

### **301 YOUTH DIVISION ADMINISTRATION**

The LSA Youth Council is made up of club representatives of affiliated youth soccer organizations, in good standing, and three elected officers; the Vice-President -Youth, the Youth Premier Commissioner, and the Youth Recreational Commissioner. Each LSA officer has a vote at the Youth Council meeting. Each affiliated club has a vote at the Youth Council meeting, the number of votes per club being based on the number of its registered players. The Youth Council shall conduct business affairs of the Youth Division which do not require State Council or Executive Committee participation or which are decreed by USSF or LSA and which must be implemented by the Youth Division. These items may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Establishment of the rules for the youth division, as permitted within the framework established by USSF and this Association;
- Implementation of State Select Team programs;
- Encouragement of competition between affiliated clubs, including youth tournament play as well as play with USSF affiliated teams in other states and nations;
- Encouragement of Coaching Clinics and Referee Clinics;
- Encouragement of Young Player Development;
- Encouragement of Safety and Sportsmanship;
- Election of Youth Vice President, Premier and Recreational Commissioners.

Each club retains its own autonomy but adheres to the rules and regulations of LSA. Each is required to pay all fees due LSA and provide a soccer program beneficial to all players. Clubs have their own administrative board and set their own fees to cover expenses which include the fees and dues of LSA. Clubs forward copies of their constitution, by-laws and governing rules to LSA upon affiliation and changes to these rules each year thereafter for review and acceptance.

The Youth Division is funded by player registration, program fees, sponsorship, etc. These funds are used for implementing the needs of the Youth Division to provide information to the clubs and provide programs for the players. Programs available through the Youth Division are:

- Coaches' Training
- Referee Training
- State Select Team Program
- Young Player Development Program
- Tournaments
- Premier, Division 1 (Div 1) and Recreational club play

## 302 PLAYER / TEAM REGISTRATION

Clubs generally announce a designated time, date and place to register their players. Clubs register players either once a year or twice a year, to cover their fall and spring seasonal club play. Clubs must register players with LSA at least once per year. If the club has two registration periods (Fall and Spring), only the new players, not returning players, should be registered with LSA for the Spring. (Consult the Transfer/Release Section of this manual for registered players who played in the Fall but are not returning to play in the Spring or registered players from the Fall moving to different teams in the Spring). A player is considered registered upon validation and acceptance into the LSA central database and payment of appropriate LSA player fees. Once a player is entered into the LSA online registration program clubs shall have ninety (90) days to place players on teams and submit payment of the player's registration fee to the LSA State Office for the player to receive insurance coverage. If the registration process of assigning a player to a team is not completed within ninety (90) days and associated fees are not submitted within thirty (30) days of invoice, insurance coverage will not commence until the registration and associated fees are submitted and a player is not eligible to participate in any activities.

The following procedures are to be followed to properly register players with LSA:

- A. The club must have each player's parent/guardian complete and sign a registration form that provides basic player data and the approved waiver language. Registration forms are not to be sent to the LSA Office. The club or parent must enter all of the registration information into LSA's online registration program.
- B. The club will collect the necessary LSA per player fees (see Policy 206) and any club charge from each player. The player fees will be sent to LSA within 30 days of invoice.. These fees cover player insurance costs, in addition to affiliation fees.
- C. Before participating in any LSA activity, coaches and team managers must register and successfully complete the Risk Management process including completion of a disclosure form. Any registered adult who may work with players in a coaching capacity must have a laminated properly prepared pass with his or her photo and signature as issued by LSA. Clubs are not authorized to issue coach/manager passes. Only Registered Coaches are permitted to participate in LSA sanctioned events or games as coaches or assistant coaches. Any Club who intentionally submits false or inaccurate information to affect a player or coach will be subject to disciplinary actions.
- D. After the registered players are organized onto teams clubs must submit the team electronically to LSA for approval. Teams will not be approved without being assigned a coach who has successfully completed risk management. Rosters are not frozen at this time because new players may be added as needed. Please refer to the maximum number of players per roster ~~shown below~~ in Policy 310 B 2 C 1 and player transfer/release rules. Rosters must indicate Recreational, Div 1 or Premier team. Team definitions are as follows:
  1. RECREATIONAL TEAM
    - a. The Club (affiliated club/organization) administering the club for Recreational teams shall accept as participants any and all eligible applicants (subject to reasonable terms of registration).
    - b. The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited.
    - c. A system of rostering players is employed for the purpose of creating a balanced or impartial distribution of playing talent among all teams participating. Carry-over players are allowed.
    - d. Each player shall be required to play the minimum of 50% of the time unless the player's time has been reduced for medical or disciplinary reasons, in which case the coach must notify the player, and the opposing coach prior to the beginning of the game that the minimum time has been reduced. In

