

1. Players that are eligible to play on a younger team but are grade appropriate to play up with their classmates, will be allowed to play grade appropriate.
2. Should sufficient numbers dictate, the A.S.A. Board of Directors may create extra teams for any division. In order to be eligible for this, team players must first try out for their particular age division, when applicable. Additional teams will be formed from players unable to be included on the select age group team.
3. No child under the age of 7 as of August 1 of the current year is allowed to play on a Travel Team without ASA Board of Directors Approval
4. Player movement between teams, in their own division, is up to the two coaches with approval of VP of Travel and Director of Boys or Girls as well as in keeping with the League Bylaws. Eighteen players are the maximum allowed on a travel team roster unless league rules state otherwise. Any team rostering more than 18 players will need ASA Board approval to do so
5. A new team forming with under aged players on it to help fill a roster must make it known that the underage players must move down to their proper age group when a team is formed. All new sign-ups must play in their particular age groups.
6. Out of town players are allowed by ASA. Waiver from town player lives in will be required. If the town the player comes from does not field a team, a waiver is not necessary. Out of town players may not take the place of an eligible Agawam player. No Agawam player will be cut from the program to make room for an out of town player. ASA Board of Directors can review certain situations.
7. Players may not refuse a position on the select team unless previously played for that coach for one season. This will be subject to ASA Board of Directors approval.
8. NO guaranteed spots on any teams. Coaches and assistant coaches' children will be rated accordingly to their ability and will not automatically receive a roster spot because their parent is the coach.
9. All players assigned to a Travel Soccer Team are expected to commit to both the fall and spring seasons.
10. At try outs are held in June. Players that make team are guaranteed a spot for FALL and SPRING. If a player from a "Division 1" team drops in between seasons then a player from the "Division 2" team can be called up to take spot. Out of town players or school choice players who are given a spot at June try out will not be dropped in between Fall and Spring seasons as ASA will commit to the two-season spot that a player is given.

No child may play outside their age/grade appropriate bracket unless:

1. An opening exists in the next bracket up. No age/grade appropriate player, who is duly signed up, may be cut to make room for the underage player.

2. Subject to tryouts this player is grand fathered only if additional age/grade appropriate players do not tryout.

3. Any player that may play outside their division for any reason must be approved by 2/3 majority vote of the ASA Board of Directors.

II. ASA PV TRY OUT PROCEDURES

1. Tryouts

Tryouts will be held on two separate days, a third if necessary upon coach's request. Players must attend one day mandatory, two days at coach request. It is highly recommended to attend all tryouts for the best opportunity to be rated accordingly.

Players must be registered in the online system before tryouts. Multiple children families must pay full fees for all Travel players. In Town policy is separate, SEE INTOWN BYLAWS.

All players wishing to play for any travel team MUST attend a tryout to be eligible. Exceptions to include: injury, other medical condition, and personal family matters. Any player wishing to play, that cannot attend a try out, must send letter or email to Agawam Soccer prior to the try out.

In the event a player is unable to try out, previous coach may grade the player based on his/her history and judgment of the player.

2. Tryout Format:

All players will be given a number to wear on body, numbers will correspond to list that evaluators will have.

Players will be broken up into as many groups of 4 players and into even groups. 3, 4, or 5 players can be in group to even out if necessary.

Players will be evaluated by three people, one being head coach, others being independent from team.

3. Tryout Exercises:

Players will all do 15 minutes of foundation exercises, followed by three 15-minute mini-games and a 45-minute full field game, rotating teams as necessary.

Final 15 minutes will be head coach discretion.

This format is suggested and open for review depending on numbers and at coach discretion.

4. Evaluators:

Evaluators will be three people minimum, one being head coach and two being other coach with the third being e-council member or appointed person by VP of Travel Affairs. Asst, coaches will not be evaluating. This is mock model, and can be modified to fit schedules, but another PV coach must be second evaluator.

- U-09 Try Outs: U-10 Coach
- U-10 Try Outs: U-11 Coach
- U-11 Try Outs: U-12 Coach
- U-12 Try Outs: U-13 Coach
- U-13 Try Outs: U-14 Coach
- U-14 Try Outs: U-9 Coach

Coaches will ideally stay with their own gender; boy's coaches stay with boys and girl coaches stay with girl's. If there is a situation that requires overlapping of genders, Travel Director(s) may ask girls and boys coaches to rate other teams.

