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CHARIHO YOUTH SOCCER POLICIES

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Table of Contents

1	Introduction to CHARIHO Soccer	4
2	Recreational Division	4
2.1	Description	4
2.2	SAFETY GUIDELINES.....	5
2.3	General Information	5
2.4	Definition of Age Groups and Team Selection	5
2.5	Playing Up or Down	6
2.6	Coaching	6
2.7	Recreational Game Play.....	7
2.8	Practice and Playing Time Requirements	7
2.9	Cancellation Policy	7
3	Competitive Program	8
3.1	Description	8
3.2	Seasons.....	8
3.3	Definition of Age Groups	8
3.4	Coach Selection	8
3.5	Team and Player Selection	10
3.6	Primary / Secondary Teams	12
3.7	Special Player Circumstances	12
3.8	Playing Up or Down	13
3.9	SRI Sanctioned Events (Tournaments, Cups, etc)	14
3.10	Non - SRI Sanctioned Events (Tournaments, Cups, etc)	15
3.11	Indoor Considerations (Winter Season)	15
3.12	Game Cancellation Policy.....	15
3.13	Practice & Playing Time Requirements	15
3.14	Finances	16
4	TOP Soccer.	17
4.1	Description	17
4.2	CYSA utilizes parents, coaches, players and volunteers to act as mentors to the TOPS players. The TOPS players are paired up with their assigned mentors and participate in weekly soccer like activities. Schedule	17

- 4.3 Registration 17
- 5 Referee Training Program 17
 - 5.1 Certification 17
 - 5.2 USSF Certification 17
- 6 Club Registration and Refund Policy: 19
- 7 Laws of the Game 19
 - 7.1 Law 1 - The Field of Play 19
 - 7.2 Law 2 - Ball Size 20
 - 7.3 Law 3 - Number of Players 20
 - 7.4 Game Play Special Considerations 20
 - 7.5 Injuries 21
- 8 Code of Ethics 22
 - 8.1 Background Checks 22
 - 8.2 Conduct of Players, Coaches, Parents and Spectators 23
- 9 Policy Change Policy 24
- 10 Document Conflict Resolution 24
- 11 Appendices / Forms 25
 - 11.1 Sample Play Up Request 25

1 Introduction to CHARIHO Soccer

The philosophy of CHARIHO Youth Soccer Association (CYSA) is to provide equal opportunities for all boys and girls to play the game of soccer and to have FUN. Teaching respect for players, parents and spectators, coaches and officials, as well as encouraging teamwork, safety, and sportsmanship, are the Association's ultimate goals. The Association will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or natural origin

The purpose of this association is to promote, administer, foster, and perpetuate the game of soccer for boys and girls registered with CYSA. CYSA shall develop and promote developmental soccer programs within and from the membership of the Association, create competitive programs from developmental teams, and maintain a referee development program

CYSA is an entirely volunteer organization. We have a board of 17 people that divide league functions such as Registration, Coaching, Fundraising, Administration, Fields, and Finance. Each year we need to replace members in various areas, so

WE NEED YOU !!!!

You don't need to be in charge of an area, but just help out in the group effort that it takes to get the job done. **Many hands make for light work!**

All are welcome to attend our monthly membership meetings, meetings are usually held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm at Hope Valley Baptist Church. Even if you don't want to be a board member, you can come and participate in the decision making process.

2 Recreational Division

2.1 Description

Soccer is a fast moving game with a unique combination of individual skills and team performance. Soccer is a non contact sport although collisions may occur. Players, except the goal keeper, cannot intentionally touch the ball with their hands/arms.

Teams try to score by advancing the ball toward their opponent's goal by passing and dribbling. Possession of the ball is an integral part of the game. Play is continuous. There are no time outs until the end of the quarter.

Recreational or "developmental soccer" emphasizes small sided games in order to maximize players touches of the ball and increase game participation. Our goals for the season are for the players to:

Have fun!!

Learn to play soccer

Page 4 of 33

Learn to play as part of a team
Improve skills through practice and competition
Build confidence and character
Be safe

2.2 Safety Guidelines

CYSA requires that all players wear shin guards for all practices and games. If a player does not have shin guards, s/he will not be able to participate in games or practices.

All jewelry must be removed. This includes necklaces and bracelets, including string/soft ones, ear rings, and any body piercing. The only exception is medical alert bracelets.

Although not required, soccer cleats are recommended because the fields can become muddy or slippery. Soccer cleats **do not** have a single cleat at the toe.

USSF Heading Policy - ANY Player on an U11 team and younger will no longer be allowed to head a soccer ball in training or any Super Liga game. U12-U14 Players will be limited to heading the ball in training but will be allowed to head the ball in the game.

Please alert your child's coach to any medical issues that your child may have.

2.3 General Information

Games are held on Saturday at Ninigret Park in Charlestown. Games usually begin the **Saturday after Labor Day** and run into early November (exact end date depends on rain cancellations). There are **No Games Columbus Day** weekend.

Games are scheduled one after the other so it is important that they start on time. Please be at the field 15 minutes before game time. This will allow players to warm up and for coaches to get organized.

Coaches set their own practice schedule. Please tell the coach if your child will not be at a practice or game.

2.4 Definition of Age Groups and Team Selection

Age Group Definition

Boys and Girls Age Divisions shall include players who at the start of the seasonal year are

<u>Age Group Division</u>	<u>Division Inclusive of</u>
Under 4	U4
Under 6	U5 & U6
Under 8	U7 & U8
Under 10	U9 & U10
Under 12	U11 & U12
Under 14	U13 & U 14
Under 16	U15 & U16

Under 19	U17 & U18 & U19
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The seasonal year shall be from August 1st to July 31st of the following year.

Team Selection

No tryouts will be held for recreational teams. Registered players will be assigned to a team on or before July 30th, preceding the seasonal year, and all teams will be re-selected each year.

Player selection will be by a “blind draft” process and a rating system. A player’s rating will be based on his or her overall abilities and will be determined by the player’s previous coach, whenever possible, and/or by the coaches in each respective Age Division.

After team drafts, the assignment of players from the “waiting list” shall be performed by the Director of Registration on a “first come - first serve” basis, so that each team will have the same number of players.

