

SDSSA Competitive Policies and Procedures



SDSSA Competitive Soccer Player Recruitment Policy

1. DEFINITION OF TERMS:

- A. **SDSSA:** South Dakota State Soccer Association.
- B. **Competitive team(s) and/or competitive organizations will follow these SDSSA competitive policies and procedures.**
- C. **Competitive Team Definition:** Team(s) formed to provide players with advanced skills and an expressed desire to experience a level of competition beyond that afforded by a recreational team.
- D. **Competitive Team Formation:** Competitive teams can be formed a number of ways. Here are the examples of how competitive teams are formed but are not limited to: the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any similar process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is used. This also includes but not limited to, forming a team to participate in the National Championship Series like State Cup, Regionals and Nationals.
- E. **Soccer Year:** That period of time that begins on August 1 of a given year and ends on July 31 of the following year.
- F. **Recruiting a Player:** includes contact in person, by telephone, fax, email, text message, social media such as (Facebook, twitter, etc..)and any third person or by any other means calculated or intended to establish individualized communication with a specific player, or by issuing to them an Invitation to Play.
- G. **Rostering a Player:** To list a player on a team roster and submit that roster, along with the registration fee, to the SDSSA Registrar.

2. GENERAL RULE:

No team, coach, club, club program, club organization or other person acting on behalf of a team, club, club program, club organization or coach may contact a player or player's parent or guardian for the purpose of recruiting, soliciting, enticing, persuading or attempting to persuade a player to play on a particular club team or for a particular club or club program or to issue an invitation to play. This general rule applies to contact with players in all organizations, both recreational and competitive.

All Competitive club teams in South Dakota are the ones who have signed and agreed to follow the SDSSA Competitive Soccer Player Recruitment Policy, SDSSA Recruiting Player(s) Protocol Policy, and SDSSA Guest Player(s) Policy.

3. THE OPEN RECRUITMENT WINDOW:

- A. From June 1st through July 31st in a given year.
- B. From August 1st of a given year through June 30th, all players who are rostered on one of the competitive club teams in SDSSA cannot be recruited, unless you follow SDSSA Recruiting Player(s) Protocol Policy.
- C. All players who participate in one of the competitive club teams is binding them for the next soccer year to that particular club unless released by Club Director / Designated Club Director / Club President.

4. SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION:

Competitive team(s) and/or competitive organizations have the responsibility to contact the SDSSA 1st VP of competitive soccer, so SDSSA can post this information onto the SDSSA website each given soccer year.

SDSSA Recruiting Player(s) Protocol Policy

Before approaching a player(s) who is not in your club and/or the player's parents regarding an opportunity to play/roster or dual roster for a team, the Director of Coaching / Designated Club Director / Club President must be contacted prior and informed of the intent to contact the player and parents. The Club Director / Designated Club Director / Club President will contact the coach in charge of the player's team to discuss the possibility of playing for requesting club. The following protocol should be followed when asking players from non-competitive (recreational) teams to play for competitive club teams:

1. Will not directly contact individual players or parents of players from other programs.
2. Will not get your players or parents of your players to directly contact players or parents of players from other programs.
3. Team coaches wishing to add a player from another program must request said player through the Director of Coaching / Designated Club Director / Club President.
4. Provide the following information to the Director of Coaching / Designated Club Director / Club President:
 - a. Player's name;
 - b. Player's team and uniform number; and
 - c. Coaches name and contact information.
5. Director of Coaching / Designated Club Director / Club President will make contact with the program's Director of Coaching / Designated Club Director / Club President in charge to receive contact information for the player's parents to begin discussions on rostering with current team.
6. Will not contact a player directly to discuss his/her play, style of play and/or potential recruitment.
7. Should a player initiate contact with you directly to play for the team, this same process should still be followed.
8. If there has not been a response back from the Director of Coaching / Designated Club Director / Club President within 3 days of request then the SDSSA State DOC can get involved. If this cannot be resolved at the SDSSA State DOC level then the next step would be to contact the SDSSA 1st VP (competitive) chair. If the conflict cannot be resolved, then the SDSSA Conflict Resolution Policy will be followed.

SDSSA Guest Player(s) Policy

Before approaching a player(s) who is not in your club and/or the player's parents regarding an opportunity to guest play or dual roster, the Director of Coaching / Designated Club Director / Club President must be contacted first. The Club Director / Designated Club Director / Club President has the right to grant or refuse the player request to guest play or dual roster.

Players or parents from your club should not directly contact players or parents of players from other clubs in regards to guest playing. Club Director / Designated Club Director / Club President to Club Director / Designated Club Director / Club President communication is the proper line of communication when asking for guest players from another club.

The use of guest players is permitted when that team is short of available players. Guest players are not to be used to replace currently rostered players.

Guest players may not be excused from their own team's activities without express approval from their coach.

Any conflict between teams regarding the sharing of players will be resolved by the Director of Coaching / Designated Club Director / Club President. Unless the conflict cannot be resolved then the SDSSA Conflict Resolution Policy will be followed.

SDSSA players may not play as a guest player with another team if the player's SDSSA team is participating in any event at the same time, unless the two organizations have a mutual agreement.

NOTE:

- a. EXCEPTION: South Dakota ODP Events
- b. EXCEPTION: High School Events