

POLICY MANUAL FOR KYSO TRAVEL SOCCER



**Kaneland Youth Soccer Organization
2009-2010**

Mission

The Kaneland Youth Soccer Organization (KYSO) Travel Soccer program is an extension of the KYSO recreational program. The purpose of KYSO Club Soccer is to provide players developing within the recreational league or in other community soccer programs an opportunity to play at a more challenging level of competition and to receive more individualized instruction by our coaching staff.

Goals

- Provide an attractive soccer environment that nurtures the highest level of competition.
- Provide every interested Kaneland-area child with the opportunity to qualify to play competitive travel soccer.
- Develop superior life skills through team play, sportsmanship, top competition, and hard work.
- Develop soccer players who have an opportunity for success at the highest appropriate level of competition.
- Develop strong KYSO Travel teams able to compete effectively at local and tournament levels.

Long-Range Objectives

- At U-10 and below, form and support at least one team in each age group, comprised of players of various abilities, with the primary goal of developing the players.
- At U-11 and above, support at least one team in each age group, with the goal of being able to advance to as high a division as possible in local competitive leagues and to produce players for the age group in a developmental environment.

Expectations

KYSO Travel Soccer expects member teams to be in good standing and support and adhere to the policies adopted by the club. A team in “good standing” is a team which follows the written policies of the club including, but not limited to, prompt payment of all fees, dues, and travel registration policies described in this document (*Policy Manual for KYSO Travel Soccer*). Teams in good standing are eligible to receive KYSO scholarship funds, reimbursement for coach licensing courses, access to summer and winter (indoor) practice space, and other KYSO benefits. Teams not in good standing with KYSO will receive sanctions which may include but not be limited to ineligibility for KYSO-coordinated summer and winter practices and programs, ineligibility for scholarship funds and coach licensing reimbursements, fines, and ultimately, expulsion from the club.

All KYSO policies adopted by the Board of Directors will be compiled into one document. This *Policy Manual for KYSO Travel Soccer* will be distributed to all teams and posted on the KYSO web site. Addendums will be distributed to each team as needed. It is the responsibility of the Coach to ensure that their families are aware of KYSO policies.

KYSO Travel Soccer Program Content

Competitive Play

Travel teams will be registered to play within leagues sanctioned by the Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA). Many of our teams currently play in the Northern Illinois Soccer League (NISL) and the Illinois Women’s Soccer League (IWSL). Travel teams compete at the most competitive level appropriate for their abilities. Teams are not required to play at pre-defined levels and are not required to move up as a condition of enrollment within KYSO Travel Soccer. Players will remain on the same team each year as long as skill levels between players is complementary and the desire to do so remains.

Training

Each team will have the opportunity to pursue professional training, depending on availability of funding.

Players and teams may choose to take advantage of optional indoor winter skills training and/or winter indoor leagues.

Tournament Play

Teams may elect to participate in tournaments during the year but are not required to do so. KYSO Travel Soccer urges all teams to participate in seeding tournaments in the fall season, as this often ensures teams will be placed in appropriate competitive divisions.

Players / Teams

The majority of team players must be from areas serviced by the KYSO recreational league, principally Elburn, Sugar Grove, Kaneville, Maple Park, Lily Lake, and Virgil. KYSO is supported by the families and businesses in our communities for the purpose of developing players from within those communities.

Try outs will be held each spring for the season beginning in the fall of that year. Parents will be required to sign appropriate registration and medical waiver forms prior to their child's participation. Selected players must enroll as a KYSO Travel Soccer player by completing KYSO Travel Soccer Application and IYSA waiver.

The Travel Soccer season runs from August through June and represents a higher commitment, both in terms of time and money, than our recreational program. KYSO Travel Soccer encourages players to consider their enrollment on a travel team as a year-long commitment. Fees are not refundable once the season has started.

The number and level of teams will be determined by the availability of players, coaches, and fields with an effort made to place each applicant who desires a higher commitment to soccer.

