

### 2.3.4 AGE BRACKETS AND ROSTER SIZE

The age brackets for each playing division, number of players on the field in each division, and the recommended roster size limits for each division are shown on the following Table 2-1. In the U-4 through U-8 divisions, the goalkeeper position is not used. In U-9 and older divisions, the team must include a goalkeeper and the Players On The Field column below includes the goalkeeper.

**TABLE 2-1**  
**AGE DIVISIONS AND ROSTER SIZE LIMITS**

NTSSA DIVISION	RSA DIVISION	PLAYERS ON FIELD	MINIMUM ROSTER SIZE	MAXIMUM ROSTER SIZE
U-19	U17/U18/U19	11	14	22
U-16	U15/U16	11	14	18
U-14	U13/U14	11	14	18
U-12	U11/U12	9	14	18
U-10	U9/U10	7	10	14
U-8	U7/U8	4	6	8
U-6	U4/U5/U6	4	6	8

### 2.3.5 GENDER MAKEUP

Teams in the U-4 and U-5 divisions may have both boys and girls on the same roster. All other divisions shall form teams of just one gender and will have separate competition for both boys and girls within each division. The League Commissioner may, when necessary due to number of players, make an exception and form coed teams in any division.

## 2.4 TEAM FORMATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYERS

### 2.4.1 TEAM FORMATION COMMITTEE

New teams will be formed, and established teams' rosters will be filled, by a committee consisting of at least three members. The Registration and Team Formation Coordinator, or his designee, who must be a Board Member, shall be the chair and shall be assisted by the Division Commissioner and a volunteer. None of the committee members should have a relative playing in the age group of the teams being formed.

### 2.4.2 DEFINITION OF AN ESTABLISHED TEAM

If the number of players on a returning team is at least half of the Minimum Roster Size (see Table 2-1), that team may request to remain together as a unit. With such a request, RSA will strive to keep that unit together on a team, however, there are no guarantees that such an endeavor will be successful. If a team loses its coach, the League Commissioner will consider any assistant coach and the parents of members of that team before selecting a new coach from outside the team.

### 2.4.3 AGE CONSIDERATIONS

In the event divisions are established such that age is a factor for grouping the players to the various teams, this will be an additional consideration for the Committee.

A player without proper proof of age will not be assigned to a team.

**2.4.4 DIVISIONS U-4 THROUGH U-10**

All applications for a team in U4, U5, U6, U7, U8, U9 and U10 shall be submitted to the Team Formation Committee. Teams will be formed or filled using the following guidelines.

- 2.4.4.1 **SCHOOL TEAM** - When openings exist, players will be assigned to a team from the nearest public school to where they reside. When space is available, players registered on a team other than their school team have priority for placement on their school team over a player just joining RSA. Players desiring to *play up* will only be placed on their school team after everyone else of the correct age from that school has been assigned to a team.
- 2.4.4.2 **TOO MANY IN SCHOOL AREA** - When the number of players in the player pool exceeds the number of openings available on a school team, players will be assigned to a team from a school as near as possible to the area where the player resides (preferably one of the other schools that feed the junior high school or high school the player would attend).
- 2.4.4.3 **GEOGRAPHICAL AREA** - Whenever possible, players who reside east of US Hwy. 75 will be assigned to teams from schools in that area and players who reside west of US Hwy. 75 will be assigned to teams from that area.
- 2.4.4.4 **BLIND DRAW** - A blind draw, conducted by the Committee, will be used to resolve any discrimination, such as having more players from a school than there are openings available or more than one team from a school with openings to fill.
- 2.4.4.5 **REASSIGNMENT REQUESTS** - During the registration period, players have the option to request removal from a team and reassignment through the Committee. Players requesting reassignment to a different team will not be returned to their former team.
- 2.4.4.6 **FORMER PLAYERS** - A player sitting out (unregistered) for one or more seasons is not automatically returned to his former team and may be reassigned by the Committee.
- 2.4.4.7 **TEAM SIZE** - The Committee shall make every effort to establish teams at the lowest recommended roster size limit (see Table 2-1). Before the Committee can assign any players over the recommended roster size limit to a team, all the teams within the division should be filled to the highest recommended roster size. A coach may be allowed to decline accepting players over the upper recommended roster size range. Once a coach has declined to accept players over the upper recommended roster size range, the coach can not later accept other player(s) during the same playing season.
- 2.4.4.8 **LATE APPLICATIONS** - Players whose applications are accepted by the League Commissioner after the registration period is closed will be placed in the player pool and will be made available to the Committee for team assignment. Late registrants will not be guaranteed placement on a team, and will not be placed until all earlier registrants in the age group have been placed on a team. No player will be placed on a team after three league games are completed.
- 2.4.4.9 **TEAM BALANCING** - Players who have requested to leave one team are assigned from the player pool to another team based on the need to bring the team up to the recommended lower roster size or to keep teams within an age group division close to having the same number of players. After all teams in the division have been brought up to the recommended lower roster size, the Team Formation Committee shall attempt to balance teams to allow for near even rosters.

