



Midland Soccer Club

Select Program Manual



The information contained within this document is intended to provide Select coaches, parents, volunteers, trainers and referees with sufficient instruction on the procedures used within the Select program and their role and responsibility to their team and the Midland Soccer Club.

MIDLAND SOCCER CLUB

MISSION STATEMENT

The Midland Soccer Club is a charitable and educational organization formed to organize, advance and foster the sport of soccer for players in the Midland, Michigan area.

Points of emphasis

To provide educational opportunities to all players, coaches, referees and the community at large, regarding the sport of soccer.

To make the sport of soccer available to all interested parties.

To provide a level of competition commensurate with each participant's ability, interest and desire.

To provide all participants a healthy, safe and enjoyable environment.

To provide recognition of players and teams at all levels of participation.

To promote unity within the soccer community.

To foster honesty, integrity, sportsmanship and good will through soccer.

To provide administrative and/or technical assistance to individuals, in areas pertaining to the sport of soccer and to the management of the sports organization.

To support, govern and administer the sport of soccer to the best of its ability.

To affiliate with the national and international governing bodies for soccer.

To be a positive role model sports organization and provide leadership to the community at large.

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Article 1. Coaches Requirements

1.1 Coaching Candidates

The Midland Soccer Club (MSC) requires the submission of a written application to become a coach for its Select teams. The Select Committee chooses head coaches for its Select teams based on the applicants qualifications.

1.2 Coaching License Requirements

Head coaches must meet the minimum requirements of the league (MSC, MSPSP or MMYSL).

1.2.1 Premier Licensing - Michigan State Premier Soccer Program (MSPSP) requires head coaches to have a minimum of a "D" State-License or NSCAA Advanced National Diploma for all age groups. Licensing requirements, information and schedules may be found at <http://www.msya.net/coachnewclinics.html> and <http://www.mspsl.org/>.

1.2.2 Mid-MI Licensing - While the Mid-Michigan Youth Soccer League (MMYSL) requires a USSF 'E' License or higher by 4/15/07 or within one (1) year of joining the league. To help with this, MMYSL will reimburse coaches \$100 toward an 'E' or \$50 toward a 'D' coaching license administered by MSYSA.

1.3 Application

The deadline for submission of the completed application form is **May 15th** for all team formation and **October 1st** for spring team formation. Coaches' applications should include information in the following categories:

- a) Licensing: Current license level and date issued.
- b) Previous experience: Years as a head and/or assistant coach in Recreation and /or Select program, and age group coached.
- c) Additional coaches training: Camps, seminars, personal playing experience, etc.
- d) Coaching Philosophy: Describe your philosophy of coaching a youth soccer team.
- e) MSYSA Risk Management ID # and expiration date

1.4 Note: The MSC reserves the right to assess information from other sources for purposes of evaluating an applicant's qualifications. Examples include contacting parents from your last team for feedback, assessing your cooperation with the Select Committee and game/practice observations. **Obligation**

Coaches are obligated to the MSC Board to field the best possible teams as representatives of our club in the MSYSA sanctioned Select leagues (MSPSL and MMYSL) and to coach in concert with the MSC mission.

1.5 Risk Management

The MSC, on behalf of the Michigan State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA), requires the submission of a Risk Management form for all persons over the age of 18 that will directly work with youth players (e.g. head coach, assistant coach, team manager and trainers). The purpose of the Risk Management form is determining whether a provider has been convicted of a crime that bears upon an individual's fitness to have responsibility for the safety and well being of children. Additional information may be found at <http://www.msya.net> in the Risk Management section.

1.6 First Aid

It is recommended that all coaches maintain an active certification for First Aid Optional first aid and CPR training will be provided once a year by the club.

Article 2. Coach Selection

2.1 Selection Process

The Select Committee of the MSC Board will choose the coaches for the Select program by a majority vote, yearly and as needed, based upon their qualifications.

- a) If a member of the Select Committee is applying to coach a team, or has a vested interest in that team, he or she is not permitted to vote on the coach for that team.

2.2 Retention Period

Chosen coaches will remain the coach for that season (fall and spring sessions) as long as they retain the confidence of the MSC Select Committee and Board of Directors, and coach their team in accordance with the league rules and regulations (MSC / MSPSP / MMYSL). See section 16.7.

Article 3. Head Coach Responsibilities

3.1 Time Involvement

Coaching a Select soccer team requires a substantially greater commitment over coaching in the Recreation program. Typically, during the season, the head coach will spend weekly 5-6 hours in practice, 2-4 hours in games and 2 hours in general administration.

3.2 Team Coaching Staff

The head coach must have a named assistant coach and a named team manager / financial manager. It is recommended these persons be selected after team tryouts have taken place. While it is a good idea to make use of parent volunteers, in the MSPSP and MMYSL, referees only recognize one named assistant and one named team manager.

3.2.1 Duties for Assistant Coach - It is recommended that the head coach outline specific duties for the assistant coach, which is mutually agreed upon between them. Examples of such duties are detailed in Article 4. The assistant coach will have responsibility for helping the head coach with game and practice situations.

3.2.2 Duties for Team Manager - It is recommended that the head coach outline specific duties for the team manager, which is mutually agreed upon between them. Examples of such duties are detailed in Article 5. The team manager will have the responsibility for helping the head coach with team administrative activities.

3.3 Risk Management

The head coach is responsible for maintaining an active status for the MSYSA Risk Management Clearance. The Risk Management card must be presented to the MSC Director of Select upon request. In addition, the head coach is responsible for assuring that the assistant coach, manager, team volunteers and non-club trainers have obtained Risk Management Clearance and have a current Risk Management card.

3.4 Team Formation

The head coach will have specific responsibility for the following items that he/she cannot delegate without approval of the Select Committee.

- 3.4.1 Player Selection** - Selecting the players for his/her team as a member of the evaluation team during tryouts (see Articles 7 and 8). The MSC, Select Committee and coaches will aid in player evaluations and will enlist qualified and impartial volunteers. They will follow the player selection guidelines detailed herein.
- 3.4.2 Tryouts** - . The head coach is to attend and assist the club's appointed administrator of the tryout. Head coaches main responsibility is to observe and evaluate players for review. All coaches are to keep information confidential from parental inquiry. Failure will result in disciplinary action.
- 3.4.3 Assisting in Tryouts for Other Teams** - The head coach will assist in the selection and ranking of players for other Select teams during tryout periods or for alternate evaluations as requested by the Director of Select. Additionally, coaches are to make sure current Fusion players are not wearing affiliated gear during tryouts; prior to team selection.

The head coach will also have specific responsibility for the following items. Delegating these items to the assistant coach or team manager does not exempt the coach from fulfilling his/her specific responsibilities.

3.5 Rules of Play

The head coach is responsible for knowing the "Laws of the Game" as published by USSF and any modifications set forth in USYSA, MSPSP and MMYSL rules.
<http://www.fifa.com/en/regulations/regulation/0,1584,3,00.html>

3.6 Training

The head coach will provide technical and tactical training for individual players and team for developing and improving fundamental skills, ball control and knowledge of the game. The Select Committee and the Director of Training have expectations that specific areas of individual technical, tactical, group and team tactical training will be covered for different age groups and has been provided below for consideration. The head coach should first evaluate the players on his/her team before setting a season training program. A combination of drills and small-sided games are suggested to ensure reinforcement of technical/tactical skills being developed. Training plans are recommended.

