



BYSL U12 PROGRAM

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Mission Statement:

The Bonneville Youth Soccer League (BYSL) U12 Program is designed to promote participation, encourage competition and provide the resources and training necessary for U11 and U12 players to develop their individual skills and coaches to develop their knowledge of the game and coaching ability.

Objectives:

BYSL's U11/U12 program's objectives are to:

- Provide a transitional and safe environment for players from less competitive programs, to develop individual soccer skills in a more competitive team environment and to help prepare these players for fully competitive teams.
- Provide trained coaches to teach and foster individual and team soccer skills for players wishing to play competitive soccer.
- Form balanced teams every season in order to promote competition at every game.
- Provide equal opportunities for players to develop.
- Benefit future BYSL teams at all ages by increasing the number of players within the league through enhanced recruitment of players and open registration periods for fall and spring soccer.

Policies:

The BYSL Board appoints a U12 Program Director who is responsible to oversee the U12 Program in accordance with the following policies and the above mission statement and objectives. Policies not addressed or needing clarification will be brought to the attention of the Director for resolution. BYSL Rules and Regulations and National Affiliate Rules will also apply.

1. MODIFICATION OF FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME

BYSL U12 Program shall play soccer in accordance with the Federation Internationale de Football (FIFA) Laws of the game, except as amended here in.

Law 1 – The Field of Play:

Dimensions: The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length: minimum 70 yards maximum 80 yards

Width: minimum 45 yards maximum 55 yards



Field Markings: Distinctive lines not more than (5) inches wide. The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of eight (8) yards is marked around it.

The Penalty Area: A penalty area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, fourteen (14) yards from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of fourteen (14) yards and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the penalty area. Within each penalty area a penalty mark is made ten (10) yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of eight (8) yards from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

Goals: Conform to FIFA with exception that the maximum distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the maximum distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet.

Law 2 – The Ball:

Size four (4). The home team is to present a game ball to the referee for inspection prior to the start of the game.

Law 3 – The Number of Players:

A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than nine players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven players.

Substitutions:

1. Substitutions shall be unlimited. Substitutions may be made with the consent of the Referee, at the following times:
 - (a) Prior to a THROW-IN by the team in possession.
 - (b) Prior to a GOAL KICK, by either team.
 - (c) After an INJURY, one for one by either team.
 - (d) After a GOAL, by either team.
 - (e) At half time, by either team.
 - (f) Player receiving a CAUTION may be substituted before play is continued (coaches option); opposing team may also substitute one for one at that time.
2. Substitution is not allowed upon ejection of a player EXCEPT where the ejected player is the goalkeeper. Where a goalkeeper is ejected, a substitute may enter the field for a field player prior to continuation of the game provided that the substitute enters the game as goalkeeper.
3. All players must leave and enter the field of play at the half line. All players being substituted must leave the field of play before the substitutes may enter.

Law 4 – The Players Equipment:



Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams. Where there is a conflict in jersey color, the home team is to switch.

Law 5 – The Referee: USSF Registered referee.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referee:

Use USSF registered referees or club linesmen/women.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match:

Conform to FIFA with the exception of the match being divided into two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each. There shall be a half-time interval of five (5) minutes. There will be no overtime periods. Matches tied at the end of regulation time will remain draws. Should a team be scheduled to play two games in one day the length of both games shall be: two (2) 25 minute halves.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct:

Conform to FIFA.

2. SEASONAL YEAR

1. The seasonal year of this program shall consist of two seasons – Fall and Spring.

3. ADMINISTRATION

1. The BYSL U12 Program Director shall be appointed by the BYSL Board of Directors.
2. A minimum of two coaches' meetings will be conducted during the seasonal year.

4. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

1. The program shall adhere to BYSL policies relative to disciplinary actions taken against officials, coaches, teams, players, etc., involved in BYSL programs.
2. A coach may be removed from participation in the U12 program, by a majority vote of the Board at any time, for misconduct.

3. CAUTIONS AND EJECTIONS

3.1 EJECTIONS

When a player, coach, spectator or team representative is ejected from a match, the referee shall file a misconduct report detailing the send off with the BYSL Referee Administrator and the BYSL U12 Program Director.

2. CAUTIONS



When a player, coach, spectator or team representative displays or enacts conduct that would have resulted in a caution should that individual have been a player, the referee shall file a misconduct report detailing the caution with the BYSL Referee Administrator and the BYSL U12 Program Director.

3. **DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS.**

Will follow BYSL policy as stated in *BYSL Rules and Regulations*.

