

CYSA—Cal Soccer League



March 17, 2010

Northern California Soccer Community,

Soon, your teams will be signing up for the new CYSA Cal Soccer League (CCSL). While many of you have teams that have participated in competitive soccer leagues, this new playing league is slightly different. Therefore it is our intention to help answer questions that may come to mind when considering registering your team for the new CYSA Cal Soccer League.

We hope the following questions and answers will help you. While we have tried to think of any possible inquiries you might have, I am sure we did not cover everything. Please do not hesitate to call or contact Vic Montoya - vicmont@pacbell.net, or Andrew Donnery - adonnery@fysl.org, if you have questions you feel should be added (or maybe ones that you feel do not need to be included), or any points which you feel need further clarification. Thank you!



CYSA-CAL SOCCER LEAGUE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Why do we need a new league?

With the continued growth and success of our soccer programs in mind, it was imperative that CYSA take the initiative to form a team of experts to help us stay focused and organized. Successful playing leagues have a well defined organizational structure, detailed player and coach development programs, and excellent administration.

2. What is the difference between the CYSA Cal Soccer League and the others?

The new CYSA Cal Soccer League is a community that works respectfully together in a democratic structure (representing leagues/clubs, coaches and officials) to solve problems with the needs of players at the forefront of its decisions.

Unlike some other playing leagues that do not currently have a democratic structure - the CYSA Cal Soccer League will allow member leagues/clubs, coaches and officials to have a vote in decisions about finances, calendar and governance.

Some leagues and organizations allow any new club to join, and they often compete with established clubs for players and field space. We will work with member leagues/clubs before new teams are assigned.

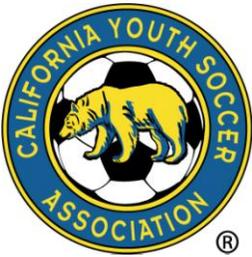
Our league will abide by the CYSA rules against poaching - these rules are not enforced in other organizations and playing leagues.

3. Does the CYSA Cal Soccer League believe in relegation and promotion at all ages?

The CYSA Cal Soccer League will concentrate on individual player development for players U9 and younger. Starting with the U10 age group, the relegation/promotion of teams will be done, and playing league standings will be kept.

4. Will the CYSA Cal Soccer League use club passes for players?

We believe that clubs and teams should be able to move players up to challenge individuals and to facilitate player shortages due to injuries, etc. While CYSA does not use club passes for players, CYSA does have a guest player policy that allows players to guest play on teams within the same league/club as the team on which the player is rostered. The team using the guest player must be at the same age group or higher, and at the same CYSA Cal Soccer League playing level or higher.



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5. How do you track red cards, yellow cards etc?

The Cal Soccer League has invested heavily in software and administration to provide an environment that will allow for the tracking of red cards, yellow cards, league standings, etc.

Rostering of players to teams will continue to follow the CYSA rostering procedures for adds, transfers and releases of players using the approved CYSA registration application.

6. The World of Youth Soccer is constantly changing - how will the CYSA Cal Soccer League adapt?

A Technical Advisory Committee made up of league/club Directors of Coaching will meet regularly and make recommendations on the CYSA Cal Soccer League structure, team placement, and player development issues.

7. Some leagues play 11 v 11 at U11 and some play 8 v 8, what will CYSA Cal Soccer League do?

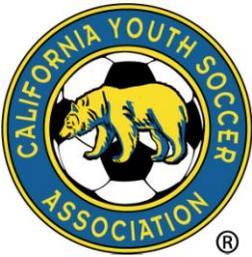
U9 – U11 will play 8v8.

As a playing league we are dedicated and committed to the development of our clubs, teams and players. We will continue to adapt and evolve to bring you what is in the best interest of your players. Many clubs and coaches around the country assert that 8 v 8 at U11 is better for player development than 11 v 11.

Soccer is unlike many other sports - baseball for example. Many players become bored if they are not pitching or catching. Soccer is non-stop action and there is no limit to the number of touches you can have. The smaller field and fewer players equates to more touches.

8. In Northern California we have the option of playing in multiple leagues and multiple seasons, will this be a problem if we play in the CYSA Cal Soccer League?

We don't discourage teams from playing in multiple seasons and multiple leagues. We feel this is the prerogative of the team and club. Ideally, teams should not play more than 30-40 games per year, depending on age group. We did hear recently of another organization making it mandatory you play only in their league – as an organization we feel this is wrong and not beneficial to your players.