- 3.6.1 Training Focus for U10 to U12** – Coaches at these age groups should be focused on developing the individual player rather than the team. Individual player development should concentrate on technical (see Soccer Training Manual for list of technical skills) and individual tactical skills. Individual tactical skills include penetration with the pass or dribble, the decision-making process (which to use and when) and the role of the pressuring defender.
- 3.6.2 Training Focus for U13 to U14** – Coaches at these age groups should look to transition from the individual to group tactics. Although technical skills at these age groups should not be forgotten, an evaluation of each player as well as match analysis reports should inform the coach which techniques still need to be worked on. Group tactics include but are not limited to passing combinations, possession, offensive and defensive shape as well as the roles of the cover and balancing defenders. Group tactics also include work with units of players, which are the defenders, midfielders and forwards.
- 3.6.3 Training Focus for U15 to U18** – Coaches at these age groups should look to work on group and team tactics. As mentioned above, a thorough player and team evaluation should be completed before the season to see what standard your team is at and what the focus of your season training program should be. Team tactics are tactics that

involve two or more groups of players, for instance the midfielders linking up with the forwards or defenders as a unit.

3.6.4 Training Support & Resources for Coaches – The MSC Director of Training provides a variety of training support as outlined below:

a) Coaching support for player training / development is provided by the MSC Training Committee through the use of the MSC Training Manual. A variety of soccer literature and videos are also available from the MSC or the Grace A. Dow Library. Alternatively, web sites are available for additional support at.

b) Coaches are required to use MSC trainers (if available) but may use other guest (3rd party) trainers to supplement technical and tactical training for their team at their team's expense. The Director of Training or the Training Committee will be notified in writing prior to the use of 3rd party trainers for their team. The Director of Training or Training Committee reserves the right to restrict the use of specific trainers, but this use will not be unreasonably withheld. In the event that an external trainer is used, the coach shall be responsible for ensuring that the trainer submits the required information to the MSYSA as follows:

A small fee may be required to be paid by the team/coach. A copy of the completed "Guest Trainer Application Form" will be provided to the Director of Training.

c) All select teams will be provided with training sessions that will be lead by MSC approved trainers. A training program will be developed by the Director of Training and approved with the Training Committee on an annual basis.

d) The MSC Director of Training also provides training sessions for the coaches and these sessions require mandatory attendance.

3.7 Minimum Playing Time

The minimum playing time for all players in the Mid-Michigan teams - MMYSL (U10 to U18) will be 50% of each season. The purpose of this required playing time for the Mid-Michigan teams is to ensure that all players have the opportunity to develop their skills under the pressures of competition. The MMYSL is designed with this concept in mind. Exceptions to the 50% playing rule may be warranted based on the coach's disciplinary policy (documentation is required). See 3.20d.

The minimum playing time for all players on Premier and MRL teams – will be in accordance with MSPSP and MRL rules. Currently, (U13 and older) there is no required playing time for those teams participating in MSPSP or MRL. Playing time is based on performance, game conditions, player ability, team commitment, attendance, and the players are encouraged to develop the technical and tactical skills, and attitude of accountability in order to earn longer playing time. The MSPSP and MRL are designed with this high competition / high performance concept in mind.

3.8 Team Registration

The coach will be notified of the date/place of team registration. Registration packets are provided by each corresponding league (i.e. MMYSL, section 9.2 and MSPSP, section 9.3) and are typically distributed by the Director of Select or their designee. The Director of Select and/or Registrar will assist the coaches to ensure compliance with all registration documentation requirements. Additional registration requirements for the MSPSP may be found at <http://www.mspsl.org/>. The Director of Select or their designee will pay the team registration fees

directly to the leagues. The coaches are responsible for obtaining the player pass cards from their leagues. Teams are responsible for paying any additional fees for obtaining their pass cards earlier. The coaches are also responsible for the administrative process of player dual registration and player releases.

3.9 Scheduling

The head coach and/or team representative must attend the league scheduling meeting for the MSPSP or MMYSL. If a team is not represented, the scheduling will still take place without team input. The Registrar or their designee will provide each head coach with their allotted MSC times, dates and field locations available for their home games. The head coach will complete their portion of the MSC Field Master Schedule and must provide the Registrar with a copy of the final schedule (both home and away games) within two (2) days of the scheduling meeting.

- a) In preparation for the scheduling meeting, it is important to have specific dates identified that would prevent the team from participating in the scheduled match. For example:
 - i. Tournaments that the team has applied to or been accepted to;
 - ii. Any school related activities (i.e. SATs, Prom, etc.);
 - iii. Olympic Development Program (ODP) training / matches;
 - iv. Any other activity (e.g. business travel) that would prevent the licensed coach from participating in the scheduled game (MSPSP).
- b) Bring multiple copies of a map with directions to the MSC home fields.
- c) Changes to the MSPSP schedule can only be done following the guidelines set forth in MSPSP Rule 16, Section 6.
- d) Changes to the MMYSL schedule must be mutually agreed upon by both coaches (MMYSL does have specific rules about schedule changes; see <http://www.msya.net/>).

3.10 Paying Referee Fees

The Director of Select will interface with the MSC treasurer to provide coaches with remuneration for these fees and other Select expenses. The head coach is responsible for paying the referee fees as outlined in their league fee and payment structure before the beginning of the match. Cash in small denominations are recommended.

3.11 Paying Player and Team Bonds

It is the responsibility of the coach and/or team to pay for any player or team bonds or fees as required by the MSYSA or the individual league.

- a) All Player and team bonds received due to poor conduct or as a result of disciplinary actions are to be paid by the player or team being disciplined.
- b) In the case of bonds paid to leagues (ex MRL) to insure teams participation, MSC will front monies and monies shall be returned to MSC at the end of the season. If a team forfeits the monies, they will be responsible for reimbursing the club the fee and an additional 20% (of bond fee) disciplinary fine. Additionally, players and coaches will be considered members not in good standing and reported to MSYSA.

3.12 Reporting Scores

The head coach is responsible for reporting scores in the manner prescribed by the applicable league.

3.13 Players Actions and Suspensions

The head coach is responsible for the actions / conduct of his players before, during and after match play. The head coach shall instruct the players to behave in a proper and respectful manner. Any coach who allows a player, who has received three (3) Yellow cards or a Red card, to play in a game during which that player was to serve a suspension, shall receive a two game suspension. Repeat offenses by the same coach may result in disciplinary action by the MSC, MSPSP or MMYSL. Specific rules for the MSPSP may be found at <http://www.mspsl.org/>. The head coach is obligated to report repeated inappropriate conduct by the players to the Director of Select.

3.14 Team Officials Actions and Suspensions

The head coach is responsible for the actions / conduct of the team officials (assistant coach and manager) before, during and after match play. The head coach shall instruct the team officials to behave in a proper and respectful manner. Any coach who allows a team official, who has received three (3) Yellow cards or a Red card, to participate in a game, during which that team official was to serve a suspension, shall receive a two game suspension. Repeat offenses by the same team official may result in disciplinary action by the MSC, MSPSP or MMYSL. Specific rules for the MSPSP may be found at <http://www.mspsl.org/> and rules for MMYSL may be found at <http://www.msypsa.net/>. The head coach is obligated to report repeated inappropriate conduct by the assistant coach or team official to the Director of Select.

3.15 Parents Actions

The head coach is responsible for the actions / conduct of the parents during match play, to the extent of verbal or physical action against a player from either team, the referee, or team official. Remember, this is a game to be enjoyed by all participants. Positive reinforcement and cheering is fantastic. Specific rules for the MSPSP may be found at <http://www.mspsl.org/>. The head coach is obligated to report repeated inappropriate conduct by the parent(s) to the Director of Select.

