

Sponsor/Assistant Coach Option

The Fairfield Area SAY board implemented a policy allowing coaches to designate one assistant coach before the draw and thereby exempt that assistant's child from the random draw. In addition to the new policy, sponsors will continue to be able to request a coach and a player for a team they are sponsoring. Fairfield SAY Area and SAY rules, however, require that regardless of the circumstances there cannot be more than the coach's child plus one other designated player exempted from the draw for any given team. In general, if there is a conflict, the coach will need to choose whether he wants to designate an assistant coach's child or a sponsor's child. For either option, the Fairfield Area board must receive any request before the start of the draw process. This generally takes place in mid to late July. Also, in either case, an assistant coach's child or a sponsor's child cannot be designated if there is already a designated child on the team from the previous year. The following examples are intended to clarify how these rules are to be applied.

1) Sponsor W (Did not sponsor before.) - The sponsor can name the coach and one player. The child they designate can be their child or someone else's but not both. If they name a coach and a child the coach can NOT designate an assistant before the draw. If the sponsor only names a coach, the coach is then free to name an assistant whose child would be exempted from the draw. (Under no circumstances can the coach designate an assistant and the sponsor also designates a child.)

2) Sponsor X (Sponsored the team last year; designated both a player and a coach and, both are returning to the team this year.) - If they want to sponsor the same team they can do that but, they can NOT now designate an additional child. The coach would NOT be able to designate an assistant before the draw. Also, the sponsor would NOT be able to designate a different coach for the same team to get around the rule.

3) Coach Y (Returning to a team where the sponsor requested both him/her as the coach and a child as a player the previous year.) – If the requested child is also returning, the coach will not be able to designate an assistant regardless of whether the sponsor returns or not. Also, any sponsor will not be able to designate another child to be on the team.

4) Coach Z (Returning to a team where the sponsor requested both him/her as the coach and a child as a player the previous year.) – If the child requested the prior year is not returning, the coach will be free to designate an assistant or the sponsor can designate a player.

Regardless of the circumstances the overriding rule that needs to be applied is that there cannot be more than the coach's child plus one other designated player exempted from the draw for any given team.