

## EYSA Member Club Baseline Requirements

### Application:

EYSA Member Clubs (including Eastside FC where applicable) shall support the following baseline requirements & programs in order to qualify as an EYSA Club.

### Guiding Principles:

EYSA and EYSA Member Clubs adhere to the Washington Youth Soccer (WYS) Mission and Guiding Principles, specifically:

#### *Mission*

To foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of the State of Washington's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition

#### *Guiding Principles*

- We provide soccer opportunities for all age levels, skill levels and levels of competition
  - We focus on the individual soccer player
  - We provide a seamless range of soccer opportunities for youth in Washington State
  - We value diversity and we are working to bring soccer programs to the underserved layers and families within Washington
- We are committed to the highest standards of safety and well-being of our players
  - We promote a positive, healthy and safe playing environment
  - We promote integrity and high ethical standards
  - We encourage teamwork, leadership, and respect
- We bring the game of soccer to the State of Washington
  - We are part of an international soccer structure which extends up to FIFA and down to the individual player
  - We are the State Association tasked with delivering US Youth Soccer programming in Washington State
  - Our Member Associations are the local administrative and coordinating organizations which support and promote the mission, purpose and activities of WA Youth Soccer, and who structure their soccer operations and program delivery in order to maximize implementation of WA Youth Soccer's mission, exempt purpose and goals
- We are committed to operating within the best practices of the nonprofit sector.
  - We strive to be dependable, accountable and responsive towards our members and the organizations that we work with
  - We strive to be well managed and fiscally responsible
  - We have a governing board which understand and executes its roles in strategic planning, financial and organizational oversight, fundraising and personnel management
  - We have professional staff who deliver soccer programming, Member Association support and member education and outreach

### **EYSA Programming:**

EYSA Programming is defined as operating under EYSA and WYS membership and is paramount to fulfilling member clubs' mission of supporting youth soccer in the community. It includes the full spectrum of programming available within WYS and USYS. There are 3 groups of programming offered by EYSA

- EYSA Common Programming
- Optional Programming
- Regional Club Programming

### *EYSA Common Programming*

EYSA Member Clubs shall support all Common Programs for all appropriate age/gender cohorts, and in accordance with EYSA rules related to each specific program (see EYSA rules of competition) to the extent their registrant base supports it\*.

### **Common Programs at this time includes:**

- U6-U7 Micro Soccer, with players rostered in accordance with EYSA and WYS standards
- U8-U11 Mod Soccer with players rostered in accordance with EYSA and WYS standards
- U12-U19 Recreational Soccer (Rec) with players rostered in accordance with EYSA and WYS standards
- U10-U19 Select Soccer (defined as teams formed based on any Selection process and thereby not eligible to compete in Rec league play) with players rostered in accordance with EYSA and WYS standards
- Rec and Select Coach Training on application of EYSA Player Curriculum and materials

### *Optional Programming*

EYSA Member clubs may also elect to support (additional) Optional programs.

### **Optional Programs at this time includes:**

- U8-U9 RCL Juniors (with EFC "sponsorship")
- U5 Micro soccer

### *Regional Club Programming*

Eastside FC (EFC), as EYSA's Regional Club, is exempted from the requirement to deliver Common Programming, and is the only Club permitted to offer Regional Club programs without team-specific permission from EYSA and the EFC Director of Coaching.

According to WYS, to be named a Regional Club, Clubs must adhere to the Regional Club League Charter, which outlines rigorous standards including criteria and levels of coaching licensure, player development curriculum and training guidelines to ensure standardizations across the League and that all Clubs are of

equivalent caliber. The RCL features flexibility in scheduling, the highest competitive level of play for teams in Washington Youth Soccer, and a commitment to development for each individual player.

#### Regional Club Programs at this time includes:

- U8-U9 RCL Juniors
- U8-U19 Regional Club League
- USYS Regional / National Leagues

#### Premier Club Definition

EYSA Member clubs are required to message EFC as the only RCL and the only “Premier Club” in the Association.

