

Plum Area Youth Soccer Travel Try-out Policy and Procedure

Plum Area Youth Soccer (PAYS) conducts Travel team Try-outs to form Boys and Girls Travel teams each spring in an organized way. Teams are formed on the basis of talent and numbers. Every effort is extended to place U-11 through U-14 players on a Travel team in the appropriate division. PAYS reserves the right to make final decisions concerning team formation. All Travel teams will be registered through PAYS.

PAYS ensure that interested participants receive a fair opportunity to join a team of their peers possessing similar game skills. PAYS recognizes and appreciates the need to define the process of how travel teams will be formed via properly evaluating and providing consideration to players interested in participating in our travel programs. The following policy and procedures was created to provide a set of rules and guidelines for all PAYS travel soccer teams. The travel soccer program is a major component of PAYS. Consequently, it is imperative that the policies and procedures outlined in this document be adhered to by everyone involved in the travel soccer program.

1. Travel teams established during the fall season shall be carried over to the spring season of the following year
2. Each player and coach must be properly registered with the PAWest registrar. Registration for any travel team must be approved by the PAYS Registrar
3. Playing time for travel team players shall be determined by the coach(es) of the teams. Attendance, cooperation, respect, ability to play fair and general attitude may affect a coach's decision on playing time. Questions from parents should be directed to the coach after the game or practice in question and in an "adult-only" environment
4. Try-outs for travel teams will be held each spring and all children interested in playing on a team will be given a fair and impartial try-out.
 - a. A minimum of two try-out dates will be held and the dates will be publicized via the PAYS website, community newspaper, cable channel notice or other method
 - b. Players must attend a minimum of one try-out to be eligible to play on a team. If a player cannot attend any of the try-out dates, and would like to be considered to be on the team, they must submit a written request to PAYS. Players are strongly encouraged to attend as many of the try-out dates as they can to provide our coaches and evaluators an opportunity to fairly assess their skills and abilities.
 - c. Players that do not attend a try-out date, but are placed on a team over the course of the soccer year, must attend try-outs the following year in order to be considered for placement on a travel team. Players that miss try-outs for two consecutive years will not be placed on any PAYS travel team unless approved by the PAYS Executive Board.
 - d. Players are required to check in with Registration at the soccer pavilion at Larry Mills Park. Players are asked to pre-register online. This gives PAYS a better idea of what to plan for in various age groups. Walk up registration is available for those who have not yet registered. Players will be given a numbered "pinny" to be used during Try-outs. They will return these to the coach at the end of each Try-out. At each Try-out the player attends, they will want to check in at Registration and pick up their number from the first Try-out.
 - e. PAYS reserves the right to appoint all Travel team head coaches in the program. All PAS Travel team coaches shall have minimum licensing and clearances as required by PAYS and PAWest. The Travel Coach is the representative of the

team to PAYS. He/She is also the one who will make decisions on the teams off season activities (winter indoor soccer, tournaments, etc.). The Travel coach will select his/her assistants, who must also meet PAYS minimum requirements. Occasionally, coaching decisions are not made until the conclusion of Try-outs due to a number of factors including the number of participants within each age group.

- f. Only the PAYS Board of Directors can cancel Travel team Try-outs. When in doubt because of weather, come. PAYS will make every effort to complete Try-outs each night on schedule unless conditions pose a danger.
 - g. There will be a selection meeting with the travel coaches the week after Try-outs to determine final team compositions.
 - h. It is the coach's responsibility to notify players, in a timely manner, if they have been chosen to be on the team
 - i. If a player is offered a position on a travel team and the player decides to decline the offer for placement on the team, then the player will be removed from consideration for placement on any PAYS travel soccer team until the next try-out unless approved by the PAYS Executive Board.
 - j. PAYS reserves the right to approve exceptions to established standards based on the ability of each player to assure that they are participating in the program that the coaches, administrators and coordinators believe will suit their maturity, technical competence and cooperation.
5. All Travel teams are required to lend volunteer support for the annual Plum Kick-off Classic Soccer Tournament which is one of the largest Travel team tournaments in Western Pennsylvania. Nearly 200 teams from all over Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia participate in our tournament each year. It is recognized as a premier event. In return for your volunteer efforts, the team tournament fee to participate in the tournament is waived for all PAYS teams. In addition, the teams divide, equally, profit generated during the tournament. This is to be used for soccer related team purposes decided upon by the coaches and team. All PAYS affiliated Travel teams are required to have a team bank account for this to be deposited into.
6. PAYS relies on the Travel teams for help in its efforts to manage certain segments of the Plum Community Days Festival. As the main tenant of the Park, and as good citizens of the Boro, we have an obligation to help. We try to keep our commitment to the minimum, but the organizers of the Plum Community Days Festival could not do it without us. Although we do ask our in-house parents for help at Community Days, it will be the Travel team parents who the Club will rely on. In return for this support, PAYS will continue to make every effort to keep registration fees as low as possible, while providing a free team tournament and funds for your teams raised there.