



## Lafayette Youth Soccer Association

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### **LYSA Division - 1 Information and Guidelines for 2007 - 2008**

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

As mandated by the Louisiana Soccer Association (LSA) the Division 1 (D-1) program was implemented beginning with the Fall 2005 season. D-1 replaced the Recreational Plus level of play. State Tournaments will be held for Recreational, Premier and D-1 levels.

D-1 teams will be chosen by competitive tryout after the end of Premier tryouts and prior to the traditional Recreational callouts. Competitive tryouts mean the coach will select the players for the team. No player will be assigned to any D-1 team and there is **NO** guarantee that all interested players will have a roster spot to play in D-1. For those who choose not to play D-1 or those not selected for a D-1 team, LYSA will continue to provide a Recreational program for the U-11 through U-19 age group. Structure of the recreational program will be dependent on the number of participants.

For Division 1 teams, there will be **no official LSA sanctioned** league play for fall or spring seasons. LYSA is in the process of setting up a regional play schedule with other LSA clubs in the near vicinity of Lafayette. Note that this is a work in progress and cannot be guaranteed. Number of games will depend on the number of teams/clubs participating. Number of "regional" games may vary from age-group to age-group.

In addition to the planned regional games, coaches will be able to arrange and schedule games at Moore Park as they line up opponents to play during both the fall and spring. D-1 teams will participate in tournament play for both fall and spring seasons (like Rec-Plus "State Teams" have normally done during the Spring season) and will be eligible for the D-1 State Tournament in the spring.

Costs for uniforms, trainers, tournament fees and travel will be the responsibility of the individual players. It will be up to each team to determine the number and location of tournaments to be played.

For additional information on D-1:

- See D-1 Guidelines on the LYSA website <http://www.lysasoccer.com/sys-tmpl/folderlist/>
- Contact LYSA's D-1 Coordinator: Alton Thornton, (337) 989-4135, email: [thorntons93@cox.net](mailto:thorntons93@cox.net)

### **LYSA GENERAL GUIDELINES:**

- Tryouts
  - All new players are required to attend one tryout
  - Coaches can protect players from a returning Division 1 team and they are not required to attend tryouts. Only registered players from the State roster may be protected. However, players must tryout in their respective age group regardless of what age group they may have played for at the State tournament.
  - Franchise players will be allowed. A franchise player is a player that was not on the team's State roster but team would like to have this player as a protected player on the team. Once the player, parent and coach have signed the form stating that this player is a franchise player, the player does not have to attend tryouts.
  - U11 and U12 teams will be able to have one franchise player and U13 through U19 teams will be able to have two franchise players.
  - All franchise players/parents must sign a form committing to the team and said form must be in possession of the LYSA office no later than seven (7) days prior to the first tryout. Failure to submit this form within the appropriate time period will not protect the franchise player and he/she must attend the draft.
  - Tryouts will be scheduled after Premier "dead period"
  - Team formation must be completed by REC callout
  - Coaches will be required to provide a list of protected players by obtaining the players' signatures on the previous year's State roster

and submitting it seven (7) days prior to first tryout to Alton Thornton at [thorntons93@cox.net](mailto:thorntons93@cox.net); unprotected players will be contacted by LYSA staff to attend tryouts.

- If the player is not protected, he/she will attend tryouts and will be available to all coaches to be drafted
  - Players can not request a team if they are not a returning player on that team; a player can request to not return to last year's team
  - Newly selected D-1 coaches can protect players from Fall rosters to form new D-1 teams
  - DOCs will run tryouts and rate players
  - **Coaches** will pick from those rated players who have attended tryouts
  - There will be two tryouts for each age group and one last chance session that will be held one week before the recreation call-outs; last chance session is for players unable to attend previous tryouts
  - Any player attending tryouts must participate in their proper age group
  - Age groups will only be combined if there are no teams formed in that age group
  - Playing up in age group is discouraged and will only be allowed after specific approval by the LYSA board
- There is **NO** guarantee that any player will have a roster spot to play in Div-1 (teams will not be "forced" to accept any player)
  - Maximum roster size is per LSA guidelines
  - Minimum roster size for U11/U12 is 10 players and U13-U19 is 14
  - Only positive comments are to be made when recruiting players for the Division I program. No unkind remarks about other coaches will be tolerated.

