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# SnVYSA Player Participation Policies

Last revision date: April 1, 2025

SnVYSA Player Participation policies define the administrative and operational rules and requirements for eligibility, registration, equipment, uniforms, withdrawals, transfers, injury, and illegal substances for all SnVYSA supervised and organized programs, activities, and events.

SnVYSA as a member of Washington Youth Soccer (WYS) is required to report player registration information and pay a player fee for all player participants of its programs to WYS on an annual basis for the seasonal year of participation.

## 1. Registration Fees

### 1.1 Good Standing

A player must be in “good standing” with SnVYSA to register for participation in any program, camp, clinic, or event organized, managed, and supervised by SnVYSA. An individual is in good standing if they are current on all financial obligations due to SnVYSA, are clear of any suspensions, removals, or disciplinary actions, and are in conformity with SnVYSA bylaws, policies and procedures as defined in the SnVYSA Bylaws, section 2.3.

### 1.2 Date of Birth and Birth Sex

A player registering with SnVYSA for the first time must provide a copy of a legal birth certificate or passport at the time of registration. The player’s date of birth and sex indicated on their legal birth certificate will determine eligibility for a program and age group placement within a program.

### 1.3 International Clearance.

A player who comes to the United States at 10 years of age or older, must request and receive an international clearance from U.S. Soccer. If a player meets this requirement, they must indicate that they have played soccer outside the United States in the registration and provide both their FIFA ID and their U.S. Soccer (USSF) ID numbers in the registration. This policy aligns with U.S. Soccer’s International Clearance Policy 601-6.

### 1.4 Play Level Classification

A player will be classified as “recreational” or “competitive” at the time of registration. Any player may participate in recreational soccer. For a player to be classified as “competitive”, a player is required to tryout with Cascade FC and be selected for a team. The play level classification is reported to Washington Youth Soccer (WYS) each seasonal year by the SnVYSA Registrar.

### 1.5 Player Dual League Restriction

A player’s play level classification determines the league the player will be participating in. A player may only participate and play in one (1) league at a time during a seasonal year and must agree and acknowledge this in their registration. For example, if a player’s play level classification is “competitive” and the player is playing in the RCL, NPSL, or any other “competitive” league, the player may not play with other teams classified as “recreational” in a recreational league or other teams within WYS classified as “competitive” during the same seasonal year.

## 2. Registration

### 2.1 Registration

A player must register and pay the required registration fees to participate in any SnVYSA organized and supervised program. A player will not be placed on a team until the required fees have been paid and applied to the registration.

### 2.2 Registration timeline

Many SnVYSA organized and supervised programs, events, and activities have a registration open and close period to participate. No registration will be allowed prior to the open date or after the close date unless otherwise indicated and published on the SnVYSA or Cascade FC websites. Outlined below are some of the SnVYSA programs with open and close periods.

- a. Cascade FC Tryouts  
Washington Youth Soccer (WYS) publishes the earliest tryout dates by birth sex and age group for the state in January of each calendar year. Subsequently, associations and clubs may publish their specific tryout dates.
  - i. Cascade FC player tryout dates, times, and locations will be published by birth sex and age group on the SnVYSA and Cascade FC websites at least 2 weeks prior to the first tryout date.
  - ii. An email notification will also be sent to appropriate age group players registered with SnVYSA in the previous season.
- b. Fall Recreational Soccer  
Fall Recreational soccer will open no later than April 1 of each calendar year and close May 31<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year.
  - i. Any registration received after the close date will incur a \$50 late fee and the player will be waitlisted and will not be placed on a team unless there is room.
  - ii. Waitlisted players that cannot be placed on a team will receive a full refund including any late fees.

### 2.3 Cascade FC Tryout and Registration

- a. Eligibility. Any player may register to tryout for Cascade FC without regard to SnVYSA school district boundaries.
- b. Play up. A player may indicate in their tryout registration that they would like to tryout for an older age group other than the age group of their birth year. Players may only request to tryout for a birth year that is one (1) year above the age group of their birth year. Players are advised to attend at least one tryout session with the age group of their birth year.
- c. Tryout Days. A minimum of 2 tryouts on separate days will be held for each sex and age group. A player must attend one (1) tryout to be eligible for selection on a team.
- d. Injury, Sickness. If a player, due to injury, illness, or any other reason, cannot attend tryouts, they must contact the Cascade FC Director of Operations.
- e. No Grandfathering. There are no grandfathered spots for returning Cascade FC players, all players are required to tryout each seasonal year.
- f. Registration. There are no onsite registrations for tryouts, all players must pre-register.
- g. Selection. Players must be invited for participation on a Cascade FC competitive team and will not receive the registration to accept a position on a Cascade FC team until they have received an invitation from the Cascade FC Director of Coaching or a Cascade FC Coach.
- h. Acceptance. Following the player invitation, the Cascade FC Director of Operations will send the player registration for acceptance to the team.
- i. Fees. All required fees due at the time of registration must be paid to confirm acceptance to the team and to be rostered to a team.