youth tournaments each player is required to play a minimum of 50% of each game, including overtime. All players on the rostered team must be invited to each tournament the team participates in. In LSA sanctioned tournaments, failure to abide by the 50% play rule may result in the tournament committee declaring a game a forfeit.

- e. All teams U-6 to U-10 must play as a Recreational team.
  - f. Play should be intramural (within the Club) except that teams may travel to jamborees , tournaments or friendly games in or out of state.
  - g. Competition during the soccer year is limited as follows:
    - (1) U6 may play a maximum of 20 matches and participate in one jamboree.
    - (2) U8 may play a maximum of 22 matches and participate in two jamborees other than jamborees hosted by their home club.
    - (3) U10 may play a maximum of 28 matches and participate in three jamborees other than jamborees hosted by their home club.
    - (4) U-10-U19 may play a maximum of 30 matches and no more than four (4) tournaments other than tournaments hosted by their home club.
    - (5) Jamboree and/or tournament games do not count in a soccer year game total.
  - h. There will be no state championship tournament for Recreational teams but regional events are permitted.
2. DIV 1 TEAM FOR AGES U11 AND UP
- a. The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is permitted.
  - b. Each player has no guarantee of minimum playing time
  - c. Div 1 teams may participate in unlimited invitational tournaments as a competitive or open team.
  - d. Div 1 teams are eligible to participate in state championship competitions as their Club's representative. Clubs may establish eligibility requirements to represent the Club in Div 1 state competitions.
3. PREMIER TEAM FOR SINGLE AGE GROUPS U11 AND UP:
- a. A club team in which no rule restricts the acceptance of all players, the manner of selection or a system to distribute talent within a club if more than one team is rostered other than those rules established at the state level.
  - b. Each player has no guarantee of minimum playing time.
  - c. Teams must participate in a statewide Premier League as established by LSA.
  - d. Teams may participate in unlimited invitational tournaments as a premier team.
  - e. Teams are eligible to participate in the State Cup.
- E. All youth rosters will be set as of the "Roster Freeze Date" for each defined competition. After that date no player may be added to any roster of teams eligible for state competitions until after those competitions are completed. If the club deems it appropriate, players may be added to teams not eligible for State Cup or other state competitions.
- F. Only rosters and player passes generated from the LSA online program are acceptable. Non-LSA or third party electronic generated, typed or hand written rosters and player passes are not acceptable. Teams participating as LSA affiliated teams in LSA sanctioned invitational tournaments shall only use LSA generated team rosters and player passes. Clubs hosting invitational tournaments are required to enforce this rule
- G. LSA roster limits are listed in Policy 310 B 2 C 1

### 303 DUAL REGISTRATION

Dual registration is defined as a player being registered to more than one team during the seasonal year, September 1, to August 31. LSA does NOT ALLOW this with youth players. A youth player can be on the roster of one and only one team and/or registered to one and only one club during the seasonal year unless permission has been granted to be a guest player on a team or a transfer. (Refer to the Guest Player and Transfer Sections of this manual.)

(This does not apply to youth players who play on an adult team and a youth team or to players selected to the State Select Team or to players participating in an off-season affiliated indoor soccer club.)

### 304 AGE GROUPS

For all State and National Competitions, the following age groups are mandatory. Local clubs or in-house groups only for play within that club or group can vary age groups. Teams with varied age groups would be required to play at the highest age level represented if playing outside of the club.

The soccer year begins September 1 and ends August 31.

**A player has to be four years of age at time of registration.**

Age Groups shall be comprised of youth players who are, before the first day of August of the immediately prior seasonal year ---

- under 19 years of age.
- under 18 years of age.
- under 17 years of age.
- under 16 years of age.
- under 15 years of age.
- under 14 years of age.
- under 13 years of age.
- under 12 years of age.
- under 11 years of age.
- under 10 years of age.
- under 8 years of age.
- under 6 years of age.