Any Member Club is free to utilize US Club Soccer and/or US Club Leagues (PSPL, NWCL, ...) to field teams, enter tournaments, and/or provide league play, but in so doing there can be no communications (email, website, etc.) from that Club which messages that Club or its teams as “Premier.” Additionally, all Member Clubs acknowledge that until such time that WYS may change its Operating Documents, there will only be ONE Regional Club (and associated set of RCL teams) representing EYSA.

#### Tryouts

EYSA Member Clubs must comport with WYS and EYSA established tryout or signup dates for any selection-based team formation. These tryout dates must be adhered to for both programming within EYSA/WYS as well as for any optional programming, including programming offered outside of EYSA / WYS as a condition for membership within EYSA. The key tenet of this tryout date policy is that EFC tryouts are held first, and that all other EYSA clubs may then follow (per gender/age group) **no sooner than the day after the last day for EFC tryouts for that age/gender group (EYSA Select Policy clarification adopted 3-16-2013)**. Tryouts held in coordination with EFC, e.g. under a joint EYSA tryout, are exempt from the “day after” requirement.

#### Team formation

- All EYSA Clubs with Micro, Mod or Rec teams must sign up and roster their players in accordance with the prescribed EYSA policies.
- EYSA Club Select Policies and Guidelines for EYSA/ WYS teams do not support a tryout selection process for team formation below U10, (including specific limits for underage players) for any club other than EFC.
- Any EYSA club (other than EFC) who is using a selection process for team formation below U10 must be clearly advertised as US Club/PSPL programs.

#### EYSA Communications

Member Clubs shall support communications to all their member families regardless of WYS affiliation and coaches concerning EYSA Programming. Communication may be directly from EYSA using contact information provided through the Member Clubs, or cascaded through clubs, at the decision of the EYSA Executive Committee. EYSA Programming communications may include, but is not limited to:

- Parent Education

- Player programs (including all EYSA Programming discussed above)
- EYSA Program tryouts (including EFC tryouts)
- Referee recruitment and scheduling
- EYSA League formation and scheduling
- EYSA policy on security and usage of personal info captured during registration process

Communications originating directly from EYSA will be delivered first to each Member Club President (or authorized Club representative) for review and comment within 2 business days of being sent to them, before the communication is sent. Each club will have the opportunity to offer up edits to the communication in order to make it more digestible by the club membership. Clubs will NOT have the opportunity to prohibit a communication (or part of one), however if a majority of clubs find a particular communication (or part of one) inadvisable, then the communication will be delayed and/or rescinded.

### **Ethics**

All Club Board members shall receive and subscribe to the [WYS Governance Code of Ethics](#).

All Clubs, teams, administrators, paid staff, parents and /or legal guardians are subject to the WYS Operating Code of Ethics while participating in WYS / EYSA Activities. EYSA, its Member Clubs and teams are responsible for ensuring that all of their members and employees abide by the [WYS Operating Code of Ethics](#).

### **Risk Management**

Member Clubs shall enforce compliance with WYS Risk Management requirements for Board members, coaches, employees, referees and volunteers working with the Club, and Club or EYSA programs.

### **EYSA Board Meetings**

All Member clubs are required to have one representative (default is the Club President) attend all EYSA Board meetings. If the default representative cannot attend, then a substitute rep (from the Club Board) should be substituted.

### **Club Decision Cycles**

Any EYSA Member Club who is considering any sort of Club-based change which may affect other clubs must bring that change request (before it is enacted) to the EYSA Board for approval and/or communication, in accordance with EYSA Bylaws. Examples of decisions to be shared with EYSA would include: Election to offer Optional programming; Rec uniform color change; Offering a one-off player development clinic; changes in scheduling practices impacting other clubs / league play., etc.

\* EYSA recognizes that not all clubs will have sufficient players to support teams at all ages and in all levels of play. However, Member Clubs shall prioritize team formation and coordination with other clubs to provide players a place to play at all levels possible.