

CYSA Changes to the EYSC Select Program

January 21, 2010

Dear Members and Guests of EYSC:

I would like to take this opportunity to provide clarity regarding recent changes affecting the Eureka Youth Soccer Club (EYSC) and our affiliated Placer Youth Soccer League (PYSL) Select programs. First, a little background and I apologize up front for all of the acronyms. To set up the relationships, EYSC is a club playing within the PYSL. PYSL is a league operating under the guidelines of the California Youth Soccer Association (CYSA).

For many years, CYSA classified players into 3 separate and defined classes of play. The Recreational Soccer (Class 4) program and Select Soccer (Class 3) program were formed and managed by local clubs and included club wide tryouts for the Select program. Recreational and Select programs were predominantly played within a local district and may have included limited travel and a few traveling tournaments. CYSA Competitive (Class 1) teams were established as league teams, with league wide tryouts, and were expected to compete with other league teams. This often resulted in a larger player, family, travel, and financial commitment.

Last year, Placer United Soccer Club, the competitive club within PYSL ended their relationship with PYSL as the Competitive arm of the League. PYSL has a requirement that it shall offer a CYSA Class 1 program and needed to establish a Comp program this year. To comply, Placer Alliance Football Club (PAFC) was formed and is now offering players a program to compete against other League wide programs. With the formation of PAFC, they sought teams and coaches that wanted the Competitive league play without the historic costs associated with Comp programs in the area. The PAFC tryouts are open to all local club players yet currently have a limited number of teams this season.

To make this year a little more complicated for everyone, CYSA just recently established a committee to develop and propose a new state-wide playing league for all levels of Select and Competition to be implemented this year. It is to be known as the CYSA Playing League or the Cal Soccer League. One key part of this new league was the goal of combining individual Select and Competitive programs to allow both to play in one new "Competitive League". Now here is the big part for EYSC members; it is simply a matter of Titles. There are still distinct differences between the Select and Competitive programs, no matter what they are called and how they are bracketed.

EYSC's new "Competitive or Club Program" is for the most part, still the "Select Program" we have come to know. While the Word "Select" may be replaced with "Competitive" or "Club", it is really an insignificant change. To be clear, the Select program offered at EYSC and other clubs HAS NOT been discontinued. Clubs like Eureka, Roseville, Loomis, Lincoln, and Rocklin are all addressing the same issue and will continue to offer both the Recreational and Select soccer experience under one of the new names. If you would like to see the original proposal, the link to the document has been provided below.

http://www.cysanorth.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=201&Itemid=168

Historically, Select teams were formed and then bracketed into an alphabetical system to ensure equal and competitive play. In the new proposal, teams will continue to be ranked and bracketed locally with

the highest league teams ranked by CYSA. Whether classified as Gold, Silver, Bronze, or Copper, there will continue to be additional layers within each metal bracket to provide more accurate and competitive rankings. One note, under the new league, it is possible for a Placer Alliance teams to be Gold, Silver, or Bronze in the same way that a highly ranked "EYSC Select" team could be placed in a Bronze or Silver bracket to compete against them. We will have to see how it ultimately plays out by the District's ranking system.

Since the new "Competitive" soccer is all about having kids play equally skilled and ranked teams and to allow Parents and families the option of where they want to play, EYSC will continue to offer our historically called "Recreational" and "Select" programs to our members. While we will simply change the titles, the experience should be very similar.

Lately, the "Select" name change misunderstanding has been causing some worry and confusion. There are really only a few CYSA changes this year that you may need to be aware of. The biggest change is in regard to the number of players on the field and new player guidelines. This year, it is expected that the CYSA Board will modify the number of players as outlined below. Unfortunately, this will not be confirmed until the CYSA Board Meeting scheduled for early February. We will communicate the information as soon as it is available as it is sure to affect team formations for the U-11 "Competitive" tryouts.

In the new league, U-9 thru U-11 EYSC "Competitive" teams will play 8 v 8 on smaller fields and move to 11 v 11 on larger fields upon entering the U-12 age bracket.

Age Bracket	Select 2009	"Competitive" 2010	Recreational 2010
U-9	9 v 9	8 v 8	9 v 9
U-10	9 v 9	8 v 8	9 v 9
U-11	11 v 11	8 v 8	11 v 11
U-12	11 v 11	11 v 11	11 v 11

I hope that this information has addressed some of your concerns and provided some clarity for you. If it has added to your confusion, please share with us your concerns and we will address them as soon as possible. If you have questions, our Board and Committee members would be happy to assist you. We look forward to hearing from you and to a great 2010 season.

One last note, we do expect to update the website immediately following the CYSA February Board meeting so please visit www.eysc.com to stay informed.

Thank you,

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