Coaches shall notify all players selected to their teams within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving their rosters.

Team rosters may not be changed unless valid vacancies exist. Team rosters are frozen on September 15th.

2.5 Playing Up or Down

Playing Up

Players who have demonstrated exceptional skills and abilities may be allowed to move up into a higher age division, with Board of Directors approval only.

Any parent requesting to have their child moved up to an older age division for recreational soccer must notify the Board of Directors in writing by May 31st preceding the start of the seasonal year. The play up process is further described in Section 3 Under Competitive - [Playing Up or Down](#).

Requests to play up cannot be decided by e-mail or telephone vote.

Playing Down

Any parent of a physically and/or emotionally challenged player who wishes to have their child moved down to a younger age division, for recreational soccer, must notify the Board of Directors in writing by May 31st preceding the start of the seasonal year

2.6 Coaching

Anyone interested in coaching during the Fall Recreational season shall notify the Director of Coaches prior to June 1st. All members in good standing who held a Head

Coaching position the previous year will be given priority over applicants who held Assistant Coaching position and applicants without coaching experience, for a Head Coaching position for the upcoming season. All members in good standing who held an Assistant Coaching position the previous year will be given priority over applicants without coaching experience.

Head Coaches shall choose Assistant Coaches after players have been drafted to teams (not before).

There will be no more than three (3) coaches per team allowed on the player's side of the field during a game.

The Soccer Rhode Island (SRI), which CYSA is affiliated with, recommends all recreational coaches to obtain an USYSA "Age-Specific Certificate". The latest guidelines can be found in the SRI Policy and Procedures at www.soccer-RI.com.

All coaches must be at least three (3) years older than the players they are coaching. Any coach under the age of eighteen (18) must have an adult coach or designated team parent accompany them at all times. A minor may not be alone with the players during practices or games.

All coaches and assistant coaches are volunteers and receive no compensation for their services.

2.7 Recreational Game Play

Under 4 teams come together to play in "activities" designed to introduce soccer concepts. There will be one hour of play time assigned to two teams. It is recommended that ½ hour dedicated to soccer related activities and the remainder of the time will be used to play 4 – 7 minute quarters. However actual activities and amount of time given to each are up to the discretion of the coaches. Coaches will be on field to give guidance and to act as referees.

Under 6 teams play 3 v 3 (three players on field for each team), and do not use goal keepers. Quarters are 10 min. Coaches are on the field to give guidance and to act as referees

Under 8 teams play 5 v 5, with goal keepers. Player begin using throw –ins. Quarters are 10 minutes. CYSA Referees are used.

Under 10 teams play 7 v 7 with goal keepers. Off-side is introduced. Quarters are 12 minutes. CYSA Referees and Assistant Referees are used.

Under 12 teams play 8 v 8 with goal keepers. Halves are 30 minutes.

Under 16 teams play 8 v 8 with goal keepers. Halves are 35 minutes.

2.8 Practice and Playing Time Requirements

50% Playing Rule

Each and every player in “good standing” must be allowed the opportunity to play at least fifty percent (50%) of each game for recreational soccer.

No player may be allowed to play one-hundred percent (100%) of a game unless all other players on his or her team are allowed the opportunity to play at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the game.

Coaches may be allowed to play a player less than fifty percent (50%) of a game for disciplinary (as defined by Article II, Section C., of the Bylaws) or medical reasons only.

2.9 Cancellation Policy

Games may only be cancelled by the CYSA President, no game can be cancelled or rescheduled by a coach.

In the event of rain cancellations coaches will be notified as soon as possible. Only the CYSA President can cancel games. Coaches will in turn notify their players. **DO NOT ASSUME** there is no game just because it may be raining lightly. Come to the game unless you get a notified of a cancelation.

3 Competitive Program

3.1 Description

The purpose of the CYSA Competitive Soccer Program shall be to bring together the most skilled players of the CYSA to participate in the competitive soccer programs offered through other organizations. Such participation will benefit the entire league by raising the participants’ skill levels, the level of play within the entire league, and increase interest in the game of soccer.

The main goal of the CYSA Competitive Soccer Program is to foster and improve upon the skill level of all participants, players who desire to participate and are selected to any competitive team are expected to maintain an appropriate level of effort and commitment.

The CYSA Competitive Soccer Program shall endeavor to assemble and train the strongest teams possible based on individual player’s skill and/or age for each particular division to best represent the CHARIHO Youth Soccer Association.

3.2 Seasons

The soccer year starts August 1st and ends July 31st. The following “seasons” represent a typical soccer year, players are not required to play in all of the available seasons. Most seasons offer multiple playing divisions to accommodate all skill levels.

- Fall Competitive Season – Runs from August 1st to early November. SuperLiga,

an affiliate of SRI, runs this season and it is referred to as a tournament, since winners are declared without playoffs based on tournament record.

- Winter (Indoor) – Not a true “competitive” season, requires to be mentioned, runs from November to March and is made up of sessions. The number of weeks in a session is controlled by the organization running the league. See individual organizations for program details.
- Spring Season – Runs from mid February through June. Practices in February / March are held indoors at local gymnasiums until the weather allows for outdoor play. Superliga runs this league and teams that finish high in the standings participate in playoffs and championships.

3.2 Definition of Age Groups

Age groups are similar to those defined in the recreational program in Section 2.

3.3 Coach Selection

Coaches of the Chariho Youth Soccer Association's Competitive Soccer Program shall endeavor to assemble the strongest teams possible for each particular division to best represent CYSA and to improve upon the skill level of all participants to the best of their ability.

All potential head coaches for a competitive team must, for every season, submit a Coaching Request Form to the Competitive Director for Board of Directors approval within the following time frames:

- a) Fall Competitive Season – prior to the Board of Director's meeting in May.
- b) Columbus Day (Pepperell) Tournament - prior to the last Board of Director's before the scheduled tryout.

- c) Winter (Indoor) - prior to the Board of Director's meeting prior to the start of the season.
- d) Spring Competitive Season - prior to the Board of Director's meeting in October.
- e) Tournaments – As required, to support the timely generation of necessary paperwork to meet tournament guidelines.

