

COMPETITIVE PROGRAM POLICIES

COMPETITIVE PLAYER COMMITMENT

BBFC encourages the highest appropriate level of play for every player, be it practices, games, the state or regional tournaments, or the Blitz-related activities. All players are committed to playing with their team until the end of the league season (including State and/or Regional tournaments). Teams and coaches may request commitment to additional tournaments. Prior commitments take precedence, but must be reported as soon as possible and may result in a player not being selected for a team. Subsequent commitments will be considered on a case-by-case basis; not all subsequent commitments are “emergencies”. A player who breaks his/her commitment to a team may sacrifice a starting position, playing time, enrollment in the Club, and/or the opportunity to enroll in subsequent years, as recommended by the coach and Technical Director in recognition of the level of play and of the offense.

REGISTRATION

Full tuition payment for the season is due at registration.

Late registrants will pay full fees (including late fees) at time of registration.

The only exception to full payment is in the case of scholarship recipients.

- Applications must be filed by the late registration deadline.
- Scholarships may involve complete Club support (less a \$50 registration fee and costs such as uniforms and travel), partial Club support, or a payment installment plan.
- The installment plan *commonly* involves three equal payments due on Nov 1, Dec 1, and Jan 1.

WITHDRAWAL

- Voluntary withdrawal before tryouts will result in an automatic refund of all but \$50 (club cost for insurance and administration).
- Voluntary withdrawal after tryouts will not result in a refund.
- If we cannot place your player on a team we will issue a full refund.
- Involuntary withdrawal (catastrophic injury, family relocation...) may result in a refund of up to half of the tuition paid, but must be requested in writing, through the Club Administrator, after the first practice and before May 1. Involuntary withdrawal prior to the first practice will result in a full refund except the \$50 registration fee.
- Lack of understanding of Club policies and procedures is not grounds for involuntary withdrawal.

FORMATION OF TEAMS and PLAYER SELECTION

Definitions:

The following definitions are those of BBFC.

- **Micro (Recreational):** Parent coaches and referees, anyone can play, randomly selected teams, equal playing time, small-sided games.
- **Academy:** The Academy Developmental Program helps children ages 9-11 shift from recreational to more competitive play, with an emphasis on teaching players fundamental individual skills. Attendance at practices is expected. U10+ end season with a tournament.
- **Competitive (Premiere and Select):** The Competitive Program for youth ages 12-19 emphasizes team and individual skills, very high levels of fitness, meeting one's potential, and the value of good sportsmanship. The program consists of licensed coaches and referees

(seldom team parents), tryouts, practice required, unequal playing time, state to regional competition, end-of-season elimination tournament and some out-of-season tournaments. U12 plays 8v8 with balanced teams while U13+ plays 11v11 with a Premiere and Select team when numbers permit.

Team Formation Policies:

BBFC strives to organize the most successful teams possible and provide players with competition matched to their abilities. The Technical Director is responsible team formation.

1. Teams will be formed based on registration as of the first tryout for that age group. Players attempting to register after that time may be accommodated as best we can within the existing team structure.
2. Tryouts will be scheduled between the first weekend in October and November 30.
3. When there are enough players in any age group to form more than one team, BBFC will field both a Premiere and Select team.
4. Where there are more than enough players in any age group to form one team but not enough for two, or not enough for one team, we will attempt to accommodate players by combination of age groups internally or immigration of players from other towns. Migration of players from other locations in the state is permissible in forming teams (by State policy).
5. A player wishing to play up must try out with his/her FIFA (normal) age group. They may ask to be considered for a higher age group or be asked to consider playing up by the team coaches and Technical Director. Decisions of the Technical Director may not be appealed.
6. The Technical Director will assign team coaches as appropriate.
7. Final decisions as to level of team competition and coach assignment will be completed by the Technical Director and submitted to the Board by December 31.
8. The Technical Director with approval of the BBFC Board will decide on tournament schedules for the year.

Placing players:

BBFC is committed to the growth and development of the competitive soccer player. Players will benefit most when provided an appropriate level of competition consistent with their abilities. Players are placed on teams as determined by tryouts. Evaluations are based on: Effort and Attitude, Technique and Tactics, Physical Condition, and Maturity.

A player is not assured a position on a team. There are willing players whose physical condition, skills and/or maturity level are inappropriate to enrollment in BBFC. When motivation, commitment, skill, speed, fitness, and practice availability are effectively equal, local players will be placed before out-of-area players.

COACHING POLICIES

- A coach will usually direct a team for only one year. Exceptions to this policy may be invoked as necessary by the Technical Director.
- Coaches are expected to mirror the desired commitment of their players to the game, Club and team. This includes attendance whenever possible at workshops and clinics as well as at practices, games and tournaments.
- Coaches are paid and reimbursed by the Club for all scheduled league activities. Any coach requesting additional payment will be considered in breach of policy and will be subject to Club discipline to include suspension, release and/or decision not to rehire. Any team/parent

offering additional payment will be considered in breach of policy and will be subject to Club discipline to include player suspension, disenrollment and/or prevention of future enrollment.