### **PLAYER'S OPTIONS:**

- Players will sign seasonal contracts (fall and/or spring contract)
- Once the roster is formed, coaches can not cut players from roster; players are selected for fall/spring seasons
- Players can transfer from Premier to Division I teams and vice-versa; players can not transfer from one Division I team to another Division I

- team; transfer will only be allowed if the number of players on the present roster doesn't fall below the minimum number of players to field a team
- Players must state intention to transfer to another team by December 10, 2007.
  - Players who wish to be transferred to another team must have the following signatures on the transfer form prior to submitting the form to LYSA: releasing coach, receiving coach, parent(s) and player.
  - Contact between coach and players of different programs (Premier or Division 1) will not be allowed; coaches interested in players must contact the head coach of players first.

### **COACH'S OPTIONS:**

No coach is obligated to select any player onto the team.

### **SELECTION OF COACHES:**

- Beginning with the U11 teams in the fall of 2007, each age group will be limited to 3 teams; more teams can be added only will board approval
- Board members will approve coaches/trainers; all coaches and trainers will have to complete Employee/Volunteer Disclosure Form
- Coaches will be required to have or pursue within one year's time period an "E" license; high school experience may replace "E" license; "D" license for U16 and above teams is encouraged
- The following factors will weigh on LYSA's selection of a coach:
  - Coaching license level
  - Previous history
  - Years coaching in LYSA/CSC
  - Total years coaching/playing

### **DRAFT PROCEDURES:**

No player will be assigned to a team - the coach must select them in draft order.

There is **NO GUARANTEE** that all players be drafted/placed onto a team.

Drawing lots will determine draft order.

Draft will be conducted with each coach picking in each round regardless of the number of players on the returning Fall team roster.

Draft progression will be serpentine order (1, 2, 3, 3, 2, 1, 1, ..... ) until all players are selected or until the team is filled to the coach's desired size above minimum.

### **TEAM FORMATION:**

- At the end of the last chance tryout, a team must have the required amount of players to be considered a team
- Minimum number of players are 10 players for U11 and U12 teams and 14 players for U13-U19
- During the fall season, no more players can be added after this point; exceptions may be made for players who transfer into the area (50 mile radius); the coordinator will refer to original draft order to determine next available team
- If there are not enough players to form the desired team, the team will be disbanded for the fall and players will be allowed to join another Premier, Division I or recreation team
- Coaches can add more players for the spring season

Upon completion of the team draft, those players selected will receive a written invitation to play from their coach. This letter must be signed by the player and parent, and returned to their coach along with a completed LYSA registration form and registration fee prior to placement on an official roster.

Acceptance of an invitation to play will remain in effect until completion of the State Tournament.

There will be no transfers between D-1 teams or between D-1 and Premier teams "during" the season (except as noted below). Transfers will be allowed between fall and spring season with a completed "Letter of Intent" form. The only option

players will have to transfer during the season is to the Recreational (REC) program.

In the event that a team does not have enough players to re-form for the Spring season:

- Those players who commit to return to the team (by submitting their completed Spring Registration form) will be allowed to transfer to another D-1 or Premier team should an opening be available. Note that there is NO guarantee that a spot will be available.
- Those players who did not re-register for the Spring season - *thus causing the team to fold* - will ONLY be allowed to transfer back to the REC program for the Spring season

### **PLAYING TIME:**

LYSA strongly recommends that playing time be maximized for all players. Each player was picked to be on the team - he/she needs and deserves to play with exceptions for disciplinary reasons. Coaches are urged to keep this requirement in mind when deciding on number of players to be selected.

**LYSA Policy:** each player is guaranteed a **MINIMUM of 30% playing time** in all games except for disciplinary reasons as outlined in LYSA Bylaws

When playing time is to be restricted for disciplinary reasons the following is required:

- Notification of parents and player - (preferably written)
- Written notice to the VP of player relations

### **TRAINERS:**

Use of trainers (paid or volunteer) is optional. If paid trainers are utilized, their cost is solely the responsibility of the team. Trainers must register with LYSA and must complete the Volunteer Disclosure Form. The CSC DOCs are a resource to help locate qualified trainers.

### **REGISTRATION FEES:**

Fees will be \$85 for the fall season, as set by the LYSA Board.