Only in cases where there are no coaching requests for a particular age group, or if additional coaches for an age group are required, will the Competitive Director accept Coaching Request Forms (for Board of Director's approval) and criminal background checks after the above dates.

The Soccer Rhode Island (SRI), which CYSA is affiliated with, requires all competitive head coaches to obtain an USYSA "Age-Specific Certificate". The latest guidelines can be found in the SRI Policy and Procedures at www.soccer-RI.com.

Coach Selection for Multiple Applicants (Same Team)

If two or more people apply to coach the SAME TEAM, the Board of Directors will determine which applicant will coach the team based on the following qualifications (not in order of priority):

- a) Prior coaching conduct and proper representation of CYSA and its rules and regulations (not win/loss record).
- b) License / Certification Level. Achievement of a license or certification indicates a level of coaching ability and shows a commitment to improving coaching skills. Directors should consider the level of license obtained and state rules regarding licensing requirements for competitive teams.
- c) Coaching Experience. Directors should consider the number of years coaching recreational and competitive teams, and the level of competitive teams coached (e.g., competitive divisions, high school, premier, college, etc.).
- d) Seniority of coaching with the requested team. Directors should give some weight to an applicant who has coached a team of players for a number of years. The player's best interest should be the most important factor.
- e) Playing Experience. Directors may consider an applicant's experience playing organized soccer a potential indicator of greater knowledge of the game and ability to demonstrate to players.

Coach Selection for Multiple Applicants (Same Age Group)

If two or more people apply to coach a team within the SAME AGE GROUP, the Board of Directors will determine which applicant will be allowed "first pick". The "first pick" coach will be responsible for running tryouts in accordance with Article II.B.2, all other CYSA approved coaches can participate in tryouts at the discretion of the "first pick" coach. Upon the selection of team(s) the "first pick" coach will decide which team they will act as "head coach" and immediately inform the Competitive Director. At that point, all remaining head coach and assistant coach positions may be applied for through the process previously outlined.

The selection of “first pick”, coach will be based on the same qualifications seen above for coaches applying to coach the SAME TEAM.

The Board of Directors will vote on each Coaching Request and the Competitive Director will notify applicants of its decision within forty-eight (48) hours. Applicants may be approved contingent on a satisfactory criminal background check.

All coaches must be at least three (3) years older than the players they are coaching. Any coach under the age of eighteen (18) must have an adult coach or designated team parent accompany them at all times. A minor may not be alone with the players during practices or games.

All coaches and assistant coaches are volunteers and receive no compensation for their services.

3.5 Team and Player Selection

Competitive Tryouts

Every CYSA player must be given a chance to be selected for a position on a CYSA competitive team. The selection process generally involves, but is not limited to, a player evaluation based on a seasonal tryout as well as other information about a player that the team coach may have (e.g. from prior observation of the player during games.) Players are selected for specific divisions based on their athletic ability; soccer ability, potential, desire and discipline appropriate for their age group. Coaches of competitive teams have the final decision on player selection.

Tryouts for competitive teams are mandatory, unless ALL interested players are accepted to one team. Coaches of competitive teams have final decision on player selection

U12 and below age groups registered in the CYSA Fall Competitive players are required to participate in the Fall Recreational season* and must be registered with CYSA. Players who desire to participate and are selected to any competitive team are expected to maintain an appropriate level of effort and commitment. Outside activities that prevent players from attending regular practices and games disrupts the intent of the program and is unfair to the coaching staff, other competitive players of the team, and the player themselves.

***Note:** Although welcome to play, Middle School Soccer players are not required to play in the Fall Recreation League if they also play in the Competitive Fall League.*

TRYOUT ABSENCES

In a case where a player cannot attend **ONE (1)** tryout, a written request to be considered as a competitive player for the upcoming season must be mailed/e-mailed to CYSA. This request will be delivered by mail/e-mail to the Competitive Director or by the US Postal Service at any time prior to the published tryout date, but post marked/e-mailed no later than 3 delivery days after the published tryout date. This player would then be considered as if he/she attended the tryout, and assessment would be based on prior knowledge of player performance. No other method for any such request will be honored by CYSA.

In the event that a previously excused player cannot attend any **SECOND (2)** competitive tryout within the current soccer year, a written request to be considered as a competitive player for the upcoming season must be e-mailed/mailed to CYSA. This request will be delivered by e-mail to the Competitive Director or by the US Postal Service at any time prior to the published tryout date, but post marked no later than 3 delivery days after the published tryout date. This request will be considered by the CYSA Board of Directors before that player can be allowed for the competitive season. If the monthly CYSA Board of Directors Meeting conflicts with the tryout date, the Competitive Director will contact the Board Members for a consensus.

No excused absences will be granted for any player from more than 2 competitive tryouts within the soccer year.

The 3-delivery day deadline can only be waived if:

- a) A player has recently moved into the CHARIHO area and registers with CYSA, OR
- b) There is no waiting list in the requested age group, OR
- c) There are an insufficient number of players to field a team, within limits established by the coach.

A written request or e-mail from this player, to be considered, as a competitive player for the upcoming season, must still be sent to CYSA. If appropriate, their name will be forwarded to the "Head" coach in that age division and follow all established guidelines to that effect. This written request will not automatically establish a roster spot for this player on any team.

No other method for any such request will be honored by CYSA.

Team Selection

The number of players on each team will be established by the head coach of the team, within the limits allowed by the sponsoring organization, from the available pool of players. No team is required to carry the full roster limit. CYSA coaches in the same age group must work together and with the Competitive Director to finalize roster numbers to facilitate a practical number of teams weighing total number of players and the coach availability.

All coaches conducting tryouts must have submitted a coaching request and be approved by the Board of Directors. A tryout may be held for an age division without an approved coach only with the Competitive Director's approval.

Coaches are required to keep a list of all players attending the tryout and provide a copy of this list to the Competitive Director at the conclusion of the tryout.

All players/parents must be notified within one week of the final tryout period whether or not they have been placed on a team. The "first pick" coach in each age division is responsible for player/parent notification.

