



## **PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB RULES FOR TRAVEL TEAMS**

### **1. PHILOSOPHY**

- 1.1. The Palatine Celtic Soccer Club's Travel Program is intended to provide an opportunity to participate in the sport at a more competitive level than is available in the House League Program. The Travel Program will emphasize soccer excellence through individual and team skill development, teamwork and sportsmanship.
- 1.2. All Teams shall comply with the rules, policies, procedures and player development established by the Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA) for competitive players.
- 1.3. The Travel Committee will be comprised of the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Travel, the Director of Player Development, and both the Boys and Girls Travel Directors.

### **2. CREATION OF TEAMS**

- 2.1. There shall be a First Team designated for each of the Boys' and Girls' Divisions starting with the Under-9 age group through Under-19 age group.
- 2.2. It is the Club's desire to field a First Team in each of the age groups as designated by the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) that shall be the most competitive team possible as determined by designated Team Head Coaches and Independent Evaluators through participation of players at the Announced Tryouts.
- 2.3. Players desiring to participate on any Travel Team for league and tournament play must participate in the Announced Tryouts for the appropriate age group, unless approved by the Director of Player Development.
- 2.4. Tryouts for all Travel Teams, except for Boys Under-15 through Under-19 age groups, shall be held in May of each year. Tryouts for Boys Under-15 through Under-19 age groups shall be held in October of each year. All tryouts shall be announced at least thirty (30) days in advance of specific days and times.
- 2.5. Players desiring to participate on any Travel Team for league and tournament play, must be registered with the Palatine Celtic Soccer Club by July 15<sup>th</sup> of the same year following Announced Tryouts, except for Boys Under-15 through Under-19 age groups. Boys Under-15 through Under-19 age groups must be registered by January 15<sup>th</sup> of the year following Announced Tryouts.
- 2.6. The Travel Committee shall determine if sufficient quality players are interested to field additional Travel Teams in any age group.
- 2.7. All Travel Teams in the Under-14 age group and younger shall be comprised of at least 75% Palatine area residents, as hereinafter defined. Coaches, along with the Travel

Committee, of all Travel Teams in the Under-15 age group and older shall utilize best efforts to be comprised of 75% Palatine area residents. A "Palatine area resident" for purposes of these Rules shall include all residents of the Palatine Park District, School District 15 and that portion of High School District 211 that is served by Fremd and Palatine High Schools.

- 2.8. Players shall be selected from Tryouts by the Travel Committee as defined in the following addendum. The Palatine Celtic Soccer Club presumes all players will be selected for age or school grade appropriate teams, unless approved by the Travel Committee. Circumstances surrounding such exceptions will depend on the individual player's ability to play up or the need to complete an insufficient roster. Under-15 through Under-19 age groups will not be subject to the age or grade appropriate rule.
- 2.9. The Travel Committee shall resolve any selection discrepancies between Head Coaches and Independent Evaluators.
- 2.10. All player selections shall be determined by June 15<sup>th</sup>, except for Boys Under-15 through Under-19 age groups, and announced by the appropriate Travel Director. All player selections for Boys Under-15 through Under-19 age groups shall be determined by November 15<sup>th</sup> and announced by the Travel Committee.
- 2.11. By August 10<sup>th</sup>, coaches must submit a copy of the team's IYSA registration form to the appropriate Travel Director and the Travel Coordinator. Copies of the IYSA Add/Drop forms must also be submitted to the appropriate Travel Director when any players are added or dropped from a team within seven days of such action.
- 2.12. As a condition of participation, each selected player shall complete and sign a Travel Team Commitment Letter by August 1<sup>st</sup> and abide by the Palatine Celtic Soccer Club Rules for Travel Teams.
- 2.13. The addendum "Tryout Procedures" details additional required steps in the Team Creation process.

### 3. TRAVEL TEAM COACHES AND ASSISTANTS

- 3.1. On an ongoing basis, the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Travel and Director of Player Development will be accepting coaching applications in an effort to recruit, interview, and evaluate potential new coaching candidates.
- 3.2. The name of each Travel Team Head Coach for each age division will be determined by the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Travel in cooperation with the Director of Player Development. These coaches will be announced in May and entered into the Minutes of the Meeting no later than the June Meeting of the Palatine Celtic Soccer Club Board of Directors. Boys High School Coaches will be presented to the Board in September of each year.
- 3.3. All Travel Team Head Coaches must have, at a minimum, an IYSA "E" license and be in good standing with the USYSA and IYSA.

- 3.4. All coaches shall support the House Program by not re-scheduling Travel league games or tournament games in conflict with any House Program games. The appropriate Travel Director shall approve all exceptions.
- 3.5. The 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Travel shall immediately assign the duties of the Head Coach should the Head Coach no longer be able or willing to continue.
- 3.6. Travel Team Head Coaches will be evaluated by the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Travel and/or Director of Player Development at least one (1) time every playing year. This evaluation, along with parental evaluations, will be used to determine the best age/gender/level for the coach.
- 3.7. During practices and games, Head Coaches are responsible not only for their own actions but those of parents and spectators associated in any way with the team.
- 3.8. Coaching Staffs will be selected by the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Travel in cooperation with the Director of Player Development with input from the Travel Directors. Any assistant coach must be approved in the same manner. Any coaches possessing sideline passes for their respective leagues must be approved in this manner. All Teams will prohibit other, unaccredited adults from performing training and game day coaching duties, except on an emergency basis.
- 3.9. Any Coach shall not require under any condition that a player opt out of the House League Program.