3.16 Disciplinary Action

See section 16.7.

3.17 Year End Player Evaluation

The head coach, and only the head coach, with the assistance of the MSC Trainer, shall generate and submit a Year End Player Evaluation form to the Director of Select by **June 1st** (see also section 7.3). Girl's teams playing only in the fall session shall submit a Year End Player Evaluation within 2 weeks of the end of the season.

3.18 Coaches' Meetings

MSC requires all head coaches to be in attendance at each coaches meeting. These meetings are typically held on at the start of each season and conclusion.

January – Registration

February – Field Assignments

March – Pre-season / Training assignments / Scheduling

April – Distribution of referee fees

May – Tryout information

June – Tryouts

July & August – Registration / Select Camp / Scheduling

September – Field Assignments / Pre-season

October – End of season review

November & December – No meetings / spring registration packets

3.19 Premier Delegate Meeting

MSPSL monthly delegate meeting can now be completed by conference phone conversation, once a month. A Select Committee representative will be assigned to participate on a monthly basis.

3.20 Team Meetings

It is required that the head coach conduct at least one team meeting at the beginning of each session with the parents and players to discuss the following items. This list is not intended to be inclusive, but rather to provide a framework from which coaches may develop their own meeting agenda.

- a) Background about yourself & coaching philosophy
- b) Expectations for this upcoming season
- c) Practice schedule and absentee policy
- d) Disciplinary policy (i.e. reduction in playing time below the minimum in a match for missing practice, being disruptive, etc.)
- e) Game schedule and travel distance
 - i. Arrival time at field before game time for warm-up
 - ii. Meeting location and times for away games
- f) Selection and number of tournaments to participate in.

3.21 Tournaments

The head coach or team manager is responsible for the timely completion and submission of all tournament forms including guest player forms as appropriate (<http://www.msypa.net>). Participation in tournaments (yearly or once a session) is strongly encouraged. The MSC requires that all Midland teams participate in the club tournament(s) each year.

3.22 Out of State Matches

The head coach is responsible for the timely completion, submission and approval of the "Permission to Travel Out of State Forms" through MSYSA prior to travel and participation in out of state matches (<http://www.msypa.net>). Any questions should be directed to the Director of Select.

3.23 Bloodborne Pathogens

The MSC recognizes that individuals may be injured while participating in the MSPSP or MMYSL. The MSC wishes to protect player, volunteer coaches and referees.

Any player or coach who is bleeding or has an open wound is prohibited from further participation until appropriate treatment can be administered. A player must leave the field immediately and will be prohibited from re-entering the field until the wound is completely covered. All blood must be cleaned from the person's skin. Bloodied or exposed portions of the uniform must be properly disinfected, covered or changed before the player may re-enter the game.

3.24 First Aid

It is recommended, but not required that the head coach supplies a nominally priced first aid kit, which would be brought to each game and practice session. Based on team decision, it is at the discretion of the team to share the expense of purchasing the first aid kit and the kit will remain with the team. The Select Committee highly encourages at least 1 team official to maintain first aid certification.

- a) Under no circumstances will medication be dispensed to a player by the coach or team official without the consent of the parent or guardian.

Article 4. Assistant Coach

4.1 Team Official

All teams must have an assistant coach. MSPSP and MMYSL do not recognize more than one assistant coach per team. All other persons who express willingness to help during games, in the absence of assistant coaches are considered "volunteers". While coaching licensing is not required, the assistant should be capable of running the team if necessary. MSC limits the amount of 'official' bench personnel to 2; head coach and 1st assistant during games. Should the HC be unavailable, the manager may join the bench staff.

4.2 Risk Management

The assistant coach is responsible for maintaining an active status for the MSYSA Risk Management Clearance. The Risk Management card must be presented to the MSC Director of Select upon request.

4.3 Duties

The assistant coach will have responsibility for helping the head coach with game and practice situations. This includes, but is not limited to, player skill development, team tactics, game strategy and overall team morale. The assistant coach will support the head coach in performing any necessary duties deemed appropriate in the absence of the head coach as listed in Article 3. Examples of specific duties are outlined below:

- a) Help the head coach with compliance of the playing time rules and player substitution
- b) Instructions to the players on the bench during match play.
- c) Organize and perform specific drills or sessions (lesson plans) for practice.
- c) Participate in developing the team's training and development strategy with the head coach.
- d) Establish team warm-up and cool down exercises.
- e) Payment of the referee fees before match play.
- f) For MSPSP, **check** and sign the game report.
- g) Advise the head coach on player participation due to suspension.
- h) Understand the rules of play as defined by the "Laws of the Game" as published by F.I.F.A and the "Laws of the Game" as modified by the individual league.
- i) Illustrate proper conduct before, during and after match play.
- j) Manage spectators / parents on proper conduct before, during and after match play.

4.4 Tryouts

The assistant coach can be a member of an evaluation team during tryouts. However, the assistant coach cannot evaluate within the age group or the team in which his/her child is competing or in which the assistant coach has a vested interest.

4.5 Conduct

The assistant coach is obligated to report any inappropriate conduct by the coach, team official or parent to the Director of Select.

- 4.6 Disciplinary Action**
See section 16.7 for disciplinary action.

Article 5. Team Manager

- 5.1 Duties**
Head coaches should select a team manager. This is an individual who has responsibility for handling the team's administrative and financial duties. The manager will support the head coach and assistant coach in performing any administrative duties deemed appropriate. Examples of specific duties are outlined below:
- a) Schedule team meetings.
 - b) Generate a calling tree list.
 - c) Establish the team's organization to distribute specific duties required for operating the team effectively. This also builds team unity within all of the parents on the team.
 - d) Register into tournaments.
 - e) Coordinate T-shirt purchases and activities for tournaments.
 - f) Plan parties and team activities to enhance team comradry.
 - g) Coordinate team and individual photographic services as decided by the team.
 - h) Record game statistics during match play and compile stats for head coach analysis.
- 5.2 Risk Management**
The team manager is responsible for maintaining an active status for the MSYSA Risk Management Clearance. The Risk Management card must be presented to the MSC Director of Select upon request.
- 5.3 Conduct**
The team manager is obligated to report any inappropriate conduct by the coach, assistant coach or parent to the Director of Select.
- 5.4 Disciplinary Action**
See section 16.7 for disciplinary action.

Article 6. Player Eligibility

- 6.1 Player's Age Requirement**
The Select Program welcomes players of ages less than 19 to tryout for its Select soccer teams. The Select year commences August 1 and concludes July 31. A player's age is defined as the age the player will reach before August 1 of a given year. Exceptions see section 6.3 Alternate Eligibility.
- 6.2 Age Group Eligibility**
Age group eligibility will be consistent with the specific leagues and examples are listed below for convenience:

6.2.1 MSPSP Teams*

Under 13 teams will consist of 12 year old players or in the 7th grade
Under 14 teams will consist of 13 year old players or in the 8th grade
Under 15 teams will consist of 14 year old players or in the 9th grade
Under 16 teams will consist of 15 year old players or in the 10th grade
Under 17 teams will consist of 16 year old players or in the 11th grade
Under 18 teams will consist of 17 year old players or in the 12th grade
Under 19 teams will consist of 18 year old players

6.2.2 MMYSL Teams*

Under 10 teams will consist of 8 and/or 9 year old players or in the 3rd or 4th grade
Under 11 teams will consist of 10 year old players or in the 5th grade
Under 12 teams will consist of 11 year old players or in the 6th grade
Under 13 teams will consist of 12 year old players or in the 7th grade
Under 14 teams will consist of 13 year old players or in the 8th grade
Under 15 teams will consist of 14 year old players or in the 9th grade
Under 16 teams will consist of 15 year old players or in the 10th grade
Under 17 teams will consist of 16 year old players or in the 11th grade
Under 18 teams will consist of 17 year old players or in the 12th grade
Under 19 teams will consist of 18 year old players

* These age groups are dependent on the level of interest in each division. If there are not enough players to fill single year age groups, MSC will fill multiple year groups (e.g. U12, U14, U16 and U19).