(See year appropriate age group matrix following section 300.)

Playing down in age is prohibited.

Playing up in age is not recommended but has been allowed to accommodate special requests such as parent coaching a higher age, transportation problems, etc. However, playing up more than two (2) years above age is dangerous. **No player under the age of 9 can participate on a Div 1 or Premier team.**

All clubs shall require proof of birth at registration and maintain a copy of this proof in their files. It is the responsibility of the club to be accurate when registering players within their proper age groups. Any club or team who has falsely registered a player shall be subject to reprimand.

Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, or birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency; passport; alien registration card issued by the United States Government; a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age; or a Certification of an American Citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates are not acceptable.

## **305 GUEST PLAYERS**

### **A. DEFINITION**

A Guest Player is a USYSA registered player on the roster of an affiliated USYSA team who is invited to participate as a temporary member of another LSA affiliated team and/or, in the case of out-of-state teams, another USYSA affiliated team. Guest players are normally requested to fill vacancies on a particular team because of injury or players unavailable to attend a particular event. Guest players are not used to allow a player to experience playing on another team for the purpose of possibly transferring to that team or registering with that team for next year or for the club's next playing season.

*See Policy 305-1 Guest Player*

## **306 TRANSFER / RELEASE OF YOUTH PLAYERS**

It is the policy of LSA that a player may register with an affiliated club or team of his/her choice for a seasonal year. The USYSA affirms that: "any player signing a player registration form is bound to that team for the entire seasonal year unless he/she requests a transfer or is released. All requests for a transfer or release shall be submitted to the affiliated State Youth Association in writing on the form provided, stating the reason for the request for transfer or release. All Div 1 & Premier teams shall be limited to a total of five (5) transferred players per seasonal year. All recreational teams can have unlimited transfers.

### **A. DEFINITION**

1. "A transfer shall be defined as adding a currently USYSA registered player to a roster or a player who returns to the same roster."
2. LSA does realize that some local modifications to the USYSA statement are necessary to accommodate recreational programs who reassign players at the beginning of each playing season within a year and to allow for the normal re-registration which takes place prior to each playing season. The following statewide procedure is meant to provide an orderly and reasonable player transfer/release method consistent with the guidelines and intent of the national policy.

### **B. TRANSFERS ARE REQUIRED WHEN:**

1. A player has registered with an affiliated club for a seasonal year, and wishes to move to another affiliated club during that same seasonal year, in state or out-of-state.
2. A player in an affiliated club's recreational program moves from one team to another within that program, however the releasing coach is not required to sign.
3. A player transfers onto or from a Div 1 or premier team. A Div 1 or premier team shall be limited to a total of five (5) transferred players per seasonal year.
4. When a team disbands, a transfer/release form must be submitted for each player moving to another team, however the signature of the releasing coach is not required.

### **C. TRANSFERS ARE NOT REQUIRED WHEN:**

1. A previously unregistered player registers for the first time in a seasonal year. (Previously unregistered means a player who has not been registered to play soccer anywhere during the soccer year.)
2. A recreational club re-registers players for a new playing season during a seasonal year (e.g. Spring season), and is reassigning all players to different teams; AND, these teams do not participate in LSA State Tournament competitions or any other tournament competition in or out-of-state.
3. A player changes clubs for a new seasonal year.

#### D. TRANSFERS FOR PLAYERS ON DIVISION 1 (Div 1) or PREMIER TEAMS:

1. No team belonging to any Club (defined in these rules as any LSA affiliated and/or sanctioned soccer organization whether designated a club, association, academy or by any other name) may receive or accept any player transfer from any other LSA Club between *August 1 and the last game of the State Cup* at the conclusion of the season except under the following exclusive circumstances:
  - a. The term "transfer" is defined in these rules to cover only such players already rostered on a Div 1 or premier team of an LSA Club for the entire seasonal year after August 1. A "transfer" shall not be deemed to include any player solicited and rostered by an LSA Club other than the one for which he played the preceding season during the "recruitment period" described in (2) below.
  - b. Players who moved more than 50 miles during the calendar year from the community of their former club prior to requesting a transfer shall be exempt from this rule.
  - c. Players who are on a team that is disbanded by an LSA Club during the period between August 1 and the conclusion of the State Cup tournament for the age/sex of those players shall be exempt from this rule.
  - d. Any extenuating circumstances which are agreed to by both clubs, as being in the best interest of the player and both clubs, with approval signatures required by both clubs. Where both clubs agree to the transfer, the transfer will then be forwarded to the LSA Youth Vice President for final approval.
  - e. Under no circumstances may any LSA team receive more than five transfers from any other Club or combination of Clubs.
2. After a player's team has completed all Spring playing season games including playoff and/or tournament games in which his/her team is involved, the player may register with any club of his/her choice for the NEXT seasonal year without having to submit a "Request for Transfer/Release" form. However, a transfer form and fee are required for movement to another team for purpose of Summer tournament play.
3. Summer tournament teams entering Open or International competition may exceed the five (5) player transfer rule upon written request and approval of the hosting team, club, State, etc.

