



# BASC FALL 2016 FAQ



## HOW WILL THE NEW CHANGES AFFECT MY PLAYER OR TEAM?

### **Will BASC implement the new small sided standards?**

Yes, in soccer unlike many sports, there is a distinct hierarchy; as a member of Oklahoma Soccer Association (OSA) and US Youth Soccer (USYS), we fall under the jurisdiction of US Soccer. As such, we are required to follow their guidelines.

### **Why doesn't BASC just do their own thing, we're a large club?**

One of the key factors to the initiative is standardization. Everyone in a given age bracket will now be playing under the same set of rules. Should BASC not follow the new guidelines, we would no longer be sanctioned under OSA & USYS. That would also significantly increase our expenses for insurance and club management since we would have to do everything ourselves. Additionally, BASC teams would be playing a different format / age group than all other clubs. Thereby making it very difficult for any BASC team to compete in an outside tournament. Plus most tournaments require a USYS or US Club approved roster, if BASC was unsanctioned, our teams would not be able to obtain an acceptable roster. It would also make our tournaments unsanctioned and drop attendance drastically since our format would be different than everyone else.

### **I understand the mandates do not go into effect until 2017. Why are we implementing them now?**

US Soccer issued the mandate for Fall of 2017, but also issued a "recommended best practice" for Fall of 2016. USYS and the other major youth soccer organizations (US Club, AYSO) have all agreed and will be implementing the standard in the Fall of 2016.

### **Is BASC going to bust up existing teams and reorganize teams to the new age guidelines?**

Not directly. We are a Recreational Club and recognize kids want to play with their friends. We highly encourage the coach and the parents to evaluate what is in the best interest of the player/s before requesting they play up. Play up is voluntary and is not automatic. It must be requested and approved. **However, if you have returning players on your team and you decide to play up your younger players and keep your current team together, you will have to play up all of the younger players.** These returning players are already on the team and the play up is being allowed on a large scale for returning teams to stay together. If a parent decides their child will not move up or if you have a player that developmentally is not ready the coach needs to have a conversation with the parent and the parent can decide whether to play them up or not. Any new teams formed by BASC or additions to existing teams will be made following the new age guidelines.



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### **My child wants to play up / stay with their existing team. Is that allowed? Are there limits to what's allowed?**

Yes, playing up is allowed. However, there are 3 criteria required before a child will be allowed to play up.

1. The child may only play up 2 years in age. Primary age brackets are U6, U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, and U19. (For example, a U10 could play up to U12, but not into U13. A U11 could play up 2 years with U13, but please recognize, they would be competing against U14's.)
2. The parent must approve the play up, recognizing their child will be competing against older and likely stronger/faster kids.
3. The Teams' Head Coach must approve the play up and agree as a coach he is willing to accept a younger player. Younger players wanting to return to the same team will need to have a conversation with their coach to determine if the coach is keeping the team together and allowing younger players to play up OR will the coach be splitting the team and going pure age. Please understand if a coach decided to play up existing members of his team in the Fall then ALL players on the team will play up unless the parent of the player decides their child will not play up. NOTE: Playing down an age level is not allowed under any circumstances.

### **If I sign up before the registration deadline will the player be guaranteed to return to the same team you were on in the previous season? Yes & No, see below.**

**Yes:** If the returning coach will be coaching in the same age group as your child, yes they will return to the same team unless you state otherwise in the notes section of your child's registration form.

\*Also, if the coach decides to play up his younger players on his team to keep them together, then yes as a parent you can allow your child to play up and return to that team as long as you fill out a [play up form](#) and the play up age is allowed. (Teams can fill out a [team play up form](#)) The child may only play up 2 years in age. Primary age brackets are U6, U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, and U19. (For example, a U10 could play up to U12, but not into U13. A U11 could play up 2 years with U13, but please recognize, they would be competing against U14's.)

**No:** If the returning coach will be coaching in another age group from your child and has decided not to play up the younger players or is only coaching a pure age team, then your child will be added to another team. BASC will make every effort to keep the younger players of the same team together as best they can and as space is available.



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### **How do I keep my team together?**

Only the Teams Head Coach can make that decision. However if a head coach chooses to keep his team together (which requires younger players to “play up”) they may do so. The easiest way to do this for the Head Coach to submit the Recreational Team Play Up Form:

[http://www.bascok.com/docs/home/BASC%20Team%20Play%20Up%20Form\\_2016.pdf](http://www.bascok.com/docs/home/BASC%20Team%20Play%20Up%20Form_2016.pdf)

### **Can the Head Coach keep most of the team together, but not take certain players?**

The intent is to allow teams that have been playing together the opportunity to stay together.

BASC will not allow this to be used as a tool for removing weaker players! If you choose to keep your team together by playing up any players, you must offer the opportunity to all players to stay on the team. Exceptions to playing everyone up are:

- Rec Select Teams.
- Parents must approve the play up.
- If you have concerns about one or two players being able to handle playing up, discuss it with the parents.
- In RARE circumstances, you can state your case to BASC and negative request a player. BASC will review the request and determine if the request will be upheld.

### **My child will be moving up age brackets, how is that good for them to be competing against kids that are older?**

They will not actually be playing against kids that are that much older than they are now. (Assuming a child is not voluntarily playing up.) Everyone moves up. (It’s easier to explain using an example of a child who is currently U11, but will be classified as U13 in the Fall.) Currently U11/U12 play together. So there is already a 2 year age band. The same two year band will exist. So while your U11 becomes a U13, the U12’s become U14. Those currently in U13/14 will move up too. So unless you choose for your child to “play up”, you’ll basically be competing against the same teams / age groups you are competing against currently.



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### AGE GROUP EXAMPLE #1

In this example we have a team that is U11 in Spring 2016 with 2 players currently playing up 1 age bracket.

Birthdate	Current Age Bracket	Age Group in Fall 2016
9/2/2004	U11	U13
9/12/2004	U11	U13
11/13/2004	U11	U13
1/5/2005	U11	U12
1/12/2005	U11	U12
1/18/2005	U11	U12
2/18/2005	U11	U12
6/21/2005	U11	U12
8/20/2005	U10*	U12
11/30/2005	U11	U12
1/20/2006	U10*	U11
* Currently playing up one age bracket		
Current U11 = July 2006 to August 2005		
Current U12 = July 2005 to August 2004		

#### COACHES OPTIONS:

1. Keep the entire team together as a U13 team. (2004's become U13. Players born in 2005 will play up 1 year. Player born in 2006 would play up 2 years.) Note entire team will compete in U13/14 bracket. So parents and coach must determine if a 2006 player can compete against those born in 2003 (U14).
2. Keep 'most' of the team together with older players as a U13 team. (2004's become U13. Players born in 2005 would play up 1 age bracket. The player born in 2006 elects to stay down in their true age group. Team would compete in U13/14 age bracket.
3. Keep 'most of the team together with the younger players as a U12 team. (Keep the 2005's and allow the 2006 player to play up 1 year. The 3 players born in 2004 would be released and have to be placed on an older U13 team. ) The remaining team would be U12 and would compete against U11/12 teams.



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