitment to play for that team if selected for the Fall and Spring Season.
7. At tryouts—information concerning projected costs, season length, travel, etc. must be provided to parents of interested players. Each player will also receive a copy of the MCCSA Competitive and All-Star Team Development Rules.

*E. Club Registration*

1. Club Organizations may register with the MCCSA as a non-voting associate member. Club Organizations must have a minimum of two teams.
  2. Any Club Organizations wishing to register as an associated member of MCCSA must meet the following requirements:
    - a. They must submit a written request and their Organizations Bylaws to the Competitive Committee, with final approval determined by the MCCSA Board of Directors.
    - b. Each Club Organization must submit to the Registrar the appropriate registration forms and full payment of all fees.
    - c. Teams must be in good standing with the KYSA.
    - d. Club Organizations must provide assurances that they have access to the fields and referees; not placing a burden on the resources of MCCSA.
  3. Each club shall be responsible for insuring the proper registration of its players and teams, proper accounting of fiscal transactions and accurate reporting of all information required by MCCSA.
  4. New Clubs shall pay an initial annual fee of \$300 plus the current annual player registration fee, based on the fees set by the MCCSA Board of Directors. Renewing memberships will be charged a reduced Club fee of 10 % per year with maximum discount not to exceed 50%.
  5. A team may withdraw membership by written request to the Registrar. The request must be received prior to the computer registration of players to withdraw without penalty or forfeiture. Otherwise, all fees will be forfeited.
  6. Clubs may be revoked membership for misconduct at a hearing by a majority vote of the MCCSA Board of Directors.
- F. MCCSA will supply Referees for home games and equipment as the board approves.

*V. Player Participation*

*A. Playing Time*

1. If a player or parent is concerned about playing time they should first discuss this with the team coach. If unsatisfied with the coach's response, they might consider a recreational team where playing time is guaranteed.

2. It is in the best interest of the team and the players to afford as much playing time as possible. This will provide the opportunity for player development and advancement. Playing time may vary from game to game. Players time could be restricted based on:
  - a. Unexcused absences
  - b. Lack of effort or participation in practices, poor physical condition.
  - c. Player attitude
  - d. Unsportsmanlike conduct
  - e. General lack of skills progress and/or development
3. Coaches are encouraged to advise the player that playing time may be cut.

**B. *Player Commitment***

1. Players must be prepared to make a major commitment to soccer. They must be committed to attending all practices and games unless there are good reasons for the absence. Given the focus on teaching, practices are viewed as equally important as games. Players who miss practices may lose playing time. At the discretion of coaches and by prior arrangement, players may participate in other sports or competitive activities. The following guidelines are suggested:
    - a. A soccer game shall take precedence over a game or event in another sport or competitive activity.
    - b. A soccer practice shall take precedence over practice for another sport or competitive activity.
    - c. A game or event in another competitive activity may take precedence over a soccer practice.
    - d. Scheduled school events are an exception. For school events, the player will furnish the coach a complete schedule when possible and must notify the coach of the intent to miss team practice/games in advance of each occasion.
  2. Competitive teams typically travel a significant amount of the time for the games and tournaments.
- C. A MCCSA Player Code of Conduct as per KYSA Code of Conduct, will be adhered to and distributed to each player.

**VI. *Coaches***

- A. The Competitive/All-Star Committee shall approve of all candidates that desire to coach a competitive team. They will also receive, review and respond to comments regarding the performance of any competitive coach and when necessary, make recommendations to the board regarding coaches.
- B. Coaches must meet the following qualification standards:
  1. Experience in the game of soccer as a player or coach.
  2. Appropriate level of licensing as stated by the USSF: U9 and U10 recommends a Youth Module, U11 thru U13 recommends an E State

Coaching License, U14 and above requires an E State Coaching License but recommends a D State Coaching License.

3. A reputation for excellence in coaching and for exemplary behavior, good sportsmanship and positive role modeling.
- C. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of all members of MCCSA, including players, parents and coaches, are expected to conduct themselves in a sporting and civil manner in connection with any soccer related activity. In particular, all members are expected to support referees efforts of officiate and control conduct on and off the field.