5. **FINANCIAL**

1. The BYSL tax identification number shall not be used by other than BYSL.
 2. Each U12 Program team must be in good financial standing with BYSL prior to participation in the U12 Program.
 3. Players who have registered with the U12 Program and wish to withdraw prior to participating in any practice or game will receive a refund of their BYSL fees minus registration fees already paid to the registering state or national organization.
 4. Scholarship applications for players on U12 Program teams will be reviewed and approved by the BYSL president.
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6. **COACHING**

1. The U12 Program Director is responsible for soliciting, screening and proposing coaches for U12 Program coaching positions. The U12 Program Director will submit a proposed U12 Program coaches' list to the BYSL Board prior to the beginning of the season.
 - a. All U12 Program coaching positions are contingent upon BYSL Board approval.
 - b. All U12 Program head coaches and assistant coaches will be registered with the approved BYSL national or state affiliate.
 - c. All head coaches and assistant coaches must successfully complete the USSF "E" Course or equivalent within one year of coaching in BYSL U12 Program.
 - d. Anyone who has been sanctioned by the registering national or state affiliate or any other organization recognized by the registering national or state affiliate will not coach, train, assist, manage or help with any team playing in the U12 program.
2. The number of teams will be determined by the U12 Program Director based on player and coach resources.
3. Coaches associated with Clubs are allowed to coach within the U12 Program but may not use the U12 Program to promote their Club teams in any way.
4. Coaches have the responsibility to finalize registration with the BYSL Registrar under the direction of the U12 Director.
5. Coaches are responsible to understand the applicable game forfeit and cancellation policies.



6. Coaches are responsible to adhere to BYSL Rules and Regulations and National Affiliate Rules including all safety policies.
7. BYSL policy stating at least two adults be present at any team function must be followed.

7. PLAYER SELECTION/TEAM FORMATION

1. The BYSL U12 Program uses open registration, meaning there are no tryouts, and players wishing to play in the U12 Program are entitled to do so providing they meet the deadlines and there are ample resources within the program to manage the additional players. The U12 Director will make every effort to ensure that all players wishing to play are placed on a team.
2. Separate boys and girls teams will be formed, but 11 and 12 year-olds may occupy the same team. Ideally, teams will consist of 11 players, but numbers may vary slightly across teams and seasons depending on resources.
3. Balanced teams are formed every season under the U12 Director's guidance to help ensure that all BYSL U12 teams have an equal chance of winning in competitions against each other. One of two methods of ranking players will be used.
 1. As time and resources permit and weather permitting, U11/U12 player assessments will be used to foster the formation of balanced teams. Player assessments are scheduled by the U12 Director prior to team formation for the upcoming season. All U11 and U12 players wishing to play in the U12 Program must attend the player assessment session and participate in the activities outlined by the assessors. Assessors observe and number rank the players as 5 (high), 3 (medium) or 1 (low) or comparable numbering system based on the players' ability, independent of age. To the extent possible, assessors who are independent of the U12 Program shall be used to rank players.
 2. Lacking adequate time and resources for player assessments (e.g. first season implementation) players will be ranked by their most recent coach and other U12 coaches who know of the player's ability. NOTE: Coaches will consider the abilities of all players in the U11/U12 player pool when assigning ranks.
4. Formation of balanced teams will take place under the direction of the U12 Program Director. The Director presents the lists of payer ranking groups to the U12 coaches. Coaches choose players one at a time from each list until all players are selected. Rounds start with "pre-selected" players. At the end of rounds, leftover players from each ranking group are distributed per the U12 Director's discretion. When option 2 is used for assigning player ranks, the U12 Director may opt to run the U11 and U12 player selection rounds separately. To ensure balanced teams to the extent possible the ranking total of the players' on each team must be within two points.
5. Coaches may express a preference for six or less pre-selected players at the discretion of the U12 Director. Each pre-selected player is assigned to the coach at the start of the rounds, and the other coaches then choose players from an equivalent rank during that round. For example, at the start of his turn, a coach chooses his son, who is a "3" to play on his team.



Other coaches then choose a “3” ranked player during that round of selection. This process continues until all pre-selected players are chosen.

