

## **Eau Claire United Soccer Club Play-Up Policy**

Adopted by the ECU Board on July 2002.

The term "play-up" can apply in three different contexts for players in the ECUSC. One application is where a player is placed on a roster at an age above the US Youth Soccer (USYS) age level that they would be assigned to based on their birth date. The procedure for this application of play-up within our club is covered in the ECUSC Tryout Guidelines. A second application for a player playing above their chronological age classification is through use of temporary play-up arrangements within the club during the MYSA competitive league season. ECUSC guidelines and MYSA league rules on this are outlined below. A third application for play-up is guest play on a team (within or outside of the club) above the player's USYS age level for an individual tournament. The rules covering this application are outside the jurisdiction of the club and are governed by either MYSA or WYSA, and the requirements of the individual tournament.

### **ECUSC Guidelines for Play-Ups:**

1. Coaches are encouraged to discuss play-up possibilities with other ECUSC coaches before the league season starts. Discussion should include possible players and positions, if known, procedure to procure passes, and any other protocol either coach requires.
2. In order to avoid miscommunication and false expectations, players and parents should not be notified of a request for play-up until the coaches of both teams have worked out the arrangements. Play-up requests are the responsibility of the coaches. The coach approves requests. The coach may delegate parts of the play-up procedure and protocol to team managers or other team parents as long as this is clear to other coaches and parents.
3. The intent of play-ups is to provide adequate rest and hydration for all players during a match when the regular roster is short. The intent is not to gain advantage in a match by playing younger players at the expense of rostered players.

### **From the 2002 MYSA Rules and Policies.**

#### **Section 4.2.2.4 - PLAYING UP**

b. A player may play for another team than that to which they are registered an unlimited number of times under the following conditions:

1. Both teams are registered with the same Affiliate or Extraterritorial Member.  
(i.e. both teams are registered with Eau Claire United Soccer Club)
2. A player must get approval from his/her coach before playing for another team.
3. There may not be more than three play-ups in a single match.
4. Players cannot play for another team at the same age level and competitive division (play across) as the team on which they are registered.  
(i.e. a U13C2 player cannot play for another U13C2 team)
5. Players may not play down below the age level to which they are registered even if they would have been age-eligible to register on that team.

(A U13 player rostered on a U14 league team cannot play down on a U13 team)

b. Premier Players - Players on Premier teams may only play up to another Premier team at an older age level.

c. Classic Players - Players on classic teams may play up to an older age level or more competitive division.

For example: Players from a Classic 2 team may play up to a Classic 1 team at the same or older age level.

d. All Other Players

1. U10 and younger players will be allowed to play up to U11 or older.

(This is only for Minnesota U10 players registered with MYSA)

2. Recreation and Recreation Plus players may play up on competitive teams sponsored by their Affiliate Member by obtaining a player pass before the freeze date.

(This is only for Minnesota players registered with MYSA)