

## **U8 Travel Policy –Approved by Board of Directors 7/31/18**

The intent of this policy is to define the process by which U8 players can be moved from LSC Juniors to U9 travel for the purposes of forming U9 travel teams. This policy will be implemented in circumstances where U9 registration is not sufficient to field a team without additional players. The board of directors may deviate from this Policy if determined to be appropriate by a majority of the board.

At the close of on-time registration, the registrar and/or travel coordinator will inform the identified U9 coach(es) of the overall enrollment for the team, and provide a list of players at that age level who have played within the last year, but have not registered for the current season.

The coach or the travel coordinator will reach out to the unregistered players and let them know that if they intend to play in the coming season they need to register. It is anticipated that this process will take approximately 2 weeks.

If after the process of reaching out to unregistered players, there are still not enough players to form a team, the process of asking U8 players to play can begin. It is anticipated that for U9 travel the target roster size would be 11-12 players.

The registrar will provide the coach and travel coordinator with a list of registered U8 players, and one or both will reach out to those players to gauge their interest in playing U9 travel. This email should describe the player expectations for travel soccer, and should convey the relevant information from this policy, i.e., evaluation process, cost, and future opportunities.

U8 players who are interested in playing U9 travel can be placed on the U9 roster up to a total of 12 players. The intent of this restriction is to leave two spots open for late-registering U9 players.

If the number of U8 volunteers results in a roster size of 12 players or fewer, all will be placed on the roster. If the number of U8 volunteers would result in a roster size greater than 12, a suitable evaluation can be conducted, overseen by the travel coordinator working with the coaches of the U9 team. In some circumstances, the coaches may wish to use a process that does not involve player evaluations, such as drawing names from a hat. This should be discussed with the travel coordinator but may be appropriate in some instances. If interest is particularly strong (i.e., the total number of U8/9 players is greater than 15 or 16), the possibility of making two teams should be considered prior to conducting evaluations.

U8 players placed on a U9 travel team will be expected to pay the difference in cost between the Juniors and Travel program, and will be expected to purchase a uniform.

Assignment of a U8 travel player to a U9 team will be on a **season by season** basis only. For instance, placement on a fall travel team does not guarantee placement on a spring travel team. When possible, the coaches and travel coordinator should make an effort to place these players on travel teams in subsequent seasons, but only when practical and appropriate.