8. PLAYING TIME

1. Games are an integral and valuable aspect of player development. In order to comply with the Program’s objective to provide an equal opportunity for each player’s development, coaches will strive to ensure that each player plays fifty percent or more of each match. Coaches not adhering to this policy will be scrutinized by the Director and may be summoned to a BYSL Board meeting for disciplinary action.
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9. PLAY UP POLICY

1. U11 and U12 players are expected to play in the U12 Program. Play-ups to U13 teams will occur only under extraordinary circumstances, to include either:
 1. The U11/U12 player is an emotionally mature, outstanding player. A U11/U12 player would be expected to be a regular starter or top 1/3 of the U13 team.
 2. Grade appropriate. A U11/U12 player who has exceptional skills and is in 7th grade may be considered eligible for a U13 team
2. Approval for a U11/U12 player to transfer **from** the U12 Program will include a series of steps:
 1. Nomination for a competitive BYSL team by the player’s U12 coach.
 - 1.1. **NOTE:** *The U12 coach initiates the nomination. U13 coaches (or prospective U13 coaches) who recruit players from the U12 Program will be subject to disciplinary action by the BYSL Board, and may include suspension from participating in BYSL programs and activities.*
 2. Approval to leave the U12 program by the BYSL Director of Coaching, U12 Director, U12 coach, player and player’s parent.
 3. Approval by the BYSL competitive coach to accept the U11/U12 player. Player will be added to the BYSL competitive team in accordance with the established BYSL add process.
 4. Additional criteria for transfer from the U12 program to an older age group may be the player's grade in school. U12 Program players who are in the 7th grade may transfer out of the U12 program to the age group of their year in school.
3. U10 and younger players will not be allowed to participate in the U12 Program unless approved to do so by the YDP Program Director, the U12 Program Director, and applicable team coach.
4. Transfers in mid-season are to be avoided to the extent possible.



10. COACH AND PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

1. The U12 Program seeks to develop coaches as well as players, to ensure a constant influx of solid coaching talent into the League. To foster the development of coaches, and ensure that players exit the U12 program with common skills, the U12 Program Director will provide coaches with guidelines that outline the skills that the players are expected to master and a recommended curriculum to teach those skills, complete with sample training sessions. Coaches may use the curriculum at their discretion, but will be expected to teach those skill sets to their players.
2. Coaches are encouraged to seek opportunities for player development, and discuss these with the U12 Director.
3. Teams deciding to participate in tournaments are responsible for all necessary actions to register for the tournament. Costs associated with tournament participation are the responsibility of the team. Tournament participation will usually be limited to local (eastern Idaho) tournaments available to recreational teams unless a specific team decides to pay the required additional registration fees.

11. TEAM UNIFORMS

1. Each U12 Program team is responsible for their team uniforms. Because the team assignments are for one season, inexpensive uniforms are recommended.
2. Team colors should be coordinated with other BYSL U12 teams to avoid color conflict as much as possible. Color conflicts for games are recommended to be addressed through the use of pullovers or basic second color shirts. In the event of color conflicts, the home team is responsible for changing jerseys.
3. Uniforms for tournaments will be in accordance with tournament rules.
4. Uniforms and other equipment shall be in accordance with the applicable Modified Rules of the Game.

12. U12 PROGRAM DIRECTOR

1. The U12 Program Director will determine the number of teams to be formed each season with the U12 Program.
2. The U12 Program Director will solicit, screen and propose coaches for U12 Program coaching positions. The Director will submit a proposed U12 Program coaches' list to the BYSL Board for approval. The proposed coaches' list will be submitted prior to the beginning of the season.
3. The U12 Program Director shall be responsible for organizing the League schedules.



4. The U12 Program Director will use the referee scheduler that BYSL contracts for BYSL programs
5. The U12 Program Director is responsible for tracking all cautions, ejections and suspensions within the U12 Program
6. The U12 Program Director has the authority to cancel U12 Program matches.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Home teams will be listed first on the schedule. All matches will be played at the designated location on the schedule.
 2. Only the U12 Program Director can cancel U12 Program matches (with the noted exception of referees, in the event of unsafe conditions at the field).
 - a. Teams that are unable to play a scheduled U12 Program match must notify the U12 Program Director at least 24 hours prior to the match. Failure to notify the Director will result in forfeiture of the match.
 - b. Forfeiture of any U12 Program match will result in a fine of \$100.00 assessed to the responsible team (payable to BYSL). The fine shall be paid within five days of the forfeited match. The offending team will be suspended from U12 Program play until the fine has been received by the BYSL Treasurer. All scheduled matches will be resumed at that point. Matches missed during the suspension will not be made up and will be recorded as 1-0 wins for the opposing teams.
 3. At all U12 Program matches, teams and spectators will be situated on opposite sides of the field. Both teams will occupy one side of the field, with the spectators occupying the other side of the field.
- A. Registration of Players and Team Formation/Organization
- Team formation and player assignment are under the direction of the U11/U12 Director.
 - Open registration (no tryouts) will occur for both the spring and fall seasons. The U11/U12 Director may organize a player observation session if needed to assist with player/team assignments.
 - U11/U12 teams are not affiliated with a club.
 - Teams will normally register as Recreation teams with a national affiliate determined by the BYSL Board.
 - U11/U12 games will follow the 9v9 format. Teams will be organized accordingly with a suggested number of 11 players assigned to each team.
 - Separate girls and boys teams will be organized.
 - When the number of players permit, players will be normally be assigned onto a U11 or U12 team, but combined U11/U12 teams may be formed when necessary.