It is the coach's responsibility to inform the players/parents of the time frame for notification as part of the tryout process.

If the one-week notification time frame cannot be met, the coach must notify the Competitive Director, before the week passes, as to the reason(s) why the notification process can not be accomplished.

Failure to comply with these tryout rules may result in the suspension of all processing of applicable paperwork by CYSA and possible disciplinary action. Players are not allowed to choose their own team or coach. The coaches, based on the pre-approved ranking process, make all player selections.

Waiting List

The CYSA Competitive Director will maintain a waiting list consisting of players in all age divisions that attended the tryout (or submitted a letter within the 3-day grace period) but were not currently selected to a team.

The waiting list option provides a method for coaches to fill positions, as they become available. Additional players needed for any team for a particular season may only be selected from the waiting list of that season's tryout. This rule can be waived by the Competitive Director only if:

- a) There are no players on the tryout waiting list for that age division, OR
- b) All players on the tryout waiting list for that age division decline to play.

The waiting list also provides a means for an approved coach to step forward and take these additional players as a team. The Competitive Director will make every effort to assist in the formation of a team if the number of available players warrants it.

3.6 Primary / Secondary Teams

The CHARIHO competitive team a player is initially selected to becomes his/her PRIMARY team. Any player can participate during the same season and within the same age division for another SECONDARY CYSA or neighboring town team, providing that:

- a. A player fulfills all obligations to the primary CHARIHO team (i.e. fees, practices, and games) first and completely.
- b. The secondary team does not participate in the same facility, or is entered into the same tournament as, the primary CHARIHO team.
- c. The appropriate Release forms (if required) are approved.

Any player will be placed in bad standing with CYSA in violation of the above rules.

3.7 Special Player Circumstances

Out of Town Players

Any player from a neighboring town can play for CYSA for a specific season, providing that a

Temporary Release Form is submitted to CYSA by his/her primary association. Any player from a neighboring town can play for CYSA for a complete soccer year, providing that a Permanent Release Form is submitted to CYSA by his/her primary association.

Any CYSA player can play for a neighboring town for a specific season, providing that a Temporary Release Form is requested from CYSA and submitted to the secondary association. Any CYSA player can play for a neighboring town for a complete soccer year, providing that a Permanent Release Form is requested from CYSA and submitted to the secondary association.

Premier Players

It is up to the players parents to understand any Host Premier Club rules and regulations regarding the player participation in outside club events. This pertains to both CYSA and local Middle and High School sports. Also Special Rules apply to premier players for participation in both Soccer Rhode Island and SuperLiga. More information can be found at the www.thesuperliga.com and www.soccer-RI.com. If a CYSA player is asked to play for a Premier Club team, for a specific game or games, an approved Temporary Release Form from CYSA is required prior to player participation.

Middle School – Rhode Island President’s Committee On Athletics (RIPCOA)

RIPCOA League Rules and Regulations can be found at www.ripcoa.org.

High School - Rhode Island Interscholastic League

Rhode Island Interscholastic League Rules and Regulations can be found at www.riil.org.

3.8 Playing Up or Down

Players who have repeatedly demonstrated exceptional skills and abilities may be allowed to move up into a higher age division, with Board of Directors approval only.

- 1) Parents must notify the Competitive Director in writing by mid season (4 or more games remaining in current season) using the Play Up Request form found on the CYSA website at www.chariho.com. The form must be signed and sent in as early as possible to allow the player to be evaluated in In Situ environments. (A sample form can be found in the Appendix).
- 2) The player can only be one group younger than the group they are seeking to play up to (i.e. U8 player can play up to U10 not U12).
- 3) The player must tryout for their natural age group AND the age group they are looking to play up into.
- 4) Board will evaluate the player and weigh the following:
 - a. Player’s observed abilities during games, practices and tryouts.
 - b. Assess any and all impacts associated with the play up request on both

teams associated with the request.

- 5) Board will vote on at the meeting following the tryout based on all information provided to them to best serve all of the players involved.
- 6) Competitive Director will notify parents of the board decision within 72 hours after the vote

Special Circumstances

In the event that a team does not exist in a players natural age group or is not offered by the offering organization, the board may consider a play up request that allows the player to play at the higher level. As long as the all of the following are true:

- a) The player has demonstrated similar skills to the older age group.
- b) The coach of the team doesn't mind taking the child on the team and expanding their team roster.

Middle School and High School Exemption

CYSA does allow Middle School Soccer Team players to play up to U14 and High School Soccer team players to play up to U16 and U19 as long as the following conditions are met

Either the lower age group cannot field a team for the child to play in **OR**
It doesn't impact the ability of the lower age group to field a team with a minimum 50% subs.

AND

No one in the older age group has been placed on a waiting list.

This exemption does not allow a Middle School player to play up to U16+.

Playing Down

In accordance with United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) regulations, no player may move down to a younger age division for competitive soccer.

3.9 SRI Sanctioned Events (Tournaments, Cups, etc)

Coaches interested in taking a team to a tournament must submit a Coaching Request Form and a BCI Form (if applicable) to the Competitive Director. Board of Director approval must be obtained PRIOR to registering a team in any tournament.

Approved coaches must submit to the Competitive Director, not less than Forty-five (45) days in advance of a tournament, the following:

- a) A copy of the Team Roster including names, addresses, birthdates, and telephone numbers.
- b) Coaches must complete the "E travel" form on line at the Soccer RI website

(www.Soccer-RI.com) and print out two copies of the online approval to bring to the tournament. The Competitive Director does not complete this form.

- c) Any new Player Passes, signed by player, including player's picture, and fee for each pass.
- d) Any new Coaches Passes, signed by coach, including coach's picture, and fee for each pass.
- e) Age verification in the form of a Birth Certificate, Passport, or previous year's pass. No Birth Certificates directly from a Hospital, or Baptismal Certificates will be accepted.
- f) Two addressed stamped envelopes; one addressed to the Coach and one addressed to the Tournament Director.
- g) A copy of the "Application to Host" form from the hosting association.
- h) All applicable registration fees, tournament fees, patch fees, and player/coach ID passes fees required.