#### E. PLAYER RELEASE

1. Any player wishing to drop from a program and not participate on any team for the remainder of the seasonal year may complete section "A" of the Player Transfer/Release form and submit it to his/her club with no payment or club approval needed. Once a player has released their position on a team through a properly executed LSA Transfer/Release form they have no player status with LSA until transferred to another affiliated team.

2. LSA will abide by the USYSA rule for a player to be released from a team by a coach only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons:
  - a. The player has violated USYSA rules or State disciplinary rules.
  - b. The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance.
  - c. The player is injured in such a manner that he/she will be unable to participate for the remaining playing season.
  - d. The player is deceased.

To affect the release, the coach must complete and sign the LSA Youth Player Transfer/Release Form and submit it to the club President for completion.

3. Out-of-State Release: Players who reside in Louisiana but wish to play on teams in another state and players who reside in another state but wish to play on teams in Louisiana must follow the USSF rule (4.2.2 of the USSF Administrative Rule Book):

#### "4.2.2. Local Registration

1. A player must register in the state in which he or she resides with his or her parent(s) or guardian(s), or in the case of a student in residence at a boarding school or college or university, the player may register in the state in which the boarding school, college or division of the college or university is located. Any other questions of residency may be determined by the state in which the player is registered to vote or holds a current driver's license.
2. All players or teams wishing to compete in a club operating in a state other than the state in which they are registered must receive written permission from:
  - a. The State Association where they are registered.
  - b. The State Association where they wish to play.

(1) These permissions must be obtained each seasonal year (September 1 – August 31)."

Contact the LSA Office for further instructions.

## F. INSTRUCTIONS ON COMPLETING TRANSFER / RELEASE FORM

1. The player's parent/guardian completes all items in section "A", then forwards a copy of the request to LSA with the other parts of the transfer being sent to the current club President/Registrar for completion. A \$15.00 transfer fee must accompany each request. Checks should be made payable to LSA.
2. The current club official obtains releasing coach signature and recommendations, completes section "B", and forwards form to new club President/Registrar or to new coach if transfer is within the same club.
3. The new club official (if applicable) and the new coach complete Section "C" and forward the form, a new roster, and the \$15.00 fee to the LSA Office.

4. LSA completes the form and distributes the copies. A PLAYER MAY NOT PARTICIPATE WITH HIS/HER NEW TEAM UNTIL THE TRANSFER IS APPROVED AT THE LSA LEVEL AND CONFIRMATION IS RECEIVED BY THE NEW CLUB/TEAM.
5. A player wishing to drop from the program and not transfer to another team, should complete Section "A" and forward the form to the club for completion of Section "B". No fee is required for this action.
6. A coach wishing to drop a player in accordance to the USYSA rule (E.2 above), must complete the appropriate sections of "A" and "B" and forward the form to the club for completion and forwarding to LSA. Documentation of rule violations must accompany the release form in order for LSA to approve the release for this reason.
7. STATE APPROVAL IS NEEDED ON EACH AND EVERY TRANSFER/RELEASE (except where player is deceased). CLUB APPROVAL IS NOT SUFFICIENT. These rules do not apply to the Under 10 and below because of the Young Player Development Program.

### **307 INSURANCE**

The youth accident medical maximum is \$100,000 per incident. Policy has a 104-week benefit period from date of injury. This policy is an excess policy, which means that the family's primary insurance will pay first and this policy will follow. The deductible is \$100.00.