- Coaches will be encouraged to help with player recruitment/registration; however, coaches may only preselect 6 of the players on their team. Other coach-recruited players and open registration players will be placed in a player pool and team assignments will be made on an equitable basis by the team coaches under the direction of the U-11 / U-12 Program Director. Consideration may be given to player preference, geographic location, and school affiliation.
- Registration fees for U11/U12 players will be established by the BYSL Board, usually at a lower rate than older teams to assist with recruitment.
- U10 and younger players will participate in the YDP program and will not be allowed to participate in the U11/U12 program unless approved to do so by the YDP Program Director, the U-11/U-12 Program Director, and the applicable team coach.
- U11 and U12 players are expected to play in the U11/U12 program. Playups to U-13 and above teams will occur only in accordance with established BYSL rules and regulations.
- Coaches have the responsibility to finalize registration with the BYSL Registrar under the direction of the U11/U12 Director.
- All U11/U12 teams should use the BYSL Treasurer for the receipt and disbursement of team funds. A separate account will be tracked for each team by the BYSL treasurer. Because the teams do not carry over from season to season, a zero balance should be achieved at the end of each season. Teams must have funds in their account in advance to cover any required expenditure.
- Uniforms will be the responsibility of each team. Because the team assignments are only for one season, inexpensive uniforms are recommended. Team colors should be coordinated with other BYSL teams to avoid color conflict as much as possible. Color conflicts for Snake River League games are recommended to be addressed through use of pullovers or basic second color shirts. Uniforms for tournaments will be in accordance with tournament rules.
- Uniforms and other equipment shall be in accordance with the applicable Modified Rules of the Game.

B. Games

- Teams will participate in season play within the Snake River League.
- The U11/U12 Director will work with the Snake River League scheduler to schedule league games. The U11/U12 Director may use the Snake River League Scheduler to assist with intra-BYSL weekday scheduling of games or may decide to establish an independent weekday schedule for intra BYSL games.
- Coaches will submit required team commitment or availability forms to the Snake River League Scheduler as required for their teams to be scheduled games.
- Rules will be the US Youth Modified Rules to the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- A size 4 ball will be used.



- U11/U12 games will consist of two, 30 minute halves. If any team is scheduled for two games on one day by the Snake River League scheduler, all games that day for that team will be limited to two, 25 minute halves. Tournament rules are applicable for tournament games.
- Teams may decide to participate in tournaments; however all necessary actions to register for the tournament are the responsibility of the team coach or manager. Costs associated with tournament participation is the responsibility of the team.
- Tournament participation will usually be limited to local (eastern Idaho) tournaments available to recreational teams unless a specific team decides to pay the required additional registration fees.
- Serious misconduct by coaches, players or parents will be reported to the U11/U12 Director who will coordinate with the BYSL President as necessary. Disciplinary action may be taken in accordance with established BYSL policy.

C. Coaches

- Coaches will be recommended by the U11/U12 Program and approved in advance of each season by the BYSL Coaching Director and by the BYSL board.
- Coaches should be trained and certified in accordance with criteria published by the National Affiliate.
- The U11/U12 Program Director will provide coach information to the BYSL Director of Coaching and work together to provide coach training to U11/U12 coaches.
- Coaches associated with BYSL sanctioned clubs are encouraged to participate in the U11/U12 program as their expertise is valuable to these developing players; however, all coaches must ensure the U11/U12 teams are not affiliated with any club.
- The U11/U12 Director will work with BYSL's referee scheduler to schedule referees for U11/U12 games. The Director will ensure the BYSL referee scheduler has both weekday and weekend schedules as appropriate.
- U11/U12 coaches are responsible to understand the Snake River League game forfeit and cancellation policies and that their team will be fiscally responsible for any fees assessed in accordance with this policy.
- Coaches are responsible to adhere to BYSL Rules and Regulations and National Affiliate Rules including all safety policies. BYSL policy of having at least two adults present at any team function will be followed.