

Stateline District Age Exemption Policy

Although it is recognized that age divisions are a necessary component of youth soccer ensuring that children are grouped based on their physical, emotional, and social development for the purposes of affording each child the opportunity to thrive in the safest, least restrictive environment possible we also recognize that there are times when exceptions to a strict age deadline would also advance these objectives.

This policy is intended to permit students in the same school grade, born shortly before the age cut off, to play soccer with their classmates on recreational teams that are registered with the Stateline district.

The following criteria must be met for Age Exemption Eligibility:

- 1) The request for exemption must be initiated by a player's parent(s) or guardian(s) in writing to the club.
- 2) The player must be participating on a recreational team playing in a recreational division of play.
- 3) The player must be in the same school grade as his or her teammates.
- 4) The player must not be more than 6 months older than the normal August 1st deadline.
- 5) Copies of the following three written forms of documentation must be kept on file with the Club in order to be reviewed at any time by the Stateline District or the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association for compliance
 - a. The written request for age exemption from the player's parent(s) or guardian(s)
 - b. A written statement from a qualified club coach indicating that the player wasn't an exceptional player and was appropriate for the team's league placement
 - c. Written approval by a Club official

Teams that roster an over-age player under this policy will have the following limitations applied to them:

- 1) A maximum of TWO overage players are allowed per team
- 2) This policy does not extend to participation in a WYSA/USYSA sanctioned tournament where players are required by tournament rules to participate only at the strictly adhered to age deadline rules.
- 3) This policy is only for Recreational level teams and is not permitted for more competitive level play

Age Exemption Policy Procedures:

- 1) Parent or Guardian sends written request to Club for the Age Exemption Policy to be applied to their player
- 2) The player's coach submits written statement agreeing to appropriateness of age exemption
- 3) A Club official confirms approval (or denial) of age exemption with written notification to player's parents
- 4) If the age exemption is approved, the club registrar registers the team in Logical Solutions as an age appropriate team based on the current Birth-Year Guidelines.
- 5) The team registration form is submitted to the Stateline District for participation in recreational league play identifying the age group in which the team should be placed.

The Stateline District reserves the right to investigate age exemption placements and/or revoke any age exemption in cases where this policy has been violated, including, but not limited to situations such as:

- the three documents required for eligibility of a player are not available for review or do not exist,
- a team has not adhered to the limitations set above, or
- a team with age exemption players is deemed to be using the policy to gain an unfair advantage over opponents in matches.

This policy was approved by Stateline District at its meeting January 14, 2008