The following procedures are to be used to file a youth medical claim:

#### **A. IF YOU HAVE NO OTHER INSURANCE COVERAGE:**

1. Complete the soccer insurance claim form (available to local club from the LSA Office). All parts of the form must be fully completed, including other insurance information.
2. The coach must sign the claim form where indicated.
3. The claim form is submitted to the LSA Office. (The LSA Office must complete the verification portion of the form.) If you have bills ready to send, you may include them with the claim form.
4. The LSA Office will then submit all paperwork to the insurance company.
5. If additional bills need to be submitted at a later date, send them directly to the Insurance Company with the following information:
  - a. Name of Participant.
  - b. Date of the accident.
6. Reimbursement will be made to the provider of service unless proof of personal payment is sent.
7. This policy has a \$100.00 deductible and is the parent/guardian's responsibility.

**B. IF YOU DO HAVE OTHER INSURANCE COVERAGE:**

1. Complete the insurance claim form (available to local clubs from the LSA Office). All parts of the form must be fully completed, including other insurance information.
2. The coach must sign the claim form where indicated.
3. Submit ALL charges to your other insurance first, whether the charges will be applied to the deductible, paid or denied.
4. The claim form is then submitted to the LSA Office. (The LSA Office must complete the verification portion of the form.)
5. The LSA Office will then submit all paperwork to the insurance company.
6. If additional bills need to be submitted at a later date, send them directly to the Insurance Company with the following information:
  - a. Name of participant.
  - b. Date of the accident.
  - c. Worksheet from primary insurance carrier.
7. Reimbursement will be made to the provider of service unless proof of personal payment is sent.
8. If the primary insurance carrier has paid at least \$100.00 toward the injury, the \$100.00 deductible is waived.

With this insurance the first expense must be incurred within ninety (90) days of the accident/injury. The claim can be filed as soon as the first bill is received (if you have no other insurance) or as soon as your insurance carrier sends you a worksheet on charges they have paid, denied or applied to your deductible.

Each itemized bill MUST show the following:

Provider of Service's Name	Date of Service
Provider's Address	Diagnosis Description or Codes (ICD-9)
Provider's Federal Tax ID#	Procedure Description or Codes (CPT)
Provider's Telephone #	Charge for each Procedure

Charges cannot be considered from balance due statements, balance forward statements or from your other carrier's worksheets.

Claims are usually processed in a reasonable amount of time if all the paperwork was submitted correctly.

**NOTE:** Claims are completed and submitted to the LSA Office by the player's parents/legal guardian. DO NOT ALLOW THE DOCTOR OR THE HOSPITAL TO COMPLETE THE CLAIM FORM AND MAIL IT TO THE LSA OFFICE.

To file a liability claim, contact the LSA Office.

## 308 TRAVEL PROCEDURES

### A. OUT OF STATE

Travel permits are mandatory for team activity outside of Louisiana and permission to travel is under the control and approval of the LSA Executive Committee through the LSA State Office Staff. LSA teams are prohibited from playing non-affiliated teams/clubs, in non-sanctioned tournaments or traveling without permission. Sanctions or penalties could result against the coach, the team or the club and/or the loss of medical insurance coverage.

*See Policy 308 Travel Procedures*

## 309 PLAYING RULES

Except as otherwise provided here, the FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall apply to any and all competition sponsored by this organization.

### A. EXCEPTIONS TO FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME:

1. Players must wear shin guards in all soccer activities, including practice.
2. Unlimited substitution is allowed at the referee's discretion.
3. Small Sided Games
  - a. It is recommended that players U6, U8, and U10 play under the Young Player Development Rules. (See the **Us Youth Soccer small-sided guidelines** [http://usyouthsoccer.org/downloads/national\\_office/SmallSidedGames.pdf](http://usyouthsoccer.org/downloads/national_office/SmallSidedGames.pdf)) Interclub play among Recreation U11 & 12 players will play under the USYSA official US Youth Soccer 8v8 format.
    - (1) Seven (7) field players and one (1) goalkeeper per team on the field.
    - (2) It is recommended that each rostered player play in goal at least one half of a game per season.
  - b. LSA Roster limits are specified in Section 302 H.
  - c. The player development committee may make recommendations with the approval of the Executive Committee to help the clubs implement a successful player development program.
  - d. Team participation in the Premier League and the Premier State Tournaments shall not be required to play short-sided (smaller teams than 11v11) unless approved by a majority of the leagues participating in the Premier League by a vote taken at a meeting of the Youth Premier League Committee.
4. Some clubs have rules such as: games are played by the quarter system, goalie can only play as goalie for one half of the game time, etc. These are club rules and not LSA rules. Each club should inquire as to the rules of other clubs they wish to play and/or when inviting outside teams to play they must inform the incoming team/club of their in-house rules.
5. Tournaments and Jamborees will be played under the LSA Tournament Rules or rules governing jamborees. Refer to those sections in this manual.