Not less than Thirty (30) days in advance of a tournament, the Competitive Director, shall maintain one copy of the Team Roster for CYSA records and submit three Team Rosters, Travel Papers, and stamped/addressed envelopes to SRI to obtain State authorizations and assure liability insurance coverage.

Any coach who does not adhere to these guidelines may face disciplinary action from the Board of Directors, up to and including suspension of coaching privileges. The first offence may incur a six (6) month suspension; the second offence may incur a one (1) year suspension

3.10 Non - SRI Sanctioned Events (Tournaments, Cups, etc)

Non SRI Sanctioned Events are governed by the organization holding the event. In some cases CYSA may purchase supplemental insurance to cover medical and liability coverage. Coaches should consult with the Competitive Director for more information regarding CYSA coaching, insurance and practice requirements.

Coaches interested in taking a team to a tournament must submit a Coaching Request Form and a BCI Form (if applicable) to the Competitive Director. Board of Director approval must be obtained PRIOR to registering a team in any tournament.

Any coach taking a team to a non SRI -sanctioned event without written approval from CYSA, IS NOT COVERED BY INSURANCE and MAY NOT WEAR CYSA UNIFORMS or apparel with the CYSA logo or name.

Approved coaches must submit to the Competitive Director, not less than Forty-five (45) days in advance of a tournament, the following:

- a) A copy of the Team Roster including names, addresses, birthdates, and telephone numbers.
- b) Coaches must complete the required paperwork required by the sponsoring activity

for the event.

- c) Coaches are responsible for any new Player Passes, signed by player, including player's picture, and fee for each pass.
- d) Coaches are responsible for any new Coaches Passes, signed by coach, including coach's picture, and fee for each pass.
- e) Age verification in the form of a Birth Certificate, Passport, or previous year's pass. No Birth Certificates directly from a Hospital, or Baptismal Certificates will be accepted.
- f) All applicable registration fees, tournament fees, patch fees, and player/coach ID passes fees required.

Any coach who does not adhere to these guidelines may face disciplinary action from the Board of Directors, up to and including suspension of coaching privileges. The first offence may incur a six (6) month suspension; the second offence may incur a one (1) year suspension

3.11 Indoor Considerations (Winter Season)

SRI Sanctioned Indoor/Winter soccer is considered a tournament. If the facility has two or more sessions per season, each session is considered a separate tournament and the below must be followed for each. All tournament policy above in 3.9 applies.

Non SRI Sanctioned Indoor/Winter soccer (i.e. Teamworks, etc) contact the Competitive Director for more information regarding CYSA coaching, insurance and practice requirements. Each session is considered a separate tournament and policy above in 3.10 applies.

3.12 Game Cancellation Policy

Game cancellation policy is dictated by the league or tournament hosting organization.

3.13 Practice & Playing Time Requirements

Time Commitment

Playing on a competitive team requires a higher level of commitment than that of the Fall Recreational Program. Since the main goal of the CYSA Competitive Soccer Program is to foster and improve upon the skill level of all participants, players who desire to participate and are selected to any competitive team are expected to maintain an appropriate level of effort and commitment.

In fairness to all the CYSA competitive teams, players and coaches, and to ensure the integrity of our program, the following attendance requirements apply:

- a. Players must attend and participate in all practices and games in accordance with the head coach's team rules (exception see e. below)
- b. As a common courtesy, players must inform the coach of any practice or game that he/she will be late or miss.

- c. Players are asked to be on time to all practices and games and to participate in the entire practice and game.
- d. Coaches cannot require players to attend more than two practices per week.
- e. During the Fall U8, U10 and U12 Players are expected to participate in one recreational practice a week, no exceptions.

Minimum Game Time

The U8 and U10 divisions are considered developmental and no game standings are kept. Each and every player in “good standing” must be allowed to play at least 50% of each game. The CYSA Competitive Soccer Program supports and enforces any USYSL mandates in this area pertaining to minimum playing time. The coaching staff is empowered to sit a player out for one game at his/her discretion for disciplinary action. Sitting a player out for two consecutive games requires prior approval from the Board of Directors.

Coaches may be allowed to play any U8 & U10 player less than fifty percent (50%) of a game for disciplinary (as defined by the Bylaws) or medical reasons only.

The U12 and above divisions are full competitive divisions which are not governed by the developmental standards, therefore there is no minimum playing time guidelines. The coaching staff is empowered to sit a player out for one game at his/her discretion for disciplinary action. Sitting a player out for two consecutive games requires prior approval from the Board of Directors. (* Reference “PLAYER MISCONDUCT” section).

3.14 Finances

Each competitive team will be self-supporting. Finances and funding will be administered through the Competitive Account through the Competitive Director.

All fees incurred by CHARIHO Youth Soccer Association competitive teams in local, state, regional and national competitive soccer programs, will go through the Competitive Account and will be paid to any local, state, regional and national competitive soccer program by the President or the Competitive Director. Coaches are not authorized to pay any fees or deposits directly. All checks are to be made out to “**CYSA**”.

All fines, fees and balances imposed to a team or coach, are the responsibility of that coach and must be paid through the league by that coach. Failure to do so will be a violation of the CYSA Bylaws and grounds for disciplinary action.

4 TOP Soccer.

4.1 Description

US Youth Soccer TOPSoccer (The Outreach Program for Soccer) is a community-based training and team placement program for young athletes with disabilities, organized by youth soccer association volunteers. The program is designed to bring the opportunity of learning

and playing soccer to any boy or girl, who has a mental or physical disability. Our goal is to enable the young athletes with disabilities to become valued and successful members of the US Youth Soccer family.

TOPSoccer was formed to perpetuate the US Youth Soccer mission statement which is, in part, "to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of America's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition." There are thousands of children with disabilities who have been provided, the opportunity to play soccer through the TOPSoccer program.

CYSA utilizes parents, coaches, players and volunteers to act as mentors to the TOPS players. The TOPS players are paired up with their assigned mentors and participate in weekly soccer like activities. Mentors may receive community service hours.

4.2 Schedule

TOP Soccer is usually scheduled for 1 day on the weekend times and dates are TBD. Players are encouraged to come as much as possible, but attendance is by no means mandatory.