6.3 Alternative Eligibility:

6.3.1 Playing Up With Grade - If a prospective player's birth date places him/her in one age group as defined by the MSYSA age designations but they qualify and participate in school activities at a higher age group, the prospective player may choose to qualify for a team made up of players of the older age group corresponding to his/her school grade. Documentation (e.g. Report card) is required and must be presented at registration along with a completed "Request To Play-With-Your Grade Form".

- a) If this player does not qualify in this age bracket in any of the teams, the player and parent will be notified by the Select committee (or the head evaluator of the group) and on the second day of tryouts the player will move to their true age bracket group to tryout for those teams.
- b) If the player fails to be selected for the older team, they remain eligible to be selected for their designated age group per MSYSA guidelines. However, the prospective player does not automatically get selected onto their designated age group team, they must qualify and be selected for this specific team.

6.3.2 Playing Up – A player who does not meet the minimum age or grade requirements, as stated in 6.2, may be selected for an older team if:

- a) The prospective player or their parent submits a "Request to Play-up Form", signed by the parent or guardian, to the Director of Select @ registration or before tryouts.
- 2b) For a fair player evaluation or selection, the player requesting to play up must be present at the regular team tryouts. No pre-evaluation will take place for play up situations.

c) During the first day of tryouts, the evaluators will determine if the player will qualify in the top 50% field players or as a primary goalkeeper and be selected for the Premier team of that age bracket.

d) If this player does not qualify in the top 50% field players or the primary goalkeeper of this group, the player and parent will be notified by the Select committee (or the head evaluator of the group) and on the second day of tryouts the player will move to their true age bracket group to tryout for those teams.

6.3.3 Exception – If there is not a program offered in a player's age group, the Select Committee may choose to allow the player to participate in a team of an older age group.

6.3.4 Playing Down - No player may play down for a team younger than the age designated by the MSYSA age designations.

6.3.5 Play Up Renewal - Players who are chosen to play up are not grand fathered into the age group. Players must submit the Request to Play-up Form as specified in 6.3.2 every year at or before tryouts.

6.4 Gender Alternative

A female player may be selected for a male team based on her tryout performance.

6.5 Special Premier Requirements

Special MSPSP restrictions regarding age distribution within an age group are outlined in MSPSP Rule 6, Section 4. This rule stipulates that 2/3s of the roster players must meet the age group requirement.

Article 7. Tryouts

7.1 Format

All Select teams shall be formed using a public tryout format, determined by the Select Committee in conjunction with the MSC Training Committee. This tryout format shall be managed by the Director of Select or their designee.

7.1.1 Evaluators – The tryouts for each age group will be conducted by an assigned lead evaluator/trainer or a designee appointed by the Director of Select, and at least two evaluators.

7.1.2 Duration – Tryouts will be at least two days of tryouts for at least 1 ½ hours duration each day, to enable the selection process.

Public Notification - All tryouts for Select teams shall be posted at least 1 week in advance by publishing in local newspaper(s). Supplemental advertisement is also encouraged.

7.2 Player Registration

As deemed by MSYSA, players may not officially register and/or pay tryout fees to the club. The club may collect contact information for players, the day of tryouts.

7.3 Year End Player Evaluation

In preparation for tryouts, all head coaches, and only the head coach, with the assistance of the MSC Trainer, shall complete and submit a Year End Player Evaluation form to the Director of Select by **June 1st**. Girl's teams playing only in the fall session shall submit a Year End Player Evaluation within 2 weeks of the end of the season. This form will be used to assess player performance throughout the current season (fall and spring sessions) and may be used to aide the tryout evaluation group with additional background information. This background information

shall be retained by the Director of Select and shall be used at the Director of Select's sole discretion.

This completed form does not replace a player's responsibility to perform to their highest potential at tryouts nor be used as the sole basis for selecting a player who was unable to participate in tryouts unless an injury or special circumstances prevented the player from participating. In these instances, refer to subsequent sections below. This completed evaluation form may be used to supplement the information being compiled by the evaluation group during tryouts for the formation of the team.

7.4 Tryout Dates

Tryouts will be held after the end of the spring session, but not before June 15th (see <http://www.msysa.net/>), for the following soccer season (fall & spring sessions).

7.4.1 U10-14 Boys & Girls -Tryouts for U10-U14 boys & girls will be held in June.

7.4.2 U15-19 Girls – Tryouts for U15-19 girls will be held in June.

7.4.3 U15-19 Boys – Tryouts for U15-19 boys will be held in June with additional November tryouts after the fall High School session should they be needed.

7.4.4 Team Formation - Select teams (MSPSP AND MMYSL teams) will be formed ONLY after the designated tryout dates.

7.5 Alternative Tryouts – No additional pre-evaluations.

ALL PLAYERS TO BE EVALUATED ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL TRYOUT SESSIONS. PLAYERS NOT ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN TRYOUTS AS A RESULT OF INJURY SHALL SUBMIT A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE DIRECTOR OF SELECT PRIOR TO TRYOUTS. A PLAYER NOT AT TRYOUTS AND WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION WILL BE ASSUMED TO BE NOT WANTING TO PARTICIPATE. ANY UNAVAILABILITY OR PARTIAL ATTENDANCE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TO AFFECT SELECTION ADVERSELY EVEN THOUGH REASONS FOR SUCH ABSENCES MAY BE NOTED AND CONSIDERED LATER.

7.5.1 Alternate Evaluations for Extenuating Circumstances - If alternate evaluations are necessary due to extenuating circumstances, the player(s) must be pre-registered and submit a written request for an alternate evaluation to the Director of Select by **May 1st** or **September 15th** as indicated above. Extenuating circumstances include school activities, ODP participation or special soccer camps. Family vacations are not considered extenuating circumstances. The Director of Training or designee will attempt to evaluate the player at practice or during match play. The player's performance and ranking relative to the other players on the team will be supplied to the Director of Select and will be incorporated into the main tryout ranking used for team selection. In the event that the Director of Select or designee cannot evaluate a player, then the Director of Select and the tryout evaluation group will have the ability to use the "Year End Player Evaluation Form" to assess the players performance and position on the current team and use that information to place that player into the appropriate spot on the tryout rankings. If neither the evaluation nor the Year End Evaluation form is available, it is highly recommended that the player participate in tryouts or his/her selection may be adversely affected.

7.5.2 Alternate Evaluation for Injury/Illness - In the event that a player becomes unable to participate in tryouts due to an injury or illness , and the injured/ill player has not been evaluated as per special consideration by the Director of Select, the tryout evaluation

group will have the ability to use the “Year End Player Evaluation Form” to assess the players performance and position on the current team and use that information to place that injured/ill player into the appropriate spot on the tryout rankings.