6. It is mandatory that players participating in recreational tournaments play at least 50% of the time in each tournament game. Written notification to opposing coach is required for all players not playing the required amount of time.
7. Smoking and smokeless tobacco are banned from the players' side of the field within the State of Louisiana.
8. Five games per tournament are the maximum number of games allowed for any one team in any LSA Sanctioned Invitational Tournament.

If play involves a foreign team, see "Hosting an International Game" section of this manual.

### **310 HOSTING JAMBOREES / TOURNAMENTS**

*See policy 310 Tournaments*

### **311 LSA YOUTH STATE TOURNAMENTS**

*See Policy 311-1 Recreation*

*See Policy 311-2 Premier*

### **312 STATE YOUTH SELECT TEAM PROGRAM**

#### **A. PURPOSE:**

1. The USSF, controlling body for the National Youth Team(s), has set as their objectives:
  - a. To field the strongest possible National Youth Team in any given age group.
  - b. To assure that each level within the program provides each participant with a meaningful experience in his/her soccer development.
  - c. To provide continuity at all levels of administration and coaching to achieve the goal of a National Youth Team.
  - d. To enhance the local program by returning the players to their local clubs to spread their gained knowledge and experience.
2. The goals of the national and regional programs are:
  - a. Development
  - b. Training
  - c. Competition
  - d. Identification
  - e. Selection
3. Using these objectives as the basis for our State Select Team Program and aiming to provide gifted youth players an opportunity to receive excellent coaching, recognition

and direction for the future, Louisiana Soccer Association (LSA) adopted the following purposes for our State Olympic Development Program.

- a. To provide a vehicle which will allow talented youth players within specific age groups, the opportunity to develop themselves with similarly talented athletes.
- b. To allow these players the opportunity to:
  - (1) Be trained by the highest level of coaching available.
  - (2) Compete in inter-district matches and tournaments, interstate matches and tournaments,
  - (3) Travel to other countries requesting state youth club teams,
  - (4) Participate in other select team competitions.
- c. To allow these players to achieve recognition
- d. To support the national program by supplying players who could be chosen for any of the following teams:
  - (1) National Team
  - (2) Olympic Team
  - (3) Pan-Am Team
  - (4) CONCACAF Team

## B. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The guidelines used to select the players for the State Youth Select Team Program are to be proposed by the State Youth Select Team Committee and approved by the LSA Youth Council. The program must conform to national and regional policy and is implemented through the appropriate administrator and the State Director of Coaching. All interstate or intrastate games (friendly or tournament) must be approved by the appropriate Chairman.
2. The State Youth Select Year will be for one year beginning March 1 through February 28(29) of the following year or as required by regional or national policy. Tryouts, training and other activities for the following year may be conducted in advance.
3. All affiliated members of LSA (to include coaches, referees, and club officials) are asked to work with this program and encourage their talented players to participate. Club support is needed to allow time during the year to schedule tryouts, games, tournaments, etc.
4. The State Youth Select Team Committee shall publish a schedule of events in advance. Tryouts/training for the State Youth Select year shall be scheduled and available at the summer LSA AGM. The schedule may be changed to accommodate weather, tournaments, regional requirements, etc.
5. Regional Camps are held each year, as needed based on national/international events, for certain age groups to identify players for possible selection to a national team. Sub-regional events may be scheduled within the year.
6. In order to further the development of Louisiana youth soccer, the State Youth Select Team Program has elected to emphasize the training aspects of the program. Therefore, at least 50% of each session will be devoted to training. It is the goal of the program to schedule a minimum of four sessions.