4.3 Registration

Player and mentor registration is required; however; all registration fees and associated TOPSoccer program costs will be paid by sponsors and/or CYSA.

5 Referee Training Program

5.1 Certification

Each Spring CYSA offers a free four (4) hour Referee Clinic for anyone interested in becoming a referee. Individuals that take the clinic, pass the CYSA Referee Exam, and registers with CYSA, may referee CYSA Recreational games in the Fall.

5.2 USSF Certification

US Youth Soccer (USYS) and Soccer Rhode Island (SRI) require all competitive games to be officiated by a USSF Certified Referee.

Rhode Island offers an entry-level program for individuals interested in becoming a USSF Certified Referee. Entry-level referees will start at the Grade 9 Recreational Referee level and will be taught a basic understanding of the Laws of Games adequate for officiating at the recreational level. After one year as a Grade 9 Recreational Referee, the referee may choose to upgrade to a Grade 8 Referee.

Grade 9 Recreational Referees are authorized to officiate recreational matches up to the U14 age division, and may be assistant referee (AR) on competitive youth matches up to the U14 division. In addition, grade 9 referees are permitted to be referee in competitive matches up to the U10 division.

Grade 9 Referees with at least one year of experience may upgrade to Grade 8 by taking the Grade 8 class. In addition, referees who are at least 16 years old may choose to certify for the first time as a Grade 8 Referee. Grade 8 Referees are eligible to officiate all levels of youth soccer in the state, including premier leagues. The Grade 8 class expands upon the content covered in the Grade 9 class and focus on a more detailed understanding of the Laws of the Game, with specific focus on Offside, Fouls, and Misconduct. The class will prepare the student for the Grade 8 Referee Exam.

As referees advance to higher grades they are required to demonstrate their continued qualification for their grade through "maintenance" assessments and sustained high level competition experience. Each referee at Grade 7 or higher is also required to successfully pass a physical fitness field examination which includes distance, agility and speed tests (as set out in the Referee Administrative handbook).

- Grade 1:** Referees who officiate in the World Cup and international matches are designated as Grade 1.
- Grade 2:** Assistant Referees to Grade 1 Referees are designated as Grade 2.
- Grade 3 & 4:** In the United States, competition at the national level (including professional soccer and MLS) requires Grade 3 or 4. Grade 3 indicates the referee's readiness to be considered for international service.
- Grade 5 & 6:** The highest level of competition within a state (amateur leagues beyond youth) requires a Grade 5 or 6 where Grade 5 indicates the referee's readiness to be considered for national service.
- Grade 7:** Grade 7 is an experienced referee in the state qualified to officiate all but the highest levels of amateur soccer.
- Grade 8:** Most referees begin their careers as Grade 8 having taken the entry training course.
- Grade 9:** Very young aspirants to refereeing may take an abbreviated training course and be registered as Grade 9 which qualifies them only for very young "small sided" matches (usually seven and eight year old players in six per team matches).

6 Club Registration and Refund Policy:

A player's registration fee may be refunded if said player is not rostered to a team. Competitive team fees are non-refundable.

7 Laws of the Game

All games shall be played in accordance with FIFA "Laws of the Game" and conform to USYSA recommendations, unless otherwise stipulated below for CYSA Recreational Soccer.

7.1 Law 1 - The Field of Play

Field Size

Field Sizes should be as follows:

	Field Size (yards)
--	---------------------------

Age Division	Width	Length	Recommended *
U-19	50-100	100-130	80 x 120
U-16	50-80	90-120	70 x 100
U-14	50-70	70-100	60 x 90
U-12	40-60	60-90	55 x 80
U-10	30-45	50-60	45 x 60
U-8	20-30	30-40	25 x 40
U-6	15-25	20-30	25 x 30
U-4	15-25	20-30	25 x 30

Note:* Field Size is based on “Maximum Players” reference in Law 3 and may be revised / modified by the Board of Directors.

Field Maintenance

The parents of players may be called upon to help maintain the fields.

7.2 Law 2 - Ball Size

Ball Size shall be as follows:

Age Division	Ball Size
U-19	#5
U-16	#5
U-14	#5
U-12	#4
U-10	#4
U-8	#3
U-6	#3
U-4	#3

7.3 Law 3 - Number of Players

Team Size

The maximum size of team rosters for each recreational Age Division will be based on registration numbers and determined by the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise directed by the Board of Directors, the recommended number of players on the field per team shall be:

Age Division	Min. Players on Team	Max. Players on Team	Recommended Players on Field**
Under 19	6 (5)	11 (7)	11 (7)
Under 16	6 (5)	11 (7)	11 (7)
Under 14	6 (5)	11 (7)	11 (7)
Under 12	6 (5)	9 (7)	8 (6)
Under 10	5 (4)	8 (7)	7 (5)
Under 8	4 (3)	7 (5)	5 (3)

Under 6	3 (2)	5 (3)	3 (3) – no goal keepers
Under 4	3 (2)	5 (3)	3 (3) – no goal keepers

Note:** Designated number within parentheses indicates the minimum number of players a team must field to play a game, or forfeit said game. However, CYSA will make team adjustments on the fly to ensure all players get to play the game regardless of numbers.

7.4 Game Play Special Considerations

Teams Playing Down

If a team is forced to play short, it is recommended that the opposing team play down to an equal number of players.

When a team is forced to play short and incurs a seven (7) goal differential, the opposing team must adjust its team size to play no more than one player more than the team playing short handed.

Substitutions

Substitutions for the Under 4, Under 6 and Under 8, Age Divisions may be made upon any stoppage of play. All other divisions are allowed to substitute after a goal, before a goal kick by either team, for an injured player at the beginning of the second half, and on a possession throw in. If a team elects to substitute on a possession throw in, the opposing team may also elect substitute.

Special Considerations for Under 6 and Below Aged Players

For Under 6 and below Age Divisions, no goalkeepers are allowed. A defender can not remain in their Goal Area (box) nor can an attacker remain in their opponents Goal Area (box). Players may only enter a Goal Area to attack or defend a ball that enters the Goal Area.

Goal kicks will be used for restarts after a goal, After scoring a goal in either the U4 and U6 divisions the team will retreat to their defense half of the field and not engage the other team until the ball crosses half field.