Any player requesting this injury consideration must submit a letter from his/her doctor indicating that the player cannot participate in tryouts. It is also understood that unfortunately this unexpected injury may affect his/her selection adversely.

- 7.5.3 Players Not in Select Program** - In the event a player requesting “special consideration/evaluation” is not participating on a Select team immediately prior to tryouts (i.e. playing in high school or recreational soccer): 1) The high school player can be evaluated during his/her high school games; 2) Recreational player requesting “special consideration” can be evaluated during recreational games but will be required to attend 1 or more appropriate age group select practices for further evaluation as necessary. 3) Players unable to attend tryouts or a pre-evaluation due to overseas or out of state residence may request that tryout based on references and/or video evidence may be used in their selection. These players may not tryout up an age and are subject to possible further tryout upon arrival to Midland. This arrangement is for individual players only, and does not guarantee nor hold a roster position for that player. These players must submit a written request by **May 1st** or **September 15th** as indicated in section 7.5.1 (6 wks prior to tryouts).

7.6 Methodology

The Director of Training will provide the evaluators with the evaluation format and drills as described in the training manual. Head coaches and the evaluators will rate each player’s ability in most of the following areas: Speed, ball skills, kicking ability, tackling skills, juggling skills, trapping, dribbling skills, aggressiveness, supporting skills, communication skills, and overall soccer knowledge. Although drills can be used to measure skills, small-sided games (3v3, 4v4, etc.) should be used for most of the evaluation. An overall ranking of all participants should result. The combined efforts of the coaches and evaluators will endeavor to ensure uniformity, fairness and organization.

- 7.6.1 Core Group** -The evaluating team should at least select the top 10 field players and designate a primary goalkeeper as a result of the first day of tryouts. The second tryout day should be used to rank the rest of the players.
- 7.6.2 Playing Up** - If the player fails to be selected for the older team or as the primary goalkeeper on the first day of tryouts, they remain eligible to be selected for their designated age group per MSYSA guidelines. However, the prospective player does not automatically get selected onto their designated age group team, they must qualify and be selected on the second day of tryouts for this specific team. See section 6.3
- 7.6.3 Bubble Players** - The use of small-sided games will be used to evaluate “bubble” players with the focus on individual strengths (both defensive and offensive). Bubble players are defined as those participants whose soccer skills are less than the top 10 players but have inherent individual strengths that can potentially support the competitiveness of the team.
- 7.6.4 Roster Numbers** – Team roster sizes will be limited based on age, league, and in order to accommodate player playing time provisions. Changes to rosters during or in-between seasons must be approved by select committee representatives, and in accordance to league rule. Teams may carry guest players for regular season games and tournaments, barring their regular team roster is not compromised; e.g. regular roster player is injured, will be missing from game. Coaches and evaluators may not ‘hold’ roster spots for players unable to attend tryouts (sec. 7.5.3)

7.6.4.1 U10-U12 – Teams are limited to 14 roster players

7.6.4.2 U13-17 – Teams are limited to 18 roster players

7.6.4.3 U18 and above – Teams may roster up to 22 players in accordance to league rules; game day rosters may only include a limit of 18 players. (Past history has illustrated the majority of HS players in this age group lack commitment regarding game and practice attendance. Therefore, having the 20 man roster gives a form of game day insurance to coaches.)

7.7 Tryout Documentation

Written documentation of the tryouts (evaluation forms with scores and comments) shall be kept and recorded. The original evaluation forms with scores and evaluators' comments for each player shall be completed immediately following each day's tryout and submitted by the head coach to the Director of Select. At the completion of tryouts, a forced ranking of all participants shall be provided to the Director of Select. The Director of Select reserves the right to modify the timing of completed documentation based on weather, alternate tryout arrangements, etc.

A) Tryout evaluator compensation: Paid evaluators will only be paid based on the following basis; completion of hours (actual evaluation hours), duties as requested by Dir. of Select and Dir. of Training, provide documentation and evaluation notes.

7.8 Notification of Participants Tryout Results

All participants will be notified of the tryout outcome by the head coach of each designated age group within 2 weeks of tryouts. Coaches should not notify players of tryout results if the MSPSP or MMYSL team is participating in tournaments later in June, as this may be detrimental to team morale in preparation for the tournament. A follow-up notification letter may also be sent by the Director of Select.

7.8.1 Notification Procedure - Chosen players, alternates and those players not chosen for a Select team will be notified of the tryout outcome by a head coach as follows:

a) Chosen players will be offered a position on the team.

b) If a chosen player declines the position, the coach may offer the next alternate a position on the team. In the case of the Premier teams, once the third alternate is offered a position and the Premier team has not yet attained their minimum 15 player roster, the head coach can choose to offer a position to players past the third alternate or request an additional tryout to the Director of Select. This is aligned with the mission of the MSC and the obligation of the head coach to field the best possible team. No additional tryouts are permitted without the approval of the Director of Select

7.8.2 Notification Procedure for Multiple Teams Within Age Group - In the event that there are enough participants to form two or more teams, the coach from each Select team will provide notification of the tryout outcome. Refer to Article 8.3 for further detailed information.

7.9 Guidelines for Mid-Season Tryouts

After the fall session, tryouts for spring may be held if necessary. Existing MSPSP teams are not required to have tryouts at this time unless the roster drops to thirteen (13) players due to injury or resignation. For guidelines covering midseason player loss see Rule 10, Section 7 in the MSPSP Bylaws, Rules and Regulations.

7.9.1 Selection of Alternate - The head coach may, at his/her sole discretion, choose the next designated alternate(s) from the original tryout documentation (evaluation forms and comments) or have a new tryout to choose players for an existing team for the spring session.

7.9.2 Procedure for Mid-Season Tryout - When adding players to an existing team at the tryouts for spring play, the coach will:

- a) Follow the rules in accordance with Article 7.1 (e.g. approved tryout format and posted announcement).
- b) Hold at least one (1) day of tryouts, of at least 1 ½ hours duration.
- c) Invite at least 30% of his/her existing players, with varying skills, to act as a measure of the new candidates.
- d) Player participation in any tryout is subject to Article 7.5.

Article 8. Team Formation

8.1 Sponsorship

The MSC will sponsor as many Select teams for each age group as possible based on the talent, number of registered players and availability of coaches. Starting in June 2004, all Select teams formed in U10 to U14, and all age groups thereafter, will carry a common name and be known as the Midland Fusion followed by their birth year, gender and a color (green, white or black) or indication of participating league.

8.2 Competitive Leagues

In each age group, the MSC would like to sponsor a team that will compete in the MSPSP. If in the opinion of the Select Committee, there are enough talented level players after the formation of the first team in any age group, a second team may be entered into MSPSP, MMYSL or an equivalent league of comparative competitive level.

8.3 Team Formation

At the completion of tryouts, a forced ranking of all participants, the designation of those participants that have been selected for the team and, where appropriate, the designation of 3 alternates shall be provided immediately to the Director of Select. An alternate is an individual that did not make the team but is considered to have acceptable skills that meet the team's standard. The Select Committee shall assess "the appropriateness" of the designated alternates as it relates to the player's skill level in conjunction with the head coach and the evaluators.

Within a given age group, the head coach of the first team in the highest competitive league (e.g. MSPSP) will have first pick of players based upon the tryout ranking. If a team roster cannot be formed from the first 18 candidates, the head coach will meet with the Director of Select or the Select Committee to determine possible options to complete the team formation. Additional Select teams may be formed with the remaining players available. The select head coach or coaches will choose players sequentially from the tryout rankings in order of team level (i.e. #1 MSPSP-A, #2 MSPSP-B, #3 MMYSL...)