Protocol for Enrolling New KYSO Travel Teams

Anyone wishing to establish a roster for a new team must abide by the following procedure:

1. Each team must have one identified Head Coach with appropriate level of coaching credential (see below). Although a Team Parent/Manager may handle all KYSO registration paperwork, all coaches must sign Coaches' Code of Conduct and remit the signed Code of Conduct with KYSO New Travel Team Registration form.
2. Each team must fill out KYSO New Travel Team Registration form available through the KYSO web site.
3. Each new team must submit KYSO New Travel Team Registration form to KYSO Director of Travel Soccer at least 4 weeks prior to the initial Team Registration date for the league in which they wish to compete.
4. Each new team must have the minimum number of players to field a team, according to the regulations of the league in which they wish to register, before they apply for KYSO Registration.
5. Each team must abide by and collect all KYSO Travel Program Fees (for both registration and uniforms) in the form of checks made out to "KYSO."
6. Each new team must submit all fees collected for any new team at least one week prior to the Team Registration date for the league in which they propose to compete.

Dual Participation

Simultaneous participation in both the recreational and traveling programs is allowed. Traveling team coaches will allow players to miss Saturday practices if it conflicts with recreational league play. If a player registers for the recreational league and subsequently is accepted on a KYSO Club team, a portion of the recreational fee will be transferred, if requested, by the KYSO Registrar.

Organization

Director of Travel Soccer (KYSO Board position)

The Director of Travel Soccer (hereafter, Director) is an elected member of the KYSO Board of Directors. The Director is responsible for the

organization and operation of the travel program. The Director reports to the Board regarding the status of the travel program and administers the Board's decisions.

The Director prepares an annual budget, including registration and all associated fees, and presents it to the Board for review and approval.

The Director monitors team activities for compliance with the KYSO *Code of Conduct*, especially with regard to field and sideline conduct by players and families. Violations of the *Code of Conduct* are reported to the KYSO President who will review and refer all violations to the Chairperson of the Rules and Discipline Review Committee (see below).

While the Director is responsible for the oversight of all KYSO Travel teams, coaches have the primary responsibility for forming teams and assigning players. The Director is responsible in consultation with coaches for the selection of professional trainers.

The KYSO Board, prior to the season, must approve all coach and team selections.

Coaches

Coaches are parent volunteers. Experience in coaching KYSO recreational league is preferred but not required. All coaches must sign the *Coaches' Code of Conduct* agreement and must abide by the following procedures:

1. All coaches and assistant coaches must have the appropriate license and/or certificate for U8 through U19 at the time they register a team for the Fall of any season and must have applied for their coaches' passes with the appropriate league office. If a coach or assistant coach does not have a license and/or certificate, he/she cannot be listed as the coach on the roster form and cannot be issued a coach's pass, according to the rules of the leagues KSYO plays in.
2. For U8 through U12 the minimum requirement is a Youth Module for the specific age group or an E license. For U13 through U19 a minimum of an E license is needed for the IWSL. Starting 2010 NISL requires a D License for U-14 through U-18. Most leagues (NISL and IWSL) will accept National Soccer Coaches Association (NSCAA) National Youth Diplomas.

IWSL will also accept American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) license/certificates as equivalents up to U12.

3. Refer to the Illinois Youth Soccer Association's (IYSA) web page at www.iysa.org for a listing of license and certificate courses scheduled.

4. If there are no courses scheduled for your age group, you can call Ian Mulliner at the IYSA (847-290-1577) to find out how to get a clinic scheduled. It is suggested that your club sponsor one in conjunction with other clubs in your area. There has to be a minimum of 15 persons in class and evening classes can be scheduled.

5. In most leagues, every coach, assistant coach and/or trainer on the sideline must have a license/certificate and a coach's pass.

6. KYSO Travel encourages coaches, or another team parent, to attempt to earn a referee license from the United States Soccer Federation (USSF).

7. The coach's licensing/certification as explained above is non-negotiable.

Coaches are the main conduit of communication between the KYSO Board, players, and player families. Game schedules, cancellations, locations, etc. will be communicated through the coach and posted on the KYSO web site. Coaches will collect fees and documents required for league submission (see Finance section below for details).