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

9. Our league/club needs help and guidance; does CYSA Cal Soccer League provide help to its members?

We created a position with the mandate to oversee league/club development and education for our member leagues/clubs. The person in this position, along with the Technical Advisory Committee, will work with leagues/clubs to provide training programs that can be implemented. We believe this will help the best players reach their potential and can be used as a feeder system into the state ODP and College programs.

10. Our team plays in multiple leagues, multiple tournaments and some of our players play ODP, how will CYSA Cal Soccer League deal with this?

Our aim as a playing league is to try whenever possible, to accommodate our teams and players. A league calendar will be created that integrates all the programs and avoids conflicts. We do realize our players are often pulled from program to program; we see this as a problem and will try and work with all parties to relieve the stress on our players and families.

11. Do you have anything for Parents in this new playing league?

A parent education program will be created and offered by the CYSA Cal Soccer league. We feel it is important to provide the parents of our players the information they need to provide a good parental environment for their sons and daughters.

12. How does CYSA Cal Soccer League place my team when I apply?

Teams requesting to play in the CYSA Cal Soccer League will submit an online application via the CYSA Cal Soccer League website. All applications needed to be fully completed as incomplete forms shall be deferred until a completed application is received. All payments need to be submitted on the specified date.

Once the application is received they will be reviewed and placed using but not limited to the following:

- Past League Records
- Past Tournament Records
- Amount of returning players
- Communications with the Coach, Director of Coaching or Technical Director



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13. How much is it to play in this league?

The cost for the league will be \$175 per team.

* Some districts may add an additional fee to their application fee (i.e. field development, coach instruction programs, referee training, etc.)

14. Why do you have a paid League Director?

As a league we feel it is important to have a “go to” person to run the league. We feel it is imperative we have a dedicated, experienced and knowledgeable individual to provide our members with a top rate experience. We have chosen to invest heavily in certain aspects of the league and we know the League Director will provide the leadership and direction to make this league one of the best in the country.

15. What teams can play in this league - Recreation, Division 1, Division 3, Competitive etc?

The league is open to all Division 1 and Division 3 soccer teams aged U9 – U19. Our aim is to provide an environment for all levels and accommodate teams as best as we can. We realize it is important to place teams within a competitive league and this is vitally important to the integrity of the league. We will offer a fall, spring and winter league to accommodate the needs of Northern California.

16. What level within the CYSA Cal Soccer League should I select?

Depending upon their standings in the past year, Division 1 teams should apply for the State Premier, the State Gold, the Regional level, or the Gold/Silver levels of the District playing league division. Division 3 teams should apply for the Bronze or Copper levels of the District playing league division. Teams may choose to register in a Region or District Division that is different from their designated region or district.

Once all applications have been received, the CYSA Cal Soccer League will make a determination as to the initial playing level for each team.

17. Do any of the other leagues have the option of being able to play state wide as well as playing local if we wish?

At the moment the CYSA Cal Soccer League is the only league that offers the opportunity for a team to play in a state wide league with a top level premier league and if the team so desires, the option to play local. After several conversations with the soccer community we felt it was time to introduce a state wide league. The main aim of the state wide premier league was to give the top soccer teams in Northern California an opportunity to play at the highest possible level week in week out. We firmly believe this will become a magnet for college coaches and scouts throughout the country.



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18. Why does the CYSA Cal Soccer League offer the option of fall, spring and winter leagues?

After extensive research throughout the soccer community we realized many leagues/clubs/teams wanted different options within the same playing league. Some of them wanted to play fall or spring only, while some wanted the option to play all year round. As a playing league we feel it is important to meet the needs of our members and to provide the leagues/clubs/teams an all encompassing playing league that gives everyone what they need. Many of the people asked did not want to play in one league (fall for example) and then look for a different league in the spring. They specified the need to have their options all under one roof. We feel we can do this by offering fall, spring and winter options for all age groups which will help meet the demands for Northern California Youth Soccer.

19. Why doesn't the CYSA Cal Soccer League work with the other playing leagues and partner?

We have reached out to the other playing leagues. Our initial aim was for everyone to work together and produce one of the best leagues in America; however, this was met with skepticism by some and many of the organizations are waiting on the sidelines to see what happens. The main aim of this league was to provide everyone with a playing league that has the players, parents and coaches at the main focus of its existence. Our league will continue to do this and this was the main reason why we reached out. Hopefully, the other leagues will change their mind and take us up on our offer. It is time to put egos, control and power to one side and provide the soccer community a playing league we can all be proud of.

20. What teams have decided to join the CYSA Cal Soccer League?

Our website will be up and running shortly and we will post a list of leagues/clubs/teams that have applied to play in the league. As of early March 2010 we have had over 800 teams pledge to play in the new league. As the days progress, and the interest grows, our league is becoming inundated with requests.