



Michigan State Youth Soccer Association

July 27, 2015

To: MSYSA League Presidents & Delegates
From: Robin Crawford, MSYSA President
Re: US Soccer Formats of Play & Calendar Birth Year Teams

Dear MSYSA League Presidents & Delegates:

Our national governing body, US Soccer, has just announced that the following formats of play are to be adopted as a best practice by August 2016 and will be mandated of all youth member organizations affiliated with US Soccer by August 2017.

U6-U8 is 4v4 (with no GK)
U9-10 is 7v7 (with GK)
U11-12 is 9v9 (with GK)
U13 and above is 11v11 (with GK)

In addition, US Soccer has announced a change in the classification of age groups from the School Year (August 1-July 31) to Calendar Birth Year (January 1-December 31). This change is to be adopted as a best practice by August 2016 and will be mandatory in August 2017 of all youth member organizations affiliated with US Soccer. However, the US Youth Soccer State Associations, including Michigan, are proceeding with implementation in 2016. Thus, commencing immediately following the Spring 2016 season, and before MSYSA's official try-out start date of June 18, 2016, MSYSA affiliated clubs and leagues will need to transition to the small-sided games format listed above and to the Calendar Birth Year in preparation for the Fall 2016 soccer season. Teams will no longer be referred to or registered as U19, U18, U17, U16, etc. but rather by Birth Year. (E.g. 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, etc.)

In the coming months, the MSYSA Board of Directors will make appropriate changes to our rules, programs, tournaments, etc. When finalized, they will be communicated to you as timely as possible. At this point, MSYSA simply wishes to relay the changes to you as quickly as possible for your planning purposes.

Sincerely,

Robin Crawford
President
Michigan State Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

cc: Paul Thomas, MSYSA Director of Coaching
Thomas K. Faro, MSYSA Executive Director
MSYSA Board of Directors