8.3.1 Alternates - Players designated as an alternate for a team are the alternate for only the current session.

8.4 Team Roster

The team roster will conform to the guidelines within the individual leagues. Currently, a team in the MSPSP must have a minimum of 15 players on the roster. A team in MMYSL must have a minimum of 14 players on the roster except for U10 to U12 (in accordance with league requirements). In both leagues the maximum number of players on a team is 18; except for U10, which is 12 and U11 to U12, which is 14 players (in accordance with league requirements).

a) The MSC's Select Committee reserves the right to determine the number of players a coach can select above the league minimum based on the outcome of the tryout process. The committee also has the right to limit that number, if by doing so an additional team might be formed.

8.5 Player Commitment

Once a player commits to a team, he/she is bound to that team for the season. The MSC, in accordance with the MSYSA, considers the fall and spring sessions to be one season (except for high school players). The player's league registration form is considered a yearly contract. When a player resigns during a season or in between sessions, the player will be barred from the Select program for the following year unless appealed to the Select Committee. Extenuating circumstances for resignation, such as injuries, need to be communicated to the Director of Select.

8.6 Player Release

Guidelines for a player's release may be governed by individual leagues. In MSPSP this is Rule 10, Section 1, 2, 3 and 4. The MMYSL doesn't have a rule for player release, but both the player and coach should agree. Players not released by their coach, may request a release from their team by submitting a written request and the appropriate release forms from the league to the Select Committee.

a) If a MSPSP team holds a tryout for the spring session, a MMYSL player may participate, and if selected, the MMYSL coach shall release that player.

8.7 Temporary Play-up in Premier Teams

Newly adopted MSPSP rules permit players within a specific club that have active MSPSP pass cards to play up for temporary play at the discretion of the head coach. This rule allows Premier teams to borrow players from one another and provides an additional opportunity for players to develop and compete at a higher level. Restrictions regarding the age distribution within a team must still be met in accordance with section 6.5 and/or MSPSP guidelines. The MSC Registrar will affix a sticker to the player's pass card signifying MSC approval. Players may not play up more than two years. The head coaches from both teams must be in agreement with the play-up decision prior to extending an offer to the player or family. In the event that the coach's decision to support the temporary play-up is unreasonably withheld, the Director of Select or their designee may intervene and mediate a resolution that will be final.

8.8 Dual Registration

At the discretion of the Premier team head coach, with agreement from the Director of Select or the Select Committee and the other head coach, players may be dual rostered (MSPSP and another league).

8.9 Poaching of Players

In accordance with Rule 10 of MSPSP bylaws and Rule 11 of MSYSA bylaws, any team which through its responsible officers or representatives (players, parents of players or any other agent) attempts at any time prior to the third Sunday in June to induce a registered player (or their parent or guardian) to leave his team before the end of the season for the following season shall be deemed to have committed a poaching offense and shall be dealt with by the Select Committee. The Select committee will decide on the submission of this information to the MSYSA or MSPSP Disciplinary Committee. The period of the 3rd Sunday of June to registration day of the Premier or Mid-Michigan leagues is designated as open recruitment period.

Article 9. Team Registration and Scheduling

9.1 Mid-Michigan (MMYSL) Registration

The MMYSL requires registration documents and fees to be submitted to the secretary of the league prior to the registration/scheduling meeting. Forms and dates may be found at the MMYSL web site (<http://www.mmysl.net>). The MSC will send the team registration fees directly to the league. The coaches are responsible for registering the team and must complete the following items:

- c) Team roster (2 minimum)
- d) Signed player registration form – one from each player
 - i. Two (2) photos, (1.25" x 1.25")
 - ii. Proof of age – copy of birth certificate or passport.

9.1.1 Permission to Travel / Medical Release Forms - The coach will distribute, collect and retain "Permission to Travel" and a notarized "Medical Release" form for each player. Although these forms are not required for team registration, they are required for traveling to away games and participating in tournaments. Please refer to the <http://www.msypsa.net> web site for the most current revision of this form or use the form provided below.

9.2 Mid-Michigan (MMYSL) Game Scheduling

MMYSL games are scheduled on the same date as registration, although a \$50 late fee will be applied if you wait until this meeting to register the team. The MMYSL scheduling meeting is held in Owosso, MI and if the team registration documents were completed ahead of time, the player pass card will be ready for pickup. See the MMYSL web site of dates.

9.3 Premier (MSPSP) Registration

The MSPSP requires registration documents to be completed both online and from the registration packets provided by the league. The completed packets will be submitted to the MSC for signature by the MSC President or Registrar. The registration packets will contain the following items and be submitted to the league representative. The fees will be paid directly by the MSC. Coaches must follow MSPSP registration procedures and are responsible for accuracy.

- a) Team roster (2 minimum)
- b) Team information sheet
- c) Signed player registration form – one from each player
 - i. One (1) photo, (1.25" x 1.25") (Not needed for registration, to be kept by coach until Packet pick-up meeting)
 - ii. Proof of age – copy of birth certificate, passport, or previous year player passcard

It is recommended that for the sake of your time at registration, you follow the instructions completely and carefully! Additional forms and information may be obtained at <http://www.mspsl.org/>.

9.3.1 Permission to Travel / Medical Release Forms - The head coach will distribute, collect and retain "Permission to Travel" and a notarized "Medical Release" form for each player. Although these forms are not required for team registration, they are required for traveling to away games and participating in tournaments. Please refer to the <http://www.msypsa.net> web site for the most current revision of this form or use the form provided below.

9.4 Premier (MSPSP) Game Scheduling

All MSPSP scheduling is now done via an online scheduling program on the mspsl.org website. Coaches need to contact league coaches prior to scheduling to arrange dates and times. Coaches can obtain scheduling information below and additional information regarding dates, times and places of MSPSP activities within the Calendar of events located at the <http://www.mspsl.org/>.

9.5 Preparation for Scheduling Meeting

Prior to online scheduling, it is important to have specific dates identified that would prevent the team from participating in a scheduled match. For example:

- a) Tournaments that the team has applied to or been accepted to;
- b) Any school related activities (i.e. SATs, Prom, Graduation, etc.);
- c) Olympic Development Program (ODP) training / matches;
- d) Any other activity (e.g. business travel) that would prevent the licensed coach from participating in the scheduled game (MSPSP).
- e) Bring multiple copies of a map with directions to the MSC complex.

Article 10. Game Cancellations

10.1 League Rules for Game Cancellation / Changes

Cancellations or schedule changes are covered by the individual league rules and regulations and must be followed. Please refer to MSPSP Rule 15, Section 5 and 6 or MMYSL Rule 18, Section 5. MSC reserves the right to charge teams \$10 that cancel or make game changes that are not associated with inclement weather or lack of referee.

10.2 Procedures for Game Cancellation / Changes

If games must be canceled/re-scheduled with prior knowledge, coaches must contact the MSC field and referee schedulers for approval. Pursuant to Article 10.1, if games must be rescheduled with prior knowledge and approval, the coaches of both teams must agree to multiple dates that will be supplied to the MSC schedulers for final determination. The MSC will designate both the field and time of the match. It is the responsibility of the Select coach to contact the opposing team's coach to confirm the final schedule of the match. In the event that a mutually agreeable date/time is not achievable, the coach should contact the league for final disposition.