5. Rating Players:

Each evaluator will have a sheet with all players listed next to number on jersey they are given.

Evaluators will use sheets to rate each player within the group they are put in, each evaluator will rate each player during the mini games, from 1-4 (if there are 4 players) 1 being the lowest rating, 4 being the last highest rating. Each evaluator will look at each group and rating the players in each group as they see necessary. We will use a rating between 1 and 4 so no middle number can be picked (recommended by MYSA). Head coach's children and or assistant coach's children are not automatically given spots on rosters due to coach positions or board positions.

Agawam Soccer Association reserves the right, if the situation permits and with e-council approval, to employ outside organizations (US Soccer, MYSA, exct) for the tryout and selection of a given team. This would take the selection process away from ASA and allow outside organizations full authority to pick the roster. This will only be done when there are major issues with team selection between coaches and parents and will not be done without majority Board of Directors approval. This may be determined before try out date or after depending on circumstances.

Final Roster: The final roster decision will be voted on by the ASA board for approval. The head coach's discretion on the roster will be weighed heavily during the process but final decision will be ASA Board of Directors. The two other evaluators will give their input and ratings prior to the full field breakdown. The ASA Boards decision should be made in agreement with evaluators. Travel Soccer Directors may also decide to modify numbers on a team to allow for second team (or to raise the roster number in the spring to avoid issues with other sports) if necessary. These decisions will be made with best interest of ASA and the concerning team, and will not be done without ASA Board of Directors approval. Head coaches are not to notify

players of spots on the team until ASA Board has approved the roster. Roster size will be determined with input from the head coach.

Age groups that do not turn in three evaluation sheets that are effectively cutting players or assigning to separate teams (“Division 1” or “Division 2”) will not be valid for finalizing rosters.

In the event that a team has just enough registrations to field a team and there will not be cuts or player movement between teams, evaluation sheets will not be necessary. Although all players are asked to pre-register on the web site, it is probable that players will show up for try outs without registering. Coaches will be asked to still attend the try out and be available for un-registered players to attend. Coach can have player attend another try out that is going on to evaluate player.

Tryout records: Grading sheets done by evaluators will be collected after team has been selected and will be kept on-file with ASA for one season. Records are not made available to anyone other than head coaches and evaluators and Travel Soccer Directors. If a certain age group does not have the numbers for an evaluated try out, an evaluation sheet for that age group should still be filed by Travel Directors to document the team’s non-evaluated try-out.

In between Fall and Spring seasons, any team that loses players will recruit players from the previous tryout list first. Coaches may request a winter tryout to determine ability for team selection.

The ASA board reserves the right to modify rosters, coach positions, and all other aspects of the team(s) during any point of the season or in between seasons that the Board feels is in the best interest of the team.

III. Uniforms

Uniforms will be supplied by ASA as a separate fee to the player. The uniform is the players and is not owned by ASA. Uniforms will be replaced to each team every 4 seasons (two years) new players will be given a new uniform and each team will get socks each season. Lost or damaged uniforms will be purchased by individual player. Uniforms can be purchased on the Agawam Soccer Website Team Store.

IV. Coach Licensing (effective 12/2006 Revised March 2022)

All travel coaches must possess a US Soccer Grass Roots Certification for the following age groups that they are currently in. Coaches will have until the start of the season they are in to complete the requirements. Coaches that have the G,F,E,D licenses (or NSCAA equivalent) from prior years may submit in place of the current guidelines.

U8/U9/U10	7v7 Grass Roots Course - 4 Hour In person or 2+2 hour online/in person
U11/U12	9v9 Grass Roots Course - 4 Hour In person or 2+2 hour online/in person
U13/U14	11v11 Grass Roots Course – 4 Hour In person or 2+2 hour online/in person

First year coaches will also be required to schedule one (1) on field training each season (fall and spring) with ASA Director of Coaching. This can be done at any time but encouraged to do early in season.

If a coach does not meet the requirements of Agawam Soccer for licensing they will be classified as an "intern" coach and will have to re-interview for the position each season after the team is posted for coaching applicants.

ASA will reimburse all qualified coaches for the registration cost of the Grass Roots and D License, after they have paid, attended, and passes the course.