#### 4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1. A player who has opted to participate in the House League Program must remain in good standing on that House League team throughout both the Fall and Spring House League seasons in order to remain eligible to play on a travel team. "In Good Standing", as used throughout these rules, means:
  - 4.1.1. The Player has participated in a minimum of 75% of all games played by the House League Team (excluding illness or injury which has prevented the Player from playing with the Travel Team as well); and
  - 4.1.2. The Player attends a minimum of one normally scheduled House League Practice per week unless he/she is ill/injured.
- 4.2. A House League Coach who claims a Travel Team Player has failed to remain "in good standing" shall notify the appropriate House League Division Director accordingly.
- 4.3. The Division Director shall attempt to resolve any not "in good standing" claims by contacting the Player's Parents and, if necessary, the appropriate Travel Director and/or Travel Coordinator. Should these attempts fail to resolve the claim, the matter shall be forwarded to the Grievance and Disciplinary Committee for resolution. The Travel Director shall be contacted to assist in the resolution of any such claims.

- 4.4. Any Players found not to be “in good standing” by the Grievance and Disciplinary Committee will be suspended and thereby prohibited from participating in any Travel Team practices, games, or tournaments until returned to “in good standing” by the Grievance and Disciplinary Committee.
- 4.5. It shall be the responsibility of the appropriate Travel Director to collect and hold the suspended player's Travel league pass until the player is reinstated or resigns from the Team. In the case of any resignations, the player pass will be forwarded to the IYSA by the appropriate Travel Director, provided all financial obligations have been met.
- 4.6. All Travel players may choose to opt-out of the House League Program, provided:
  - 4.6.1. When registering for Travel Team Tryouts, players indicated a preference not to play in the House League Program on the registration form;
  - 4.6.2. Parents of players must notify the Club, in writing, of the player’s intent to opt-out by or before July 15<sup>th</sup>.

## 5. COOPERATION BETWEEN TRAVEL TEAMS

- 5.1. The selection of players to Travel Teams should be conducted in a spirit of cooperation among coaches with the best interest of the player being the primary concern.
- 5.2. A selected player refusing to play on the First Team, but wishing to play for another Travel Team must submit a letter to the 2nd VP-Travel explaining the refusal and requesting permission to participate on another team within seven (7) days of the selection.
- 5.3. Players may be transferred between first and second teams during the mid-season, if the Travel Committee and Head Coaches of the respective teams feel it is in that player’s best interest:
  - 5.3.1. Transfer of any players shall be done in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the IYSA and any involved leagues.
  - 5.3.2. The decision as to whether a player should transfer teams rests with the Player, Player’s parents, Head Coaches, and the Travel Committee. Should those parties be unable to come to a resolution, then the issue will be brought in front of the Grievance and Disciplinary Committee for further review.

## 6. ENFORCEMENT

- 6.1. These Travel Rules apply to Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Players, and Parents of any Travel Team.
- 6.2. The Travel Committee can suspend, remove, or ban a Head Coach or Assistant Coach who has violated the Travel Rules.

## 7. FINANCES

- 7.1. All Travel Player finances shall be managed by the Club's Business Administrator who will be responsible for maintaining individual accounts for each Travel Player.
- 7.2. Each Travel Player will be responsible for payment of the Standard Travel Fee for their age group. The Standard Travel Fee will include coverage for the itinerary established for that age group. Standard Travel Fees and itineraries will be published in the Travel Team Handbook. Standard Travel Fees will be billed in three equal installments throughout the season and may be paid in advance at the Travel Player's option.
- 7.3. Each Travel Player will be responsible for the cost of the uniform and optional accessories they order as defined in section 8.
- 7.4. Each Travel Player will be responsible for paying their portion of additional expenses incurred by their team. Additional team expenses may arise, but are not limited to the following:
  - 7.4.1. A team's failure to fully participate in the Club's Annual Travel Tournament as defined in Section 9. Failure to fully participate will result in a charge to the team for any allocation of tournament profits that is rewarded to the Travel program based on each team's participation.
  - 7.4.2. A team's election to participate in activities beyond the itinerary defined for their age group. Additional activities may include, but are not limited to, tournaments, leagues, practices, or shootouts.
  - 7.4.3. A team's election to incur any other expenses that are not defined in the itinerary for that age group.
- 7.5. All charges that are billed to a player in a given month shall be paid by the end of that month. Players whose accounts are past due will be sent past due statements after 15 days and will be disallowed from team participation once the Travel Player's account is past due 30 days. Players will be reinstated when all their fees are paid in full.

## 8. UNIFORM

- 8.1. All Under 9 through Under 19 and newly formed Palatine Celtic Travel Teams will be required to wear only the approved Travel Team Uniform.
- 8.2. The approved Travel Team Uniform shall be predominately green and white displaying the Club's logo as approved by the Board of Directors.
- 8.3. The uniform committee shall be comprised of the Equipment Director, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-Travel, and Director of Player Development acting as the liaisons between the Club and a uniform provider.

## 9. ANNUAL TRAVEL TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

9.1. Each Travel Team shall fully participate in the Club's Annual Fall Travel Tournament. Full Participation is defined as follows:

9.1.1. By participating as a team competing in the appropriate age and level division.

9.1.2. By providing representatives to assist throughout the year in the planning and organization of this event and to regularly attend tournament committee meetings.

9.1.3. By providing volunteers in the actual administration, set-up, operation and takedown of this event.