10.3 If a game is cancelled within 24 hours of game time without verbal contact with Referee coordinator, the team maybe responsible for payment of that games referee fees and any subsequent rescheduled game referee fees. **Decision Tree for Game Cancellation**
A MSC official or designee may deem the fields to be unplayable for either MSPSP or MMYSL games. In addition, a referee may deem the fields unplayable in accordance with MSPSP and MMYSL rules.

Article 11. Team Practices

11.1 Practice Schedule

Practice schedules are the responsibility of the head coach. It is recommended that fall practices begin after the first of August and spring practices begin outdoors after the first of April. Most teams practice 2-3 times per week for 1 ½ - 2 hours.

11.2 Participants

Under no circumstances does a youth player participate in a practice session that is not registered on a US Soccer Recreational or Select team.

11.2.1 Recreational Players - From time to time, a Recreational player may participate in a Select practice or training session with the approval of the head coach. Continual participation by a Recreational player in a Select practice or training session is not permitted without the approval of the Director of Select.

11.3 Off Season Practices or Games

Indoor practices during January, February and March are desired, but availability of space is limited. School gymnasiums, the Community Center or other facilities are options for coaches. There may be fees involved with the use of these facilities and they are the responsibility of the coach/team. Player and coach participation in indoor soccer league is not covered by MSYSA medical or liability insurance. 'Official' MSC indoor facilities and sponsored training sessions are offered during the winter, but MSC and MSYSA do not offer insurance coverage for indoor training sessions. MSC and MSYSA will only cover a player's injury during season; August 1st – Nov 2nd, April 1st – June 15th.

11.4 MSC Complex

MSC practice fields are open to all MSC Recreation and Select teams. Space availability at these fields requires courtesy and cooperation between coaches and teams.

- a) Impromptu games occupying a fully marked field may only take place if no other coach and team needs any part of that space. Any planned games shall be organized through the MSC per Article 11.7.
- b) Work out of goal areas whenever possible to reduce wear.
- c) MSC practice fields are open in the spring at the discretion of the grounds' keeper.
- d) Fields are open at discretion of Dir. of Operations and Daily Ops. Supervisor
- e) Select teams will be scheduled half of a designated game field for season practice privileges.
- f) Teams will be designated a two hour block in which to use their fields on a daily / weekly basis. Teams using their field outside of designated time slots w/o permission will face a warning for first time offences; loss of game field privileges after warning.

11.5 Safety

Safety is paramount for all involved. Protective equipment is required for all players. Goals are not to be climbed on or swung from. Please be sure to secure the Culver goals with sand bags to prevent these from falling over.

11.6 Inclement Weather

The presence of lightning requires immediate evacuation to safety and practice may not resume until 30 minutes have passed since lightning was last observed. Refer to the MSC severe weather policy.

11.7 Scrimmages

Scrimmages between teams may be held on MSC fields with the prior approval of the VP of Operations. Any referee fee shall be met by the participating teams. A list of potential referees may be obtained by contacting the MSC office. No two (2) whistle system is permitted at any time.

11.7.1 In the event that a scrimmage is held between two (2) MSC teams, a referee in official uniform is required.

11.7.2 In the event that a scrimmage or game is held between one (1) MSC team and another club (e.g. Saginaw, Bay City, etc.) on an MSC game or practice field, a referee in official uniform is required.

11.7.3 In the event that a scrimmage or game is held between one (1) MSC team and a non-sanctioned MSYSA team (i.e. High School teams or non-league teams), approval must be obtained from the Director of Select, the Registrar or MSC President for the game to be sanctioned and covered by MSYSA player/coach medical or liability insurance. If approved, a referee in official uniform is required.

Article 12. Tournaments

12.1 Endorsement

Tournaments are an excellent way to bring a team together. A number of excellent tournaments are available throughout the state and teams can spend the weekend together to help build comradely. An extensive listing of tournaments within Michigan may be found at <http://www.msypsa.net> and additional tournaments across North America and Europe are available by contacting the MSPSP or MSYSA office.

12.2 Midland Invitational Tournaments

The Midland Select teams are required to participate in our Midland Invitational Tournament in the spring and the Fusion Invitational Tournament in the fall.

12.3 State Cup Tournaments

MSYSA hosts state cup competition in the fall for girls and spring for boys. Dates, registration deadlines and forms may be obtained at <http://www.msypsa.net>. All fees to compete in this competition are the responsibility of the team; all referee fees are covered by MSC.

12.4 Tournament Fees and Registration

It is important to submit your tournament application along with the corresponding fee as early as possible since the date of receipt is usually one criteria used in team selection. Fees and registration for all tournaments, including the MSC tournament, are the responsibility of the individual teams. (MSC tournament fees are covered in player registration fees)

12.5 Out-of-State Tournaments

Teams wishing to travel to tournaments out of state must obtain permission from the MSYSA. Permission forms may be obtained at <http://www.msypsa.net> or the Director of Select may have copies of this packet available in limited quantities for teams who are serious about out of state

travel. The permission forms are time sensitive and must be completed well in advance of the tournament.

12.6 Medical Release Form

All tournaments require a notarized medical release form for each player and may be found at <http://www.msysta.net>.

12.7 Guest Player Form

Teams needing guest players for participating in tournaments are required to submit a Guest Player Form to the MSYSA office prior to the tournament. See <http://www.msysta.net>. The guest player form is time sensitive and must be completed well in advance of the tournament.

12.8 Cards in Tournaments

Cautionable or Send-off offensives that result in players receiving a yellow or red card respectively in a tournament shall be served as follows:

12.8.1 Yellow Card - Yellow cards issued in tournaments do not carry over into any league games

12.8.2 Red Card - Red cards issued but not served in tournaments will apply to the next league game.

12.8.3 Miscellaneous - Any cards issued in a State Cup Tournament game only apply to State Cup games.

Article 13. Referees

13.1 One Whistle System

The MSC referee scheduler will attempt to schedule a center (head) referee and two assistant referees for every home game:

13.1.1 MSPSP U14and Above - MSPSP schedulers will assign the center referee and MSC schedulers will assign assistant referees for games of all U15 and above age groups. Refer to the MSPSP rules for referee assignment guidelines.

13.2 Fees

Fees are paid to the head referee in cash according to the guidelines set by the individual league before the start of each game. MSPSP teams must pay ½ of the fees at each game. MMYSL teams must pay the full fee for each of their "home" games. Fees are currently paid according to the most current referee fee structure given out annually by the league and notified to the coaches by the Director of Select.

If there is only one assistant referee at a game, the pay given is altered accordingly. The referee/assistant referees are to be paid prior to the start of the game. Coaches should bring cash in small denominations to ease payment. The MSC will provide each team with a total amount for the fall or spring session based on an allowance of 6 home games in MMYSL or 12 MSPSP games (1/2 paid per game) and will be given to the coach prior to the start of that session.

13.3. Payment to Referees

If the referees shows up for a scheduled game, they will be paid in full whether or not the game is played. If the referee fees were paid and the game is to be rescheduled, contact the Director of Select for additional referee fees. If a game is cancelled within 24 hours of game time without verbal contact with Referee coordinator, the team maybe responsible for payment of that games referee fees and any subsequent rescheduled game referee fees.

13.4 Referee Complaints

Concerns about the quality of the officiating during an away game, the MSC recommends a written report to the MSRA (Michigan Soccer Referee Association) with a copy to the league and the MSC referee assigner. For a game played at the MSC fields, the first action should be a written report to the MSC referee assigner with a subsequent copy of the report to the league and to the MSRA (Michigan Soccer Referee Association) if further action is required.

