

Laurelhurst Soccer Club

Team Formation Policy

1. TEAM FORMATION:

- 1.1 The Club shall form teams in a manner consistent with USYSA, OYSA, and PYSA policies.
- 1.2 The Club is the final arbiter of team formation. The Registrar has full discretion in assigning players to teams, consistent with the club policies. The Registrar may consult the Coach Coordinator and/or the President for certain aspects of team formation.
- 1.3 The Club tries to enable and encourage participation by as many youth in our community as possible.
- 1.4 The Club tries to form as many teams as possible, consistent with minimum roster size guidelines.
- 1.5 **For the PYSA league:**

(a) Roster sizes shall not exceed two times (2x) the maximum number of players that can be playing at one time in a match situation.

(b) Players shall be grouped into teams based on locality of residence, school attended, team history, or by lot. The club will consider forming teams based upon personal preference as long as the club believes it is not an attempt at player selection based on merit or on illegally discriminatory or unethical criteria.

(c) In the event of two teams in the same division that differ markedly in competitiveness, the club shall make an effort to equalize their competitiveness. This may take the form of assigning new players with more experience to the less competitive team, or other mechanisms.

(d) Notwithstanding section 1.5(c), the Club may permit an existing team formed under recreational guidelines to stay together.

Risk Management – No coach, assistant coach or volunteer may participate with any player on the field, at practice or on game day, at any time without first being registered with LSC and a background disclosure form being approved. All teams must have at least two coaches at all times in attendance at practice or on game day.

1.6 For participation in the DRL League:

(a) A DRL team may be an LSC recreational team that has existed for a year or more. The DRL roster shall contain only players rostered on the LSC team for the current PYSA season, the previous PYSA spring season, or the previous PYSA or DRL fall season.

(b) A DRL team may be formed from all LSC players currently registered with LSC teams within an age division. At the request of a coach, the Club shall notify all registered players in that age division of the availability of a DRL team. Players eligible in the division who “played up” in the preceding fall or spring season shall also be notified. In the case of a male division, notification to females shall be limited to females who played in the male division in the last fall or spring season. Additional teams shall not be formed if coaches are not available. If sufficient players apply, a team or teams shall be formed. If too many players apply, but an additional team cannot be formed, applicants are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, or by lot in case of a tie, to be determined by the Club Registrar. If more than one team can be formed, players shall be grouped into teams based on the criteria set out in section **1.5 (b)** above.

(c) The first priority of the Club is to support the PYSA recreational program. When considering the formation of teams for DRL, the Club will first consider the need to form PYSA teams in the same age division. In particular, the club will work to avoid a situation where the formation of a DRL team denies non- DRL players of the opportunity to play soccer. Where a DRL team includes players also registered on a recreational team, the players’ first obligation is to participate with, and avoid forfeitures by their recreational team(s); and DRL coaches shall ensure that their players understand and fulfill that obligation. In the absence of special circumstances, no player shall participate in a DRL game if that player has failed to participate in the player’s recreational game scheduled on the same day.

Minimum/Maximum Players Per Team

The purpose of this section is to identify the minimum and maximum number of players the club will allow on a team. An example might be:

Our club will form as many teams as possible with the minimum number of players listed below whenever possible. This will provide room for additional players to be added throughout the season if necessary. Coaches will be required to take additional players up to the maximum number of players listed below. Above this maximum number players will be added at the coach's discretion.

	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Field Players</u>
U6 teams			
U7 teams			
U8 teams			
U9 teams			
U10 teams	REFER TO PYSA POLICIES		
U11 teams			
U12 teams			
U13 teams			
U14 teams			

Procedure to Insure Teams Are Formed With Varied Skills and Abilities

Our club will form teams around elementary school attendance areas within our club (or neighborhoods, communities, etc.). All players from a school will first be placed on a team. If the team is short, then players from another school (at least two to insure they know someone) will be added to bring the team to the minimum number of players required.

Procedure in Handling Special Requests

- Our club will honor requests by players to return to the team they played on the previous year if that team is continuing.
- Our club will honor requests by players to not return to the team they played on the previous year if at all possible.
- Our club will not guarantee placement on a specific team. Our belief is that teams need to be formed for the benefit of all players, which sometimes precludes individual requests. We believe that no matter what team a child is placed on that he or she will have an opportunity to play soccer in a fun and positive environment.

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