## **2.4 Play Up Request**

Some SnVYSA programs or activities may have the option for a player to request to “play up” one age group. If this is an option within the registration, a player whose age group is U7 or older may request to play-up one age group. Play-up requests are not guaranteed and will follow the Play-up rules by program outlined in SnVYSA League Policies – section 2.3(a) (Cascade FC Play Up Rules) and section 2.4(i) (Recreational Program Play Up Rules).

## **2.5 Friend Request**

- a. Cascade FC. Friend requests are prohibited for Cascade FC competitive teams, players must tryout and be invited and selected to participate on a team.
- b. Recreational. For recreational programs, where team formation is required, friend requests for the U6-U8 age groups may be considered and will be subject to the team formation rules outlined in the SnVYSA League Policies – section 2.4.

## **2.6 Emergency Contact and Medical Release**

An emergency contact and medical release form must be completed for each player at the time of registration and signed by the parents or legal guardian of the player before the player may participate in any SnVYSA organized and supervised program.

## **2.7 Concussion Waiver**

A player must complete a concussion waiver at the time of registration which must be signed by the player and the player’s parents or legal guardian before the player may participate in any SnVYSA organized and supervised program.

## **2.8 Sudden Cardiac Arrest Waiver**

A player must complete a sudden cardiac arrest waiver at the time of registration which must be signed by the player and the player’s parents or legal guardian before the player may participate in any SnVYSA organized and supervised program.

## 2.9 Player Photo

A player head shot is required for some programs and age groups participating in league games for official proof of registration, eligibility, and team affiliation. Outlined below are the requirements by program. programs.

- a. Cascade FC. A player membership pass with a headshot photo of each player is required to play in the Regional Club League and the North Puget Sound League each seasonal year.
  - i. The team manager of each Cascade FC team will take responsibility for taking the photos and uploading them into the Washington Youth Soccer system for their respective Cascade FC team.
  - ii. The Cascade FC Director of Operations will print and distribute the player cards to each team manager to laminate, place alphabetically on a ring, and make available at each game.
- b. Recreational. Any player participating in Washington Youth Soccer – League Washington age groups U13-U19 and any Recreational Cup tournament for age groups U11-U19 are required to have a recent head shot photo for Match Day rosters.
  - i. League WA. A player in the U13-U19 age group will be required to upload a recent head shot photo at the time of player registration.
  - ii. Recreational Cup. A recreational team in the U11-U19 age group registered for Recreational Cup will be required to provide a recent head shot photo of each player to the SnVYSA Registrar when they register. The head coach or assistant coach of each team is responsible for taking the photos and providing them to the SnVYSA Registrar.
  - iii. The SnVYSA Registrar will upload each player photo to the Washington Youth Soccer system for each Recreational Cup team.
  - iv. Player photos will be printed on the Match Day rosters.

### 3. Equipment

#### 3.1 Required Equipment

All players are required to have the following equipment to participate in any SnVYSA organized and supervised programs and activities:

- a. Shin guards
- b. Socks to cover shin guards
- c. Soccer cleats

#### 3.2 Prohibited Equipment

SnVYSA follows IFAB Law 4 for Player's Equipment. This rule states that a player **must not use** equipment or wear anything that is dangerous. The following equipment is prohibited:

- a. Jewelry  
All items of jewelry (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands, etc.) *are forbidden and must be removed before participation*. Using tape to cover jewelry is not permitted.
- b. Hard casts  
Hard casts, including fiberglass casts, are considered to pose a danger to both the wearer and other players and are NOT permitted to be worn.
- c. Glasses  
Traditional eyeglasses are not allowed due to the risk of injury.
- d. Protective gear
  - i. A soft cast or a "soft protective guard" will be permitted to play in if the cast does not present danger to the individual or any other player.
  - ii. Sports spectacles that are made of soft, lightweight material and meet safety standards defined by IFAB law 4 are permitted.
- e. Inspection  
The referee will have the final decision on equipment safety.

### 4. Uniforms

#### 4.1 Uniform Requirements

There may be SnVYSA organized and supervised programs, events, and activities that will require a player to purchase and wear a uniform for participation. This uniform requirement will be communicated and published on the SnVYSA and Cascade FC websites where applicable. When a uniform is required to be purchased for participation, it will include at a minimum:

- a. Jersey with sleeves
- b. Shorts
- c. Socks

#### 4.2 Supplied by SnVYSA

SnVYSA may supply a t-shirt or jersey for specific age groups and for specific programs, camps, clinics, or events to participate. Any uniform supplied by SnVYSA will be indicated by program, camp, clinic, or activity on the SnVYSA and Cascade FC websites where applicable. The parent or guardian is responsible for providing the player with their own shorts and socks for participation.