Article 14. Equipment

14.1 Uniforms

All teams must wear the MSC's official (adidas) uniform package, which consists of shorts, socks, warm-up, bags, and jerseys. Players should not wear clothing articles on top of the uniform or alternate it in any way by putting patches, names or markings on it. In inclement weather, warmer clothing may be worn underneath the uniform where dispensation is granted to both teams by the referee. Sundry accessories, such as warm-ups, bags, etc. shall be in MSC approved colors and official supplier (adidas) (Kelly green, black or white or combinations thereof). Use of the club's Fusion logo and alternate logo's must be approved by the select committee; use for team shirts,

14.2 Appearance

Players are representatives of Midland, the MSC, their team, as well as themselves. They should dress in an appropriate manner so as to look professional. This implies that they should tuck their shirts in, not have compression shorts extending from their shorts, and have their socks pulled over their shin guards.

14.3 Safety

The wearing of jewelry, including metal barrettes, is not permitted due to safety concerns. Players who wear a cast may be permitted to play as long as the cast is well padded and approved by the head referee before the start of the game.

14.4 Team Equipment

One new game ball will be provided to each coach at the beginning of the session. Coaches may obtain additional practice balls, cones and vests as needed based upon availability. All equipment shall be turned in at the end of your tenure as coach. Money is provided to each coach to procure goalie gloves at the beginning of the session.

14.5 Field Equipment

Coaches or teams shall refrain from moving permanent equipment (e.g. goal posts, corner flags, etc) from their assigned positions.

Article 15. Select Expenses

15.1 Travel Expenses

Currently, head coaches are reimbursed a portion of their travel for each away league game as specified by the Director of Select.

15.2 Team Expenses

It is recognized that coaches may incur additional team expenses for items which are not reimbursed, such as first aid kit, medical wrapping tape, food, hotel accommodations, tournament fees, shoe laces, external training, etc. Coaches who keep track of their expenses can deduct them on their IRS forms as charitable donations. Coaches may not actively solicit reimbursement for expenses or volunteer expenses incurred as the result of being coach.

15.2.1 Additional Team Expenses - Penalties (team bonds) or additional fees (e.g. early player passcards, extraordinary player drop or adds, etc) incurred by a team are the responsibility of that team.

15.2.2 Team Fundraising – Individual teams may participate in individual team fundraising under the following provisions. 1) Individual teams must inform and receive approval from the Select Committee prior to event. 2) Individual teams may not participate in fundraisers with local businesses, unless approved by MSC.

Team Bank Accounts –MSC will not co-sponsor any requests by for individual team bank accounts.

Article 16. Select Committee

16.1 Responsibilities

Oversight of the Select program is the responsibility of the Select Committee. The Select Committee is responsible for establishing policy and reviewing suggestions and requests concerning the program. If an issue arises pertaining to a team in which a Select Committee Member has a vested interest (as a coach or parent etc.), he/she may express their opinion but must abstain from voting on that issue.

16.2 Director of Select Program

The Director of Select shall also have specific responsibility for the following items (these items are a refinement of the responsibilities outlined in the MSC By-Laws). Delegating these responsibilities to members of the Select Committee, Coaches, or other persons does not exempt the Director of Select from fulfilling his/her specific responsibilities.

- a) Decide together with the Select Committee and Director of Training on the selection of head coaches for each season,
- b) Act as a liaison between the coaches and MSC Board,
- c) Act as a liaison between the coaches and the Select Committee
- d) Act as a liaison between the coaches and the league officials,
- e) Assist coaches in completing team registration requirements,
- f) Register Select teams in specific leagues,
- g) Schedule Select Committee meetings,
- h) Schedule Select coaches meetings,
- i) Attend the MSPSP Registration meeting

- j) Recommend Select budget to the MSC Board,
- k) Manage Select budget,
- l) Distribute Select funds,
- m) Direct or administer the Select team tryout in cooperation with the Director of Training – formation process (June and November together with the Director of Training.
- n) Approve together with the Director of Training, Play up requests
- o) Review, recommend and incorporate changes to the Select Program Manual as necessary,
- q) Schedule disciplinary hearings or other special meetings as necessary.

Changes will be enacted in accordance with the Select Committee recommendations and Board approval.

16.3 Select Committee

The Select Committee shall support the Director of Select in the following, but not limited to, areas outlined below:

- a) Assist the Director of Select in the selection of head coaches for each session,
- b) Formulate Select budget,
- c) Assist in Select fund allocation & distribution,
- d) Review and propose changes to the Select policy and Select Program Manual as necessary,
- e) Evaluate league expansions / reductions,
- f) Participate in any scheduled disciplinary hearing or other special meetings,
- g) Assist in the Select team tryouts in June and November,
- h) Assist in the Select registration for tryouts,
- i) Assist in the Select section of the MSC website

16.4 League Meetings

Members of the Select Committee should alternate responsibility for representing the MSC at league meetings.

16.5 Coaches' Evaluations

The Select Committee reserves the right to periodically evaluate the performance of coaches representing the MSC.

16.6 Conflicts of Interest

If a member of the Select Committee is applying to coach a team, or has a vested interest in that team, he or she is not permitted to vote on the coach for that team.

Discipline Action Plan

Select coaches or team officials found in violation of the rules and objectives set forth in this Select Program Manual or in their specific league, may be called before the Select Committee and/or MSYSA, MMYSL or MSPSP for potential disciplinary action. A list of potential violations are, but not limited to:

1. Noncompliance with the responsibilities and job duties outlined for all team officials.
2. Improper conduct, such as physical or verbal abuse of players, parents, game officials, opposing coaches/team officials or MSC board members & staff.
3. Lack of participation / attendance at mandatory coaches meetings, coaching clinics and training sessions. A minimum attendance of 75% is expected.
4. Violation of the league rules by the coaching staff / team officials.
5. Repeated violations either within a specific area or across multiple areas.

If any team official or parent is found in violation of the above or other deemed serious poor conduct, the Select Committee and/or MSYSA / MMYSL / MSPSP will schedule a disciplinary hearing with the person or people involved. Anyone who fails to appear at a scheduled disciplinary hearing or meeting without due cause and 48 hrs prior notice will be suspended until such time as the MSC and/or MSYSA / MMYSL / MSPSP can schedule another hearing.

16.8 Exceptions by Select Committee

The Select Committee reserves the right to make exceptions to the current Select Program Manual as deemed appropriate for the benefit of the Select program.

Article 17. Special Provisions

17.1 Coaches' Liability

Players, team officials and head coaches that are registered with the MSC are covered by MSYSA liability insurance for both practices and games. Coaches who intend to use external guest trainers, not sponsored by the MSC, are required to submit the appropriate forms to the Director of Select and MSYSA as outlined in Article 3.6. Failure to submit this form may subject the coach to un-necessary personal liability in the event the trainer or individual players are injured during training exercises. All guest trainers must have a current Rick Management card.

17.2 Modifications

Modifications to this document will be subject to prior approval by the Select Committee and MSC Board.

a) Any Select coach may submit suggested modifications to the Select Program Manual by first, presenting the modification at the next coaches meeting and then submitting the modification in writing to the MSC Director of Select for consideration. No verbal suggestions will be considered.

b) Modifications to the Select Program Manual that have been approved by the MSC Board shall be incorporated quarterly or sooner as determined by the Director of Select.

17.3 Governance

In the event of conflict between the MSC By-Laws and this document, the MSC By-Laws shall govern.