Coaches will actively participate in player selection, abiding by league and KYSO Travel rules at all times. Program fees, but not uniform fees, are waived for the children of the Head Coach and one Assistant Coach for each team.

KYSO Administration

KYSO Travel Soccer will be responsible for communication with the soccer leagues and will work with the team coaches and parents to provide for smooth operation of the team.

Rules and Discipline Committee

A Rules and Discipline (R&D) Review Committee will be established by the Board of Directors on an *ad hoc*, case-by-case basis to review complaints made against both recreational and travel teams and/or coaches that are believed to be in non-compliance with one or more KYSO policies. The President of the Board of Directors will appoint a Chairperson and four additional committee members from among coaches and/or Board members. At least three members will hear each case, including the Chairman. If a team subject to sanction is connected to a member of the R& D Review Committee, that member will recuse him/herself and his/her position shall be taken by the KYSO President.

If the R&D Review Committee finds that a violation may exist, it will inform the team and/or coach involved. Such team and/or coach is entitled to a hearing before the R&D Review Committee to present its/his/her position on the existence and extent of any potential violation and the appropriateness of the sanction(s) therefor, if any. As soon as practicable thereafter, the R&D Review Committee will inform the team and/or coach of its decision in writing. Teams and/or coaches may appeal the decision of the R&D Review Committee, including the sanction of expulsion from the club, to the KYSO Board of Directors by submitting within fourteen (14) days of written notification of the decision a written statement of the reasons why the decision should be modified. The KYSO Board will consider in such appeals only questions related to the KYSO policy(ies) involved and the sanction(s) imposed, and not any finding of fact by the R&D Review Committee.

Finance

The KYSO Travel program is financially segregated from the recreational league.

Registration Fees are determined by the Director of Travel Soccer and passed by the Board of Directors. All fees will be collected by the coach and delivered to KYSO Board of Directors. All fees should be submitted in the form of a bank check made out to "KYSO." Receipts will be provided if requested. Coaches will maintain a three-ring binder with the completed player registration form(s), birth certificate, and/or previous player pass.

For 2009-2010 soccer seasons (spring, fall, and spring), the KYSO Travel program fee will be \$175 in the fall and \$175 in the spring, assuming full team rosters. Fees will be assessed on a seasonal and pre-paid basis and will cover registration. Fees can be refunded, upon request, prior to team registration with the league, or due to lack of players. Once a player is registered, fees will not be refunded. Fees will be established to cover anticipated expenses as approved by the Board and required as part of the program. Sponsor fees, if any, may be used to reduce player fees or to improve elements of the program.

Uniform fees covering the cost of the uniform and accessories will be assessed separately from program fees. The base uniform fee is currently \$40, which includes 2 uniform jerseys, one uniform short, and one pair of uniform socks. Other accessories are available at an additional cost.

Tournaments

KYSO Club Soccer encourages teams to compete in league tournaments. All tournament arrangements and fees should be made in coordination with the KYSO Director of Travel Soccer.

Fields

KYSO will be responsible for field assignments and field maintenance.

Referees and Lines persons

KYSO Travel Administration and coaches will cooperate with the Leagues' Referee Assignor(s). League Assignors need the cooperation of coaches in order to facilitate assignment of referees through possible home-game start-time changes. Since KYSO wants to attract the best referees, all coaches are urged to schedule all home games as closely together as possible. Each team may be required to comply with the affiliated league rules for obtaining new referees and lines people.

Uniforms

All KYSO Travel uniforms will be purchased through KYSO. The intention of the program is to maintain uniform consistency year after year, allowing

players to move between teams or to utilize the same uniform for multiple seasons. The uniform will have the KYSO Travel Soccer logo along with a player number on the jersey and shorts.

Scholarship Fund Guidelines

Some limited scholarship funds may be available through KYSO. If you are interested in exploring such funding, please contact the Director of KYSO Travel or any KYSO Board member.