RESPONSIBILITY TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE CLUB

BBFC is primarily run by the volunteered time of its players and their parents. In order to spread the responsibility for running the Club to as many people as possible, the Club requires that persons indicate at registration whether they wish to volunteer time or pay a fee in lieu of volunteering time. On a per family basis at registration, a \$100 deposit will be collected to ensure at least 10 hours of work on behalf of the club. The Club will maintain a list of volunteer activities and will provide a method for making certain that volunteer work is accounted for.

DISCIPLINARY POLICIES

- Club disciplinary policies will be enforced during the times that players are associated with Club activities, including the league season and tournaments and events (practice, travel, lodging, and games) associated with elective tournaments.
- Team coaches may enforce policies that are consistent with Club policies, but not less strict nor can they conflict with the policies of BBFC.

COMPLAINTS AND THEIR RESOLUTIONS

The Club retains the right to discipline any registered player, parent, or other relative of the player as appropriate for at- or off-field behavior in addition to MYSA sanctions. Sanctions may include requiring formal apologies, suspensions, player removal from the Club and/or prevention of future enrollment in the Club.

Sending Off” Policy: If an adult family member (adult) of a player receives a “send off” by a referee at a match, the adult is obliged by BBFC to remove himself/herself from the match from which he/she was sent off and from the next scheduled match.

A registered player, parent, or other relative of the player” is considered to have been accused of an offense and is therefore potentially subject to discipline when either (a.) a game official reports an offense, or (b.) a written, signed complaint is received by the Club which, after investigation, warrants further action. The complaint should be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the BBFC President. The President has the responsibility to formulate the process of handling each complaint and to communicate that process to all parties within two weeks. This may include serving a penalty to the offending party, assigning a committee to investigate and to recommend action to the full Board. If an investigation is warranted, an opportunity for the pertinent parties to be heard must be provided. Timely resolution of the complaint is paramount.

In addition to MYSA sanctions, the Club retains the right to discipline any player as appropriate for on- or off-field behavior. Sanctions may include formal apologies, reduction in playing time, suspensions, removal from the Club and/or prevention of future enrollment in the Club.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

1. Any registered player who is subject to a penalty or any other adverse action as result of any of the policies of BBFC by any coach, director or other representative of BBFC may appeal the adverse action taken to the Board of Directors. Whether or not the adverse action is in writing or oral, the aggrieved party has two (2) weeks from the occurrence or notice of the penalty to present a written appeal to the Board of Directors. Failure to present the written appeal within the two (2) weeks period will be a waiver of any right to grieve. The written notice of appeal shall state the adverse actions, the grievant’s position on the issue, and who took the adverse action. The written notice of a grievance shall be sent to the Secretary of the Board of Directors.

2. A grievance properly filed will be reviewed by the Board of Directors or a subcommittee of the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board of Directors may, but is not required to, hear additional evidence regarding the matter being aggrieved. The Board shall issue its determination on the grievance within a reasonable time.
3. There is no appeal of a decision made by the Board of Directors.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Prohibited substances are defined to include alcohol, tobacco products, prescription drugs (without prescription) and illegal substances.

Use is defined as:

- documented use or possession and/or
- being present where such substances are present or used illegally.

Duration is defined as during the period of organized training and competition. Offenses are carried over year to year.

Documentation includes referral by any reliable authority.

Consequences:

First offense of being present

- a formal apology must be delivered to the team
- the player will be suspended from competition for the next four games

First offense of use or possession or Second offense of being present:

- Player must make a formal apology to their team and coach
- Player will be suspended from competition for the next 6 games including tournament games
- Player must attend all games during suspension wearing street clothes
- Player must attend and participate in all practices during suspension
- Player must contribute 12 hours of service to the club
- Player must attend MIP class and player's parents must attend parent's night
- Player must attend next scheduled board meeting and report to the board. The board will then decide if player has satisfied requirements for reinstatement.

Second offense of use or possession or Third offense of being present

- Player will be suspended for the remainder of league season and all tournaments
- Reinstatement for the following season and tournaments will require a formal apology to the team and agreement by the coach, technical director and the board. The board may impose additional suspension of games and/or consequences at the board's discretion.

UNIFORM POLICY

- Uniforms will only be changed at the end of a uniform cycle (that is, when a Club uniform is no longer in production) – typically after three years of use.
- New uniforms and/or colors will be selected by the Uniform Committee and the Technical Director.
- Only Board-approved uniforms will be worn by Club teams.
- Teams which have purchased new uniforms in the past year will be granted permission to wear the uniform for one additional year, for a total use of two years.
- The Club logo will be worn by all players on their uniform jersey.

- The Club encourages team sponsorship but only the uniform brand and club logo can be worn on the uniform for U12 and older. Club-wide sponsorships will include logo application on the Academy and Micro team jerseys. (see sponsorship policy). Team sponsors may affix their logos to warm up jerseys, team bags, team shelters etc., but:
 - Cannot be another soccer company.
 - Must be approved by the Board to confirm not in bad taste.