Special Considerations for Heading the Ball

Based on the United States Soccer Federation's "Recognize to Recover" health and safety program recommendations, The Rhode Island Youth Super Liga, llc, will implement the following policy. All players 10 years old and younger, shall not engage in heading in practice/training or in games. For all players 11 and 12 years old, heading training will be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes per week with no more that 15 -20 headers per player, per week.

In addition to the safety initiatives, the following modified rule will be implemented: • When a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick (IFK) will be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal/ penalty area, the indirect free kick will be taken on the goal/penalty area line parallel to the goal/penalty line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred. If a player does not deliberately head the ball, then play should continue.

7.5 Injuries

General Considerations:

Coaches must have ice or cold packs on hand in the event of injury. Ice is also available at the concession stand.

Players are not allowed to participate in a game, scrimmage, or practice session if they are wearing a cast, unless:

- a) A doctor authorizes the player to participate and the parent/guardian submits a medical release form to the Board of Directors.
- b) Board of Directors grants approval to the player to participate in soccer play.
- c) The cast is wrapped in a soft material so as to prevent accidental injury to another player.

No player with free flowing blood, or blood on his/her uniform, may participate or continue to participate in a game, scrimmage, or practice session until the bleeding is stopped, the wound completely bandaged, and the uniform is changed.

Concussion Policy

This policy has been adopted from Soccer Rhode Island Youth Soccer League (RIYSL) policy and applies to all CYSA activities.

The following policy was originally written for Competitive Soccer games. In the case of an injury happening during recreational games / practices all action to/by the RIYSL offices will instead be taken to/by the CYSA board for resolution.

CYSA/RIYSL understands that if a player suffers a concussion, it is a serious situation which needs the upmost attention and care.

1. If a referee/coach stops a game due to a player(s) having received contact to their head(s), the player must be removed from the game immediately and will not be allowed back into the game.
2. The referee shall inform the RIYSL office along with a report of the incident. The player cannot return to play in RIYSL until a doctor authorizes that the player is able to play.
3. The doctor's authorization memo must be sent to the RIYSL office.

4. Upon receiving the doctor's authorization memo , RIYSL will contact the coach and association coordinator to inform them that the player is allowed to return.
5. It is the coach's responsibility at all times to monitor the health and safety of his/her players. The referee at times may be obstructed and not have vision of an incident. If the coach feels that a player has been injured and could have a potential concussion, the coach should get the referee's attention and ask for the player to be removed from the game

Injuries at Practice

Any player injured during a practice session must be attended to by the injured players coach (or designee) immediately.

Game Time Injuries

During a game, a coach (or designee) may not attend to an injured player until play is stopped and permission to enter the playing field is granted by the referee. All other players, both on and off the field should remain in place and wait quietly until play is resumed. If there is any doubt about the player's injury, proper medical attention must be sought immediately. Any time the referee stops the game due to an injury, the injured player (with the exception of the goalkeeper) must leave the field and may be replaced with a substitute. If the injured player is able to resume playing, he or she may be substituted at the next opportunity as allowed by the rules of play. In the Under 10 and below Age Divisions, the injured player may be substituted back into the game at the next stoppage of play, but only for the player who replaced him or her. In the Under 12 and above Age Divisions, if play is stopped to attend to an injured player, the opposing team of the injured player may also substitute one player.

8 Code of Ethics

8.1 Background Checks

All potential head and assistant coaches must complete and submit an on-line Criminal Records Check (CRC) prior to being assigned any team. These background disclosures must be renewed every two- (2) years. Soccer Rhode Island maintains a complete list of approved coaches.

Coaching applicants may be pre-approved contingent on the satisfactory return of the CRC.

In the event that a coaches background check fails, CYSA will notify the coach in writing that his/her coaching privileges are suspended immediately. Suspension means that the coach is not allowed to have contact with the team, running practices, games etc. It is recommended that the length of suspension for any offenses be the entire length of the court-imposed sentence. However, the Board of Directors may increase the length of suspension of any employee/volunteer should the Board of Directors

deem that further protection of the youth members under its cognizance is warranted.

The coach has the option to appeal the suspension by providing a detailed official disposition as to why the background check failed. The appeal will be held in accordance with the CYSA appeals process. Any coach denied coaching privileges within the CYSA could further appeal

this denial before Soccer Rhode Island (SRI). The CYSA follows SRI recommendations and as such appeals can only be directed to SRI.

8.2 Conduct of Players, Coaches, Parents and Spectators

Player Conduct

Depending upon the severity required, the coaching staff is empowered to sit a player out for one game at his/her discretion (i.e., repeatedly missing practice and/or games without notice, fighting, general distraction, etc.). Sitting a player out for two consecutive games requires prior approval from the Board of Directors. Disciplinary action for repeated violations may range from multiple game suspensions to removal from the team as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors

Parent / Spectator Conduct

The conduct at soccer games and practices, in which CYSA teams participate, reflects on the CYSA organization; therefore, proper behavior must be observed. Each coach or team administrators shall be held responsible for the conduct of the spectators for or from their respective teams.

A parents/spectator's role is to provide POSITIVE SUPPORT and cheering. It's the coach's job to give directions, if needed. Many of the best coaches say the least during games.

Cheer for good soccer play and effort by both teams. Emphasize sportsmanship and fair play.

We stress fun and game fundamental development, over scoring. Although we want children to play competitively on the field, the final score of the game is unimportant compared to the skills and behavior that is demonstrated.

Nobody should make negative comments toward players, coaches, referees, or board members. Remember referees are learning to develop their skills, just like the players. They will make mistakes, just like the players do.

We all represent the Chariho Youth Soccer Association. Bring family and friends to the games.

At no time shall drinking of alcoholic beverages be permitted at any game or practice sanctioned by or regularly scheduled by Soccer Rhode Island (SRI) or any affiliated team.

Coaches Conduct

The coaches of the CHARIHO Youth Soccer Association Competitive Soccer Program shall endeavor to assemble the most competitive team possible for each particular

division to best represent CHARIHO Youth Soccer, and to improve upon the skill level of all participants to the best of their ability. CYSA coaches should foster and promote the philosophy that soccer is a game and is intended to be FUN.