The following web sites can be used to access coach education and licensing opportunities:

<https://learning.ussoccer.com/coach>

V. Selection of Coaches

1. A coach requesting to coach a Travel Team should have prior soccer coaching experience.
2. Each team will be headed by one coach who will pick his/her assistants. All assistants must be approved by ASA Board during final roster approvals.
3. The selection of coaches for all seasons will be approved by the ASA Board of Directors of the ASA and may be removed by the Executive Committee with a 2/3 vote.
4. Coaches will move up with their respective teams when those teams advance to an older age group.
5. The Travel Team Coach's Body will be composed of the head coach of each team. Meetings will be called by the Vice President Travel Teams.
6. Coaches will be renewed with their perspective teams at the end of each spring season, prior to tryouts. Coaches being renewed will be renewed from a 2/3 vote of the ASA Board.
7. Any coach inserted into a season for any reason will be considered an "interim" coach until end of spring season. At that time refer to Section V. Line 6.

VI. Coaches' Responsibilities

1. Coach will be provided with Travel Team rules, regulations and protest procedures by the boys and girls directors of Travel Teams.
2. Coaches must familiarize themselves and their teams with all of these rules.
3. Coaches must familiarize parents with the rules governing parents, uniforms, and players.
4. Coaches must submit team rosters and player passes in accordance with Roots Soccer League Guidelines and with US Club Soccer
5. Coaches will be responsible to be represented at all meetings as directed by the Vice President of Travel Affairs.

6. Coaches are required at the end of each spring season to submit an evaluation of each player from the previous Fall and Spring season. These evaluations will be used as part of the tryout process in June. Coaches will not be renewed for the following seasons without handing in their evaluation sheets from the previous year.

VII. Disciplinary Action - Coaches/Assistants

For any infraction of the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association "Coaches Code of Conduct" (contained herein) or the US Club Soccer or Roots Soccer League Code of Conduct, or the ASA Code of Conduct, the Agawam Soccer Association Executive Board will initiate an investigation. Based upon the results of the investigation the ASA Board of Directors may take the following action with any coach/assistant. A majority vote by the ASA Board of Directors is required to warn or suspend a coach/assistant. A 2/3 majority vote of the ASA Board of Directors is required to permanently remove the coach/assistant from any ASA events/teams.

Warning - the coach/assistant is given a verbal warning explaining the behavior that was deemed inappropriate and against the M.Y.S.A. or other governing body's "Coaches Code of Conduct". This warning will be documented in the ASA minutes.

Suspension - the coach/assistant may be suspended from coaching his/her team for a period of time as deemed appropriate by the ASA Board of Directors.

The Executive Board will then appoint an interim coach for the time.

The suspended coach/assistant MAY NOT participate in any practices or games with the team and MUST be on the parents' side of the field during any league games during the suspension.

Any violation of rule 2 may result in the permanent removal of that coach/assistant.

Removal - The coach/assistant can be permanently removed from coaching and ASA sponsored team or in any ASA sponsored event.

Two warnings within the same season (Fall and Spring constitute separate seasons) can result in an immediate 1-year suspension.

Any Coach/Assistant has the right to appeal the Agawam Soccer Associations' decision to the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association or the organization that the ASA is currently affiliated with. All appeals must follow the governing organizations rules for appeals.

Agawam Soccer coaches are expected to represent Agawam Soccer Association, players, parents, and themselves appropriately at all times. This includes: regular season, practices, away tournaments, indoor soccer, and any other team event. The Agawam Soccer Board can take appropriate action against coaches that do not represent themselves appropriately at any event with Agawam Soccer.

PARENTS

Parents and fans will be required to stay at least 10 feet from the sidelines.

No one will be permitted behind either goal.

No alcoholic beverage will be permitted on the field at any time.

If a team forfeits a game due to the conduct of an Agawam parent, the Executive Committee will take appropriate disciplinary action

PLAYERS

The position of a player and his/her playing time is left to the coaches' discretion.

The ASA Executive Board strongly recommends participation by all players and by a 2/3 vote may require a coach/assistant to play certain players a minimum amount of time per game. At any time during the season, a coach may request to drop a player from his roster if there's an attitude or discipline problem. That coach must provide a written statement of the issues with the player to the VP of Travel Soccer. Coach must notify the Travel Teams V.P. within 24 hours. Player can only be removed from the team by a 2/3 vote of the ASA Board.