### **2.4.5 DIVISIONS U-12 THROUGH U-19**

When players are available in the player pool for U-12 and above divisions, they shall be assigned to teams by the methods described above. If no players are available in the player pool, coaches of record or a group of players wishing to form a team among themselves, may actively seek players of the proper age group within the Association to be added to the team as long as:

- no method is used to assess the ability of the player,
- the player is not registered on an existing team, and
- the player did not play for a returning recreational team during the previous season

These players must still be assigned to a team by the Team Formation Committee from the player pool and are subject to all other team formation rules, including team balancing.

### **2.4.6 TRYOUTS**

No tryouts or practices may be held to assess the ability of any player for placement on a RSA recreational team. Such activity shall result in suspension of the coach(s) or player(s) conducting such a tryout or practice, for a period of not less than one year.

### **2.4.7 EXTRA PLAYERS**

During the registration period, coaches may request additional openings above the recommended level (see TABLE 2-1) be made available on their rosters, to be filled during the team building process. Approval of the League Commissioner is required. RSA will not allow any team to register more players than the maximum allowed by NTSSA for tournament play. RSA reserves the right to assign additional players to any team if necessary.

## **2.5 COACHES**

### **2.5.1 PRIVILEGES**

The Association feels strongly that it is a privilege to coach an RSA team. This privilege may be revoked for infringing upon the Philosophy or Rules and Regulations of the Association.

Only the head coach may request to have any of his children that meet the eligibility requirements be assigned to his team. This privilege does not extend to assistant coaches.

### **2.5.2 REQUIREMENTS**

Each head coach and designated assistant coach must be approved by the RSA Executive Board prior to commencement of each playing season. No individual may coach more than two teams registered through the North Texas State Soccer Association without Executive Board approval. No person shall be paid to coach a RSA recreational team. A coach or team may pay a skills instructor to provide clinics or training sessions for the players of the team. (See Clinics - Section 2.13.4).

Persons not registered as an RSA coach will be considered acting as coach, and will be subject to the rules and regulations of RSA, if they attend practices and games on a regular basis and provides skill training and/or tactical and strategic instructions to players. The A&D Committee and the RSA board has the authority to determine if a person is functioning as a coach.

**2.5.2.1 CONTRACTS** - In consideration for the privilege of coaching an RSA team, each coach and designated assistant coach will be required to submit an application to coach (coach's contract). All such contracts are effective from the date approved by the board and automatically terminate at the end of each playing year. The contract is an agreement to abide by all Regulations, Laws and policy and procedures specified in the RSA Soccer Guide and any supplements. Failure to abide by these rules will result in the coach being subject to disciplinary action. All coaches are required to read and understand these rules and regulations.