#### 4.3 Customized Uniform kits

- a. Uniform Kit. A customized uniform kit may be required to be purchased and worn by players for SnVYSA organized and supervised programs. Any customized uniform kit that is required to be purchased and worn by players for participation in a SnVYSA program will include the required uniform components, costs by age group(s), ordering instructions, and will be published on the SnVYSA and Cascade FC websites where applicable. The parent or guardian is responsible for ordering and paying for the required customized uniform components according to the instructions and guidelines provided by SnVYSA.
- b. Sponsors. Sponsors may be added to the customized uniform kits and approvals and requirements vary by program.
  - i. Recreational. A sponsor may be added to the customized uniform kit for the U11-U19 age groups for an additional cost. If a team is interested in adding a sponsor to the customized uniform kit, a team staff member must email the SnVYSA Registrar for ordering details and to request approval. All sponsors must be reviewed and approved by the SnVYSA Board before proceeding.
  - ii. Cascade FC. Cascade FC Directors may elicit a campaign for new uniform kit sponsors every 2 years. The policy for Sponsorships is outlined in SnVYSA Financial Policies.

#### 4.4 Base layers

A player may wear a base layer under their uniform. The jersey must be worn over the top of the base layer and be viewable by the referee. In general, base layers should be close in color or the same color as the jersey top or shorts if wearing tights or leggings. A soft hat or gloves are also permitted to be worn. Goal keepers may wear track suit bottoms.

#### 4.5 League play

Uniform requirements for league play will be indicated in SnVYSA League Policies – section 4.2.

### 5. Withdrawals

SnVYSA understands that there may be unforeseen circumstances that require the withdrawal of a player's registration due to player injury, an unexpected move, or personal reasons. If a parent or guardian requests to withdrawal their player from participation, they must follow the steps below.

#### 5.1 Notify in writing

All player withdrawals for any reason must be in writing and submitted to the appropriate program contact for processing.

- a. Recreational programs: Parent or guardian must notify the SnVYSA Registrar.
- b. Cascade FC: Parent or guardian must notify the Cascade FC Director of Operations.

#### 5.2 Pay any amounts still owed

If there is any balance due to SnVYSA on the players account, it must be paid before the player may be released. Any refund (if applicable) will follow the Recreational Refund or Cascade FC policies as applicable.

#### 5.3 Player Release from WYS

If a player is permanently withdrawing from participation with SnVYSA, the player withdrawal must be completed and approved by the SnVYSA Registrar within the Washington Youth Soccer (WYS) registration system before a player is officially released.

## 6. Transfers

SnVYSA expects players and parents to honor their commitment to participate once registered to keep teams intact and maintain team viability. It is with this commitment in mind that SnVYSA has instituted the following program policies regarding player transfers.

### 6.1 Recreational

If the player's play level classification is "recreational", and the player is registered and playing on a Fall Recreational Soccer team, the player must complete the full recreational league season they are actively participating in prior to requesting a transfer to participate in a new league, club, or association. The only exception to this transfer policy is if the player is moving out of SnVYSA boundaries and will be participating in soccer in the city they are relocating to during the current seasonal year.

### 6.2 Competitive

If the player's play level classification is "competitive", and the player is registered and playing on a Cascade FC team, players are expected to honor their agreement to play for the full, current club seasonal year. If a player wants to approach, practice, and join another club mid-season after registration is paid, the player must get approval from the Cascade FC Director of Coaching, in advance, and in writing, to participate or to be released. The club agrees to allow a player to transfer to another club mid-season, if desired.

### 6.3 Player Transfer with WYS

All transfer requests must be completed and approved by the SnVYSA Registrar within the Washington Youth Soccer (WYS) registration system before a player is officially transferred.

## 7. Injuries

SnVYSA takes player injuries very seriously and does not recommend any player participate in any SnVYSA organized or supervised activities if an injury is severe and can be further aggravated by the player's participation and/or be a danger to other players.

### 7.1 Medical attention

Players are expected to seek the appropriate professional medical attention for all medical concerns and keep their coach and the SnVYSA contact listed below up to date on their progress.

### 7.2 Notification

The parent or legal guardian of an injured player must notify the appropriate program contact listed below to inform them of the injury for documentation and processing. The program contact must be kept informed and up to date on the player's progress. All physicians return to play forms must be submitted to the program contact for documentation with a copy to the player's coach.

- a. Recreational programs: Parent or guardian must notify the SnVYSA Registrar.
- b. Cascade FC: Parent or guardian must notify the Cascade FC Director of Operations.