## C. PLAYER INFORMATION

1. All LSA players will be notified annually, either by their club, the LSA website ([www.lsa-soccer.org](http://www.lsa-soccer.org)) or the Far Post of the schedule of tryouts and training for the State Youth Select Team Program. LSA will attempt to notify all coaches and club officials to assist in notifying their players of the State Youth Select Team Program. All correspondence will come from the LSA Office or the LSA Youth Vice-President.
2. Players must reside within Louisiana but need not be an LSA member.
3. Players will respond by application form and necessary tryout fee prior to participating.
  - a. The tryout fee at the area trials will be \$20.00 per player.
  - b. The tryout fee at the state trials will be \$15.00 per player plus room and board.
  - c. The players named to a pool or team may be assessed additional fees to cover all expenses incurred such as team entry fees to tournaments or games and to cover administrative costs of mail, telephone calls, field expenses, practice uniforms, etc.
  - d. The players selected on the LSA Youth Select teams to attend Sub-Regional games or the Region III Camps will be assessed a final fee to cover all related expenses of camp fees, administrator and coach fees, uniforms, etc.
4. No player will be permitted to participate in the State Trials without having submitted all required, properly completed forms and fees.
5. The State Youth Select Team Program is self-funded by the participants. LSA does provide a minimal amount of funds to cover some of the administrative operating expenses. Players shall assume all expenses for travel, lodging and food, unless specifically provided for by the State Association. Fees collected will cover such expenses as coaches/administrator/coordinator expenses, Gatorade, field charges, etc.
6. Any player cut from the trials (District/State), for any reason shall not be considered for selection beyond that point in the current State Youth Select year. Exceptions to this can only be approved by the Youth Vice-President and the State Director of Coaching jointly.
7. LSA firmly expects that all persons involved in any part of the State Youth Select Team Program to adhere to the principles of good Fair Play and to commit no acts of misconduct.

## D. SELECTION FORMAT

1. The LSA State Youth Select Team Program has endorsed the emphasis of the development and training goals of the national and regional programs as the most important aspects for the Louisiana player. Therefore, the final selection will be postponed until necessary to meet regional and national deadlines.
1. At the beginning of the soccer year, the State Director of Coaching will nominate a State Select Team Staff from the Louisiana Staff Coaches. These staff coaches will be

- approved by the State Youth Select Team Committee and will participate in the training/identification sessions throughout the state. At least two State Youth Select Team Staff coaches must be in attendance at each session. A female coordinator must be present at all female events. The State Director of Coaching shall insure the attendance of an adequate number of Select Team Staff Coaches to properly conduct each session, with a minimum of two. The State Director of Coaching shall provide the State Youth Select Team Staff coaches with a syllabus tailored to the appropriate age group and skill level.
2. Registration shall be open to all players. Training/identification sessions will be scheduled to include at least four sessions per age group to be selected. Prior to the deadline for naming of the select teams, the State Youth Select Team Coaching Staff shall meet as a whole and choose up to 18 players and 6 alternates for each age group team. After the selection of the team and alternates, the State Select Team Committee and the State Director of Coaching shall appoint State Youth Select Team Staff Coaches to specific teams for further training and attendance at Sub-Regional and Regional events. In the event a player is unable to attend, alternate players will be invited to participate based on their ranking by the State Youth Select Team Staff.
  3. Training/identification sessions may be conducted on an area level with the areas established by the State Youth Select Team Committee on the basis of geographic location and registration. At least half of the training/identification sessions will be conducted on a statewide basis.
  4. All players are expected to participate in the training/identification sessions each year. This requirement and the registration fee will be waived for any player who has been selected as a regional pool player or to a higher level. The State Youth Select Team Committee may carry over a team if regional or national requirements demand it.

#### E. DEADLINES

Deadline dates for paperwork and fees are set by the Regional Office. Currently the deadlines are:

1. BOYS:
  - a. Received in the LSA Office on or before May 15.
  - b. Received in Region III on or before June 1.
2. GIRLS:
  - a. Received in the LSA Office on or before May 15.
  - b. Received in Region III on or before June 1.

#### F. AGE GROUPS

1. It is recommended that players attend the trials in their respective age groups and not move up to a higher age group. A player of exceptional ability may be invited by the State Director of Coaching, with the approval of the Youth Vice-President, to participate at a higher age group.
2. The age groups used each year will be the recommended age groups of the USSF and its affiliates.

#### G. CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship shall not be a factor for selection in a State Youth Select Team Program. Determination of need for citizenship will be made by the Region III USYSA level. As of July 1990, if selected to a Regional/National team, citizenship is required prior to the player's participation in a National event.