Other reasons which may cause a coach to drop a child from his roster or not play a player in a game are absenteeism, inability to play as a team member and negative parent involvement. Coach must notify the Vice President of Travel Affairs within 24 hours.

TOURNAMENT PLAY

State Tournament Play

The ASA will pay the cost of State tournament play for all teams, which qualify for State play downs. Special consideration shall be given to all Agawam State Champions and Runner-ups.

Should a Travel Team(s) demonstrate exceptional performance in any mid-season or post-season state or regional competition the ASA Executive Board may exercise an option of special consideration for awards.

FUND RAISING

If a team desires to raise money for any appropriate reason, by means of a fund-raising activity, the ASA Executive Committee must first approve it. The coach shall contact their respective Travel Director with the details of the fundraiser in writing, who will present it to the ASA Executive Committee. That specific fundraiser, if approved, is good for one season (spring or fall)

TEAM FUNDS

Every travel team will have its own team account. A team can add to this fund through fundraisers (see Fundraising).

A coach can use team funds for, but not limited to the following: training items (cones, ball, etc.), indoor fees, soccer camp fees, warm-up gear, gear bags, goalie shirts/gloves, and training videos/books

Team funds may only be used for a team party at the U-14 level.

If a coach decides to use his/her team funds, the coach shall contact (via e-mail or telephone) their respective Travel Team Director with the reason for the use of team funds for approval. If approved, the Director shall contact (via e-mail or telephone) the coach and the ASA Treasurer. If not approved the Director shall contact (via e-mail or telephone) the coach and explain the reason for the non-approval

The coach shall provide a receipt to the ASA Treasurer

The ASA Treasurer will keep a detailed report of each team account and will present a report of each team account to the Vice President of Travel Affairs at the beginning and at the conclusion of each season.

AMENDMENTS

These Rules and Regulations may be amended by a majority vote of the Agawam Soccer Association Executive Committee

MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Coaches Code of Conduct

The Board of Directors of Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association, Incorporated (Mass Youth Soccer) and the leaders of the affiliated Leagues are concerned about the conduct of all coaches and referees during games at all levels, from recreational to premier to ODP.

We want to ensure that games are fair, positive and enjoyable experiences for all of the children and adults involved. A soccer game should be friendly and unifying - a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, referees and spectators.

- To clarify expectations of coach conduct, we jointly expect all coaches to conform to this code of conduct.
- Before, during and after the game, be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
- Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee.
- During the game, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of your players is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him/her to calm down.

- During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of the parents of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting.
- Encourage them to applaud and cheer for good plays by either team. Discourage them and you may need to be forceful and direct from yelling at players and the referee.
- During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of spectators rooting for your team.
- During the game, do not address the referee at all. If you have a small issue, discuss it with the referee calmly and patiently after the game.
- If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion to your League. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.
- After the game, thank the referee and ask your players to do the same.

We stress two points:

1. Referees - especially young and inexperienced ones - are like your players and yourself, in that they need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them to improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes and by offering constructive post-game comments. On the other hand, you could discourage and demoralize the referees by criticizing their decisions, by verbally abusing them and inciting - or even accepting - your own players' overly aggressive behavior.
2. Your example is powerful, for better or worse. If you insist on fair play, if you concentrate on your players' enjoyment of the game and their overall, long term development, and if you support the referee, your players and their parents will notice. **If you encourage (or allow) your players to play outside the rules, if you're overly concerned about results, and if you criticize the referee harshly, your players and their parents will also notice.** Think about what you're doing during a game! Uphold the Spirit of the Game! If you follow the expectations described above, the spirit of the game will be alive and well in Massachusetts and will grow, along with the enjoyment of all.

Coaches who don't follow the expectations described above will be disciplined or removed

PREMIER SOCCER

Agawam Soccer and Premier Soccer integration guidelines

The Agawam Soccer Association will promote, assist, and comply with all players and their desire to further their soccer skills by playing premier soccer. Agawam Soccer Association will

support all players and their desire to play for any premier organization. Agawam Soccer will comply with all rules and regulations of dual rostering players between travel and premier (MYSA/US Club) as it pertains to conflicts and dual roster situations. Agawam Soccer will promote this throughout the organization so that at no time can a coach, parent, or other may distract, discipline, or forbid any player from participating in a premier organization. Agawam Soccer will ask that all players participating in premier play on Agawam travel teams.