



## WCJFA Team Split Policy

Per GEJFA rules, teams must have a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 33 players. A team may be split into two equal teams once a team roster has at least 28 players, and must be split when a team roster has 34 players. When a level (Rookie, Cub, Sophomore, JV, Varsity) is split into more than one team, the teams must be balanced by assigning an equal number of players to each team. If a level consists of an odd number of players, the teams will be balanced as equally as possible, meaning that one team may be assigned one player more than the other.

### WCJFA Team Split Criteria

To determine team assignments (Red, White, or Gray), WCJFA uses the following criteria:

1. SVSD elementary school boundary
2. Years in the WCJFA program
3. Registration date/time

### How it works

At the close of the registration period, players are first assigned to the appropriate playing level (Rookie through Varsity), as determined by the [GEJFA age/weight chart](#).

Players at each level are initially assigned to a single team. If the team roster has 28 or more players, the team may be divided into two equitable teams as follows:

1. Players are assigned to one of two teams according to the [Snoqualmie Valley elementary school boundaries](#).
  - Players residing within the FCES, CVES, and SES school boundaries are assigned to the Wildcats Red team.
  - Players residing within the Opstad, NBE, and TRES school boundaries are assigned to the Wildcats White team.

If, after assigning players to the Red and White teams according to their respective school boundaries, the two teams are balanced (say, 22 players on each team), then no additional criteria need be considered and the teams are set.

If a head coach (HC) is assigned to a team by vote of the WCJFA Board and the HC's child is not assigned to that team, then the child may be reassigned to the same team as the HC and is exempt from reassignment during team balancing.

If, after assigning players to the Red and White teams according to their respective school boundaries, the two teams are *not balanced*, players are then sorted according to the total number of years they've participated in the WCJFA program.

This helps to ensure that players who have played on a Red or White team for numerous years are less likely to move (for team balancing purposes) to a different team than those who are new to the program.

2. Players are then sorted by registration date (and still according to the number of years they've participated in the WCJFA program), in chronological order, so that those who register early appear at the top of the list, and those who register closer to the deadline appear at the bottom of the list.

This helps to ensure that those who register early are less likely to be reassigned out of the team determined by elementary school boundary than those who register later—particularly players with previous experience in the WCJFA program.

3. Wait-listed players, transfer players, and late registrants (those who register after the official GEJFA league registration period closes, typically June 30) are then added to the bottom of the list, regardless of the number of years they've participated in the WCJFA program, and are among the first selection of players to be reassigned for team balancing.
4. Players appearing at the bottom of the list (typically those who registered later than others and those who have shorter tenure in the WCJFA program) of the larger team—say, the White team—are moved to the smaller team—say, the Red team—until the teams are balanced.
5. Approximately one month after the close of the official GEJFA league registration period, typically August 1, the Board may lock both the number of teams at each level (Varsity, JV, and so on) and the number of players permitted on each team (with the exception of player movement due to age/weight calculations). This enables WCJFA to advertise which teams can accommodate additional players, and ensures that teams do not exceed capacity and force the creation of a new team before the season begins. Newly registered players continue to be assigned to teams as described in steps 3 and 4, above. After August 1, player movement between teams, such as for players who need to move up or down a level due to age/weight calculations, do not affect player team assignments. This may result in teams being misbalanced.

## Updates to this policy

<b>Revision date</b>	<b>Revision</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
2015	Policy created	To provide transparency and objectivity to team formation
4/3/2016	Updated to account for new elementary school (TRES)	To account for all elementary schools in SVSD
10/11/2017	Defined late registrants, Added step 5	To streamline registration and to provide stability to team structure