



Parent Guidelines for Competitive Soccer (Division 1 and 3)

Dear Parents and Players:

Thank you for your interest in Competitive Soccer for your child in the Hayward Youth Soccer League. The league understands the pressure involved in competitive tryouts and will make every effort to make this event as fair and comfortable as possible for all players involved. If you have any questions please contact the Competitive Program Director or a Competitive Coordinator noted on the HYSL web site (www.hysl.org).

Please note the following guidelines and program descriptions:

Competitive Program Descriptions and Commitments Hayward Youth Soccer League

DIVISION 1 – “Select”

This level represents the highest level of soccer offered by HYSL.

Parents and players who participate at this level can expect a considerable time and expense commitment.

- The teams are set up to be age pure (all players within 1-year age span).
- HYSL will attempt to field teams in the following age groups whenever possible:
U-10, U-11, U-12, U-13, U-14, U-15, U-16, U-17, U-18 and U-19.
- Players are selected through a series of tryouts run by the Competitive Coaches and League Representatives (the HYSL Competitive Coordinator(s) or 1-2 unaffiliated parties).
- Teams are formed based on the coaches' evaluations and the League Representatives' advice.

- Division 1 teams require nearly a year-round commitment from the player as well as the player's family.
 - Teams play in a multi-district-wide playing league (Golden State Soccer League – GSSL).
 - Teams are also eligible to apply for many tournaments throughout the year.
 - Tryouts are in early spring with teams being selected soon thereafter.
 - Tournament play usually begins in late July and continues throughout the year.
 - League play begins following Labor Day and continues until mid-November.
 - Games are usually played on Saturdays and Sundays.
 - Practice sessions can be from two to three times per week, or more.
 - U-15 through U-19 teams suspend their team activities during the high school season (11/15 through 3/15).
 - U-10 through U-14 teams may continue tournament play into the winter months.
 - The state cup tournament begins in January for U-11 through U-13 age groups and will be completed in late February or early March.
 - The U-14 through U-19 age groups will commence state cup play in late March with finals being held in May.
 - Teams winning preliminary rounds of state cup play advance through the tournament (round of 16, quarter finals, semi finals, finals).
- Expenses **may** include uniforms, tournament fees, team bags, warm up suits, and out-of-town travel. Teams must give a quarterly finance report to HYSL Board and team parents.

DIVISION 3 – “Advanced House”

This level represents a level of soccer between Division 4 (“House”) and Division 1 (“Select”). Division 3 is developmental, providing more advanced training and playing opportunities than those available at the Division 4 level, with the intent of preparing players for advancement to Division 1 teams. Parents and players who participate at this level can expect a considerable time and expense commitment.

- The teams are set up using players with 2-3 year age span.
- HYSL will attempt to field teams in the following age groups whenever possible:
U-10, U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-19.
- Players are selected through a series of tryouts run by the Competitive Coaches and League Representatives (the HYSL Competitive Coordinator(s) or 1-2 unaffiliated parties).
- Teams are formed with players who have attended the scheduled tryouts but who were not selected for the Division 1 teams but show potential for competitive play.
- Teams will be selected based on the coaches’ evaluations and the League Representatives’ advice.

- Division 3 players and families can anticipate a commitment level similar to that of the division 1 teams.
 - Teams play in a district-wide playing league (District IV Competitive League).
 - Teams are also eligible to apply for many tournaments throughout the year.
 - Tryouts are in early spring with teams being selected soon thereafter.
 - Tournament play usually begins in late July and continues throughout the year.
 - League play begins following Labor Day and continues until mid-November.
 - Games are usually played on Saturdays and Sundays.
 - Practice sessions can be from two to three times per week, or more.
 - Post-season play consists of district championship and Association cup (the state championship for Division 3 teams).
- Expenses **may** include uniforms, tournament fees, team bags, warm up suits, and out-of-town travel. Teams must give a quarterly finance report to HYSL Board and team parents.

Tryout Format

1. Players will try out in their appropriate age level on their first attended try out, unless given specific approval by the Competitive Coordinator(s).
2. All players in an age group will try out together for the first tryout, regardless of the level of team for which they have played. Division 1 and 3 players will be separated during first tryout **or** after first tryout. Tryout will be run by the highest level coach available for the age group.
3. To be considered for a team, a player **must attend at least one tryout** unless excused for medical or family reasons by the Competitive Coordinators. The lead evaluator (coach) for the age group will be notified of an excused player’s interest in competitive play and the player will be considered in the age group team selection.
4. All players attending tryouts must have a parent/guardian signature on a release form on file with the league. The registration form from the previous season will be sufficient for returning HYSL players. For non-HYSL players, the parent or guardian must sign a special form available at the field during check-in or on at **www.hysl.org**.

5. There will be a minimum of three (3) tryouts scheduled for each age group. Team selections will not take place until the conclusion of the last tryout. Contingency dates for tryouts in the event of inclement weather will also be scheduled.
6. All players must sign-in at each tryout session. Players should arrive early enough to complete the on-site check-in process and properly warm-up. Parents and players may not request specific team placement, but may indicate a Division 3 vs. Division 1 preference at tryout check-in.
7. Players **need** to bring both a **white** and **dark** shirt to tryouts, **no team logos or team uniforms allowed.**

Team Formation

Teams will be formed in the following sequence:

- Division I A
- Division I B, if applicable
- Division III A (age pure)
- Division III B (multi-age)
- Division III C, if applicable

Player Notification.

- 1) Player assignments to the primary team for an age group will be concluded no later than three (3) days following the last tryout. The secondary team will then have three (3) days to notify players and so on down the sequence of teams noted above. **Players not wanting to play for the team selected will be relegated to next lower Div. (i.e.; Div 1 to Div. 3; Div. 3 to Div.4), (Special circumstances will be handled by the Competitive Coordinator(s) and approval of HYSL board). (This also applies to age groups with an “A” AND “B” team).** All other players that tried out will be sent a letter by HYSL thanking them for trying out and wishing them to tryout next year, and are eligible to register for Division 4 (House) teams, which players do not have to tryout for.