### 7.3 Physicians' Note to Return To Play

- a. In the event a player has a severe injury that will prevent them from playing or is diagnosed with a concussion by an experienced medical professional and unable to participate, a physician's written approval is required to return to play.
- b. A copy of the physician approval form must be provided to the player's coach by the player or parent/guardian prior to the player returning to play and the coach must confirm receipt.

## 8. Team Purchases, Events, and Tournaments

SnVYSA understands that teams may decide to purchase team gear to enhance team spirit or plan an organized team event to increase team camaraderie or enter a tournament for additional fun and team competition. It is important that all players, coaches, parents, and legal guardians are made aware of and understand the SnVYSA rules and guidelines of organizing and participating in such team purchases and activities such as those defined below.

### 8.1 Recreational Program

- a. Equipment and Uniforms. Parents are not required to purchase equipment or uniform items other than those defined in this policy in section 3.1[Required Equipment] and 4.3[Customized Uniforms].
- b. Tournaments. Teams participating in a recreational tournament where a tournament fee is required to be paid by a team will follow the rules and guidelines outlined below.
  - i. Tournament fees must be published to coaches, parents, and players prior to the registration open date.
  - ii. The head coach of the team will register and pay the tournament fee for the team at the time of registration.
  - iii. Players are required to pay their portion of the tournament fee to the head coach.
  - iv. The tournament fee amount owed by each player will be calculated by taking the tournament registration fee and dividing by the number of players officially rostered to the team for the tournament.
  - v. Any amounts due by players to the head coach must be collected by the head coach.
- c. Team Events. Parents and guardians may organize team events outside those supervised and organized by SnVYSA
  - i. Parents and guardians must not be compelled to participate in or pay for a team organized activity, event, or purchase.
  - ii. SnVYSA will not reimburse coaches, parents/guardians, or players for unanticipated costs or fees resulting from purchases and events organized solely by the team and not by SnVYSA or any fees required to be paid directly by those participants.

### 8.2 Cascade FC Program

As part of participation in the Cascade FC program, parents and guardians are expected to contribute to cover "team" purchases and events in the form of per-player assessments. Team expenses are the responsibility of each individual team, collected through assessments from each player, and managed by the team treasurer and team manager. Assessments may be collected a couple of times during the season, depending on the team's schedule for the year. Outlined below are the rules and guidelines pertaining to team expenses.

- a. Team Expenses. Team expenses and needs will vary by team depending on the age group and the competitive level of the team. At a minimum, the team expenses will include a budget line item for the following:
  - i. Equipment, if applicable: (e.g. bench, tent, first aid kit)
  - ii. Tournament fees (minimum 3 tournaments per season)
  - iii. Coach travel expenses

- iv. Team Social Events
- v. Team Staff gifting
- b. Banking. Team fees are separate from the Cascade FC registration fees payable to SnVYSA at the time of registration. Team fees are owned by the team, deposited in individual team bank accounts, and managed by the team treasurer and team manager. Accounting practices and account transparency are the responsibility of the team. Each team will have their own Employer Identification Number.
- c. Budget. The Projected team budget will be shared at the team's season kick-off meeting in May and will include the initial per-player team assessment amount. The budget will include the current season projected expense line items and a schedule of per-player team assessment amounts and due dates.
- d. Obligation. Each parent/guardian of a player on the team must agree to pay the per-player team assessment amount, including additional proportional amounts during the season, as part of accepting a rostered spot on Cascade FC. The parent/guardian is responsible for paying the per-player team assessment amount by the due date indicated by the team treasurer.
- e. Violation. The team treasurer will notify the Cascade FC Director of Operations when a player's team fee assessment remains unpaid, and the player may be suspended temporarily from practice and games until it is paid in full.
- f. Restrictions.  
SnVYSA is not a party to team expenses and will not be held financially liable for any costs, damages, or obligations arising by a team for unanticipated costs or fees resulting from mismanagement of team finances.

## 9. College Scholarship Opportunity

SnVYSA offers high school seniors that reside in the SnVYSA boundaries an opportunity to apply for a college scholarship each calendar year.

### 9.1 Player Scholarships

SnVYSA has established the Player Scholarship Fund to award two (2) scholarships in the amount of \$1000.00 each to players who have demonstrated a significant history playing soccer with SnVYSA.

- a. Eligibility. All high school seniors that reside in the Snoqualmie Valley Youth Soccer Association boundaries and meet the academic enrollment and scholarship requirements outlined in the SnVYSA College Scholarship Policy 12.1.

## 10. Illegal Substances

SnVYSA prohibits the use and possession of illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and vaping by any member participating or spectating at any SnVYSA supervised or organized practice, game, camp, clinic, or any other field events at facilities rented by SnVYSA.