



WMYSA Academy Program

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Academy Rules/Regulations

Currently In Place

1. U8 age appropriate players can be registered on U9 team or U8 Academy but not both. But the U8 players in the Academy can Player Pass play on U9 or U10 teams.
2. U7 age appropriate players can only participate in the Academy. No “play-up” requests will be allowed and no player pass is allowed.
3. No U6 players allowed in academy.
4. Clubs will provide at minimum a colored tee-shirt or scrimmage pennies (no requirement for full uniforms in academy play and numbers are not required on uniform)
5. Girls and boys would practice/train together. There is no separate academy for boys and girls.
6. Jamborees will be on Sunday only. (This will allow academy members to continue to participate in local recreational soccer leagues if they desire or to player pass (if U8 player) on a match on Saturday)
7. Playing Format 4v4 without keepers. Ball used is a size 3.
8. Minimum Academy Size: 6 players (needed to be invited to Jamboree)
9. Maximum Academy Size: No limit to number of players at this time
10. Practice Limitations: No more than two per week
11. Hosting club is expected to provide assistance if requested by the Academy director in either mini field set up or obtaining volunteer match referees for the Jamboree at their field. Certified referees are not required (per USYSA guidance for U8 play).
12. Club academy head coach must be experienced and licensed. No grace period to attain licensing
13. No league standings/statistics kept or published.



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Jamboree Format & Rules

1. All academy teams play round-robin on small sized fields
2. Number of games (play 2 or 3 20-minute games with 5-10 min break to switch fields/teams)
3. Restart for ball out of bounds - Throw-In
4. No keepers. Size 3 ball.
5. Fouls - USYSA Small Sided Games guidance available - all kicks are direct free kicks
6. Restarts - USYSA Small Sided Games guidance available - normal policy per USYSA
7. Substitutions - USYSA Small Sided Games guidance available - Unlimited at any stoppage.
8. Field size will be determined. It will be approximately 30 x 25 yards. We need to get 4 fields per one full sized field. We will use small pop style goals.

Weather Related Cancellation Communication:

WMYSA Academy Director will make a decision by noon on Sunday if a pre-cancellation notice is needed. If the Jamboree is pre-canceled you should receive an email and/or text by 12:30 pm. After that time the decision will be made at the field depending on conditions at the time.

WMYSA Recommendations:

1. There should be a registered coach for each 8 Academy players.
2. Each academy should have one practice a week, but not more than twice per week.
3. Parent education about the Academy concept, player development, parent behavior provided by club. WMYSA may assist in developing a package that all clubs could use as a basis.
4. Clubs may set up additional academy vs. academy matches if desired. This would be coordinated by clubs, not WMYSA.
5. Host location club assist WMYSA on Jamboree set up.

WMYSA Expects Encouraging and Supportive Fan Behavior:

The Academy is a developmental program with no score or standings. The purpose is for the players to develop skills while having fun in a positive learning environment. The parents and grandparents on the sideline are very important to this fun environment. The players love to have their family there to cheer them on. Young players need to love the game first. PLEASE BE POSITIVE AT ALL TIMES.