



Region 678

Valencia • Newhall • Stevenson Ranch

Player Age / Division Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define Region 678 policy regarding the placement of players in the appropriate player division based on age and gender. The following policy applies equally to boys and girls divisions.

Regional (Fall) Divisions

1. **For age groups U5 through U14**, all players will play in their appropriate age and gender division as defined by AYSO National Guidelines. It is Region 678 policy to uphold these age restrictions to protect our players' well being.
2. **In U14**, there are cases where players have already entered high school and also wish to play high school soccer in the winter season. In such cases, the player must move up to the U16 division, which plays a compressed schedule, which allows the player to participate in high school soccer and be compliant with California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) regulations.
3. **In U16** there is greater latitude for a player to move up to the U19 division. As many players are at the high school level and want to compete against higher competition, Region 678 permits U16 players to move to U19 provided that: a request is made in writing (email or letter) to the Upper Division Coordinator, there is sufficient capacity in the U19 division so that it is not negatively impacted, and the request is approved by the Regional Commissioner.
4. **Note.** Any request for any player to move up an age division must be made in writing and the approval or rejection of such request is at the sole discretion of the Regional Commissioner and is considered final. There is no appeal process. It should be noted that these requests are rare and have traditionally been denied in the best interest of the player and the Region.

Extra Divisions

1. For Extra age groups U10 through U19, all players will play in their appropriate age and gender division as defined by AYSO National Guidelines. It is Region 678 policy to uphold these age restrictions.
2. Players whose AYSO age is seven (7) or younger may not participate in the EXTRA program.
3. **Note #1.** If no Extra division exists in a player's age bracket, that player may tryout out for the next division higher. And, with the Regional Commissioner's approval, the player is eligible to be considered by the selection committee. All players in a blended(combined) division will be considered equally with no distinction or decision based on solely on age.
5. **Note #2.** Any request for any player to move up an age division must be made in writing. Such requests must first be approved by the Regional Commissioner and then must be approved by the Area 10S Director and the decision is final. If a player moves up and participates on the team, they will not be permitted to move back down until the conclusion of that Extra season. There is no appeal process. It should be noted that these requests have traditionally been denied in the best interest of the player and the Region Extra Program. (Refer to Extra Section 10 Guideliness for more details)