

YMS TRAVEL COACHES GUIDELINES. PLAYING TIME CLARIFICATION (9/2010)

YMS Coaching Guide and Operating Procedures: all coaches and managers are expected to have read and be familiar with the philosophy and operations of YMS. The guide is posted online at <http://www.ymsoccer.net/docs/ymscoachesguide.pdf>. This document states the following for playing time (page 4):

“Travel Program - the overall objective for travel teams is fair playing time, with all players playing at least one-half of each game, including scrimmages, league games, playoffs and tournaments that he/she attends. An exception to this is during state cup games, and/or regional/national qualifying games, where the coaches need to make every effort to get all players some playing time.”

“Premier Travel Program - the overall objective for premier teams is fair playing time, with a player playing an average of one-half of a game over the length of the season, with no less than one-third per game. For U13 teams and above, this can be adjusted down for state cups, regional/national qualifying games, and invitational tournaments.”

PLAYING TIME: CLARIFICATION.

Specific guidelines for playing time are detailed below; these are endorsed by the Director of Coaching and the YMS board. Note: “Academy” pertains to U8-U10; the “premier” program does not officially start until U-12.

YMS Academy Program (U8-U10).

The philosophy & structure of the academy program is outlined on the YMS website: http://www.ymsoccer.net/academyteams/index_E.html. Every academy coach is expected to be familiar with the structure of the program.

Academy Playing time, player rotation: equal playing time; player rotation through all positions; rotate starters for all games. Goalie rotation each quarter; additional time in goal for a specific player wishing to focus on the goalie position can begin in spring U9 or at U10.

Travel Program: (non-premier):

All U-11 teams and U12 travel:

The overall objective for travel teams is fair playing time, with ALL players playing at least one-half of each game – applies to ALL games/scrimmages that he/she attends. No separation into permanent starters and bench players.

U13 and above:

The overall objective for travel teams is fair playing time, with ALL players playing at least one-half of each game – applies to all games that he/she attends. An exception to this is during state cup games, and/or regional/national qualifying games, where the coaches need to make every effort to get all players some playing time.

Premier Program (U-12 and older):

U12: All players play an average of one-half of a game over the length of the season, with no less than one-third in any given game. Applies to ALL games/scrimmages.

U13 and above: All players play an average of one-half of a game over the length of the season, with no less than one-third per game. This can be adjusted down for state cups, regional/national qualifying games, and invitational tournaments. Any player expected to have minimal playing time at a showcase or invitational tournament involving significant traveling expense should be informed as such prior to that event.

**The above guidelines apply to players attending required team practices and who follow the defined club/team team rules. Playing time can (and should) be reduced when players repeatedly skip practice or violate the club guidelines. In those cases the reasons for the adjustment should be clearly communicated to the player, and parents, involved.