

VYSA Travel Team Registration Manual

TRAVEL PLAYER RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

SECTION 4

As a registered member of a league, you are a registered (carded) player under the Virginia Youth Soccer Association (VYSA) and United States Youth Soccer (USYS). Your team plays in its respective league, which is governed by representatives from its member clubs. Your rights and obligations are governed and protected by your league, VYSA and USYS rules, and rules set up by the club with which your team is affiliated. To make you and your parents aware of these rights and obligations, we ask you to review the following.

USYS Rule 201: Player Registration

Section 1. (Residency) A youth player MUST register each seasonal year in the State Association in which he or she resides with his or her parent or parents or guardian or guardians, or, for a student in residence at a boarding school, college or university, the player may register in the state in which the boarding school, etc., is located. Any other questions of residency may be determined by the State Association in which the player is registered to vote or holds a current driver's license.

Section 2. (a) Any youth player wishing to play on a team of a member of a state association other than the state association where the player is registered, must receive written permission from—

- (1) the state association where the player is registered: and*
- (2) the other state association of the team on which the player wishes to play.*

(b) Permission must be obtained each seasonal year.

Rule 206. Multiple Rostering.

A State Association may allow a player to be rostered on more than one youth team each seasonal year.

VYSA policy prohibits registered travel players from being rostered to more than one VYSA travel team at a time.

When you first join a travel team, you are asked to furnish one of the following documents to verify your birth date. The only valid proofs of birth for new registrants are:

- Original Birth Certificate
- Passport
- Resident Alien ID Card (Green Card)
- Military ID Card
- Birth Registration Issued by an Appropriate Government Agency
- Certificate issued by INS Verifying Age
- Current Driver's License or Lerner's Permit
- Certification of US Citizen Born Abroad Issued by an Appropriate Government Agency
- Unexpired Federal, State, or Local Government ID Card (if documentation of date of birth is required) ("walker" ID)

If none of these are available at the time you wish to join a team, most states will now overnight express birth certificates. You can pay for this with a credit card. You cannot be registered until you provide the necessary proof of birth.

If you were a carded player in a previous seasonal year, you may present a previous years' USYS Member Pass as the document for date of birth verification. You may also use one of the documents listed above.

If you are a carded player during the current seasonal year, you MUST present your current USYS Member Pass.

In addition, you will also need to provide your name, address, including zip code. Social security numbers shall not be used as a player's identification number for VYSA players. The player's identification number shall be generated in accordance with the VYSA Travel Registration Manual. You must also provide a recent full facial picture to obtain a Member Pass. This pass, which YOU sign, establishes your right to play travel soccer.

Your coach or team manager keeps your Member Pass and gives you your Membership Card. ***The Membership Card includes a Code of Conduct. You and your parents should take time to read and understand it. The Membership Card is NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY LEAGUE, TOURNAMENT OR STATE CUP GAMES. The information on the front of the Membership Card provides your name, date of birth, team information and your player identification number. This will be your permanent player identification number for VYSA travel registration and MUST be used as long as you are a travel soccer player in VYSA.***

Each team has an Official VYSA State Roster that has been approved and is maintained by a VYSA Assistant State Registrar assigned to that team. The team roster is important for purposes of participation in league competition, State Cup competition and for traveling to tournaments. A new team roster is recorded with the state association at the beginning of each seasonal year, which runs from September 1 through August 31. Certain rules about how and when changes can be made to a team roster affect your ability to change teams or join a team.

1. A seasonal year (9/1 – 8/31) consists of fall and spring seasons. The season begins with the first league game and ends with the last league game. In some leagues, any decision to change teams must be made between seasons only. You should check with your respective coach and/or league before making your final decision.
2. The maximum number of players a team can have on its roster is 18. During the seasonal year, no more than three carded players from another registered traveling team may be transferred to the roster. Any number of uncarded players may be added to the roster.

In accordance with Rule 221, the VYSA Board of Directors has determined that a coach, **ONLY AFTER GIVING THE PLAYER 24 HOURS WRITTEN NOTICE**, may involuntarily release a player from the roster for the following reasons:

1. The player has violated bylaws, policies, or requirements of the Federation, USYS, the State Association, or the member (league, club and/or team) of the State Association through whom the player is registered. ***(This may include non-payment of financial obligations to your club and/or team.)***
2. The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what constitutes a reasonable travel distance is subject to definition by the State Association.
3. The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.

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You should examine all of your options prior to changing teams. There are usually good reasons for changing or leaving a team, but team loyalty is an important element of good soccer. If, after examining all of your options, you want to transfer to another team, you **MUST** complete a VYSA VYSA Player/Team Status Form and submit it to your team official. This is what is referred to as a “voluntary release.” You and your parents must sign this form (if you are 18 or older, your parent's signature is not required.) ***If you have financial obligations to your club and/or team, those should be paid PRIOR to requesting a release. A team MAY refuse to release you if you have outstanding financial obligations.***

Once this has been done, your coach or team representative **MUST** take the player team/status form to their League Assigned Registrar **WITHIN FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAYS** to have you released from your old team's roster and to have the registrar sign the form. Your Member Pass and a copy of the player team/status form will be given to you, and you must then take them to your new coach.

Your new coach will need you and your parents to sign a VYSA player team/status form requesting the transfer to the new team. If the team you are leaving has laminated the Member Pass, you will need to provide a new recent full facial picture to your new coach and sign a new Member Pass for your new team. **BE SURE YOU TELL YOUR NEW COACH THAT YOU WERE ON A TRAVEL TEAM. YOU MUST BE RELEASED FROM A TEAM BEFORE YOU CAN BE ROSTERED TO ANOTHER TEAM!** This form, along with your Member Pass will be taken by your new team official to the League Assigned Registrar to transfer you to the new team roster.

Depending on the age group, some teams play State Cup in the fall and others in the spring. If you have participated in State Cup competition with one team, and then change teams to one that plays State Cup later, you will be allowed to compete only in regular league play and other tournaments.

Once a player has been registered and rostered to a VYSA travel team the player is considered a registered VYSA travel player until the end of the seasonal year. A player has the right to voluntarily move from one team to another at any time during the seasonal year, September 1 through August 31 as long as they are in good standing.

Teams are bound by the 3-player transfer limit from the time their roster is processed (the process date stamped on the team roster by the League Assigned Registrar). The process date may be as early as August 1 preceding the beginning of the next seasonal year.

If you choose to leave your team but do not immediately transfer to another team, OR you are moving out of state, you should

1. Complete a VYSA Payer Team/Status form requesting a release from your current team. (If you are 18 or older, your parents' signature is not required.)
2. Your team official will have the League Assigned Registrar release you from the team roster. The League Assigned Registrar will keep your Member Pass and Player Team/Status form until your plans are more definite. If you are moving out of state, your Member Pass and a copy of the VYSA Player Team/Status form will be returned to you. You will want these in the event you wish to play soccer in the state you move to.

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In the event a team decides to disband OR become inactive, and not participate in league or tournament play for the remainder of the seasonal year, the team official **MUST** give the Original Team Roster and all Member Passes to the League Assigned Registrar for safekeeping.

The team official **MUST** notify all players that their Member Passes will be available from the League Assigned Registrar for transfer or guest playing. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MAY A TEAM OFFICIAL OF A DISBANDED OR INACTIVE TEAM GIVE PLAYERS THEIR MEMBER PASSES.**

If you want to leave your disbanded or inactive team and transfer to another team, you **MUST** complete a VYSA player team/status form and submit it to your League Assigned Registrar. You and your parents must sign this form (if you are 18 or older, your parent's signature is not required.)