In accordance with the ideals and goals of the CYSA, all coaches must demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. They should encourage their players to be gracious in losing as well as winning. Coaches should discourage the concept that winning is the only worthwhile result and encourage players to do their best for the entire game, regardless of the outcome.

Coaches are representing the CYSA at all practices and games and must set a good example to all soccer players. Therefore, there will be no use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products on the practice or playing fields. Coaches may not attend practices while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

There will be no tolerance of any abuse, either physical or verbal, to anyone associated with the organization, SRI, SuperLiga and hosting facilities, such as but not limited to, any players, referees, parents, facility representatives, or league officials by any coach.

All coaches are required to uphold the CYSA Bylaws and all Competitive coaches are required to attend any competitive meetings as scheduled in the Calendar of Activities handbook or by the Competitive Director

Coach Disciplinary Actions

A request for reprimand or disciplinary action for any coach must be submitted in writing to the President or Vice-President of the Association, who will call a meeting of the Board of Directors. Any action disputed by the coach may be appealed by said coach to the Board of Directors who will decide what course of action to take. Some examples for which action may be taken are, but not limited to: team neglect, abuse of a child (either verbally or physical), foul language, aggressive behavior, disobeying CYSA by-law's and procedures, or anything that reflects negatively on the Association.

If a coach receives a game ejection (Red Card), the coach must leave the playing area and no longer encourage, talk or coach his/her players for the duration of the game, nor shall said coach be permitted to coach the next scheduled regular season or playoff game. Any coach accumulating two- (2) ejection's (Red Card) or three (3) cautions (Yellow Card) in one season will not be allowed to coach next season. The Director of Referees will record all incidents that occur during the season.

Any coach continually behaving in a rude or disruptive manner towards "an official", may be suspended from the team, or removed from the team by the Board of Directors. An official, for the sole purpose of this specific regulation shall be defined as a referee, assistant referee, player, other coach, or team administrator.

9 Policy Change Policy

See CYSA Bylaws for additional detail on how these policies can be modified.

10 Document Conflict Resolution

It is CYSA's intent to keep this document up to date and in compliance with all other supporting documents, rules and regulations. The following policy and guidance documents shall take precedence:

- a) CYSA By-Laws and Constitution
- b) Soccer Rhode Island (SRI)
- c) Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL)
- d) Rhode Island Presidents Committee on Athletics (RIPCOA)

Revised, April 7, 2016

11 Appendices / Forms

11.1 Sample Play Up Request

Actual Play Up Request can be found on the CYSA Website.

CYSA Player Play Up Request

Section 1 - Player Information (To Be Filled out By Parent)

1. Player Name	2. Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	3. Request Date	
4. Current Age Group <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">U -</p>	4a. Dual Age Group Year <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Year <input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Year	4b. Player Date Of Birth	
5. Play Up Age Group Requested <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">U -</p>	6. Season(s) Requested.: <input type="checkbox"/> Fall Comp <input type="checkbox"/> Fall Rec <input type="checkbox"/> Winter <input type="checkbox"/> Spring	7. Soccer Season (Year) <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">20__ to 20__</p>	
8. Current Team & Coach	9. Team Season and Division	10. Current Team Jersey #	
11. Upcoming Home Game Schedule			
	Date	Time	Location (if Not Home)
Game 1			
Game 2			
Game 3			
12. Rationale for Request (Attach Additional Documentation, <u>Check Here if Additional Info Exists!</u>)			

Parent Signature: Acknowledging the Increased Risk of Injury Associated with Playing Up

Parent Name (Printed)	Signature
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Section 2 - Player Evaluation (To Be Filled out By CYSA Director of Competitive)

A. In Situ Evaluation			
Evaluator	Event Type & Date	Rating (0-5)	Comments
B. Tryout Results			
	Ranking / Total Number	Comments	
Birth Age Group			
Play Up Age Group			
C. Impact(s) Assessment To Club Teams			
Birth Age Group	Is there a team available?	Enough to Field A Team w/o	Enough to Field A Team w/ 50%

Revised, April 7, 2016

Play Up Age Group	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Are players going to be cut from team? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Player? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Enough to Field A Team w/o Player? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	subs w/o Player? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Enough to Field A Team w/ 50% subs w/o Player? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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July 25, 2013 D. Orcia

Instructions for Play Up Request Form

Section 1 (Parent Guardian Fills Out)

Boxes 1-3 Self Explanatory

Box 4 – The age group the player is currently playing in U10, U9 etc,

Box 4a - Dual age groups are they in the 1st year of that age group or second year, (i.e. an 8/9 year old could be 1st year U10, a 9/10 year old could be 2nd year).

Box 5 – Age group the player requests to play in.

Box 6 – Identify the seasons you would like the player to play up in.

Box 7 – Soccer season the play up applies to (i.e Season starts in Fall so Fall 2013 would be 2013 – 2014

Soccer Season) Box 8 – Identify the current team and Coach that your child plays for.

Box 9 – Identify Team Season and Division they are playing in, i.e. 2013 Fall – White, 2012 Spring – Gold, etc Box

10 – Jersey # - Used to identify your child during In Situ Assessments (Usually Competitive Jersey Number) Box

11 – Write in the Home games remaining in your child's current season, allows assessments to be conducted.

Parental /. Guardian Signature - Make Sure you print and sign this form.

Section 2 CYSA Fills Out)

Boxes A –In Situ Assessments during competitive, recreational, tryouts or practices. Ratings should use the following scale: 0 - Player should not play competitive

1 - Player is Below Average compared to CYSA peers. (Bottom 3rd)

2- Player is Average compared to CYSA peers. (Middle 3rd)

3- Player above average skill compared to CYSA peers (Top 3rd)

4– Player is exceptional skill compared to CYSA peers (Top Player)

5– Player Dominates all aspects of the game compared to all players during event.

Box B – Tryout Results, ranking is the placement of the player out of the total number of players that **showed up** for tryout Box C – Impact on Club teams

Please find the updated on line version of this file at
www.chariho.com

