

Information for Teams with Rosters of Nineteen or More Players

The CYSA Board of Directors recently approved policies that permit Division 1 and Division 3 teams in the Under 16, Under 17, Under 18 and Under 19 age groups to roster a maximum of 22 players on a team.

This action will bring CYSA into line with the US Youth Soccer rules governing team roster size and will allow teams that decide to go on to compete in the National Championship Series and Presidents Cup Championship Series to be on a level playing field with teams from other states and regions.

It is important that the coaches, players and parents involved in these age groups and divisions are aware of the fact that although a team may roster 22 players, only up to 18 players are eligible to be “activated” on the team’s game roster for any individual game.

At the time the team is checked in by the referee prior to each match, teams with more than 18 players on their roster must indicate on the game day roster which players are activated for the game and which players are deactivated. The names of the players who are deactivated for the match will be indicated by having their name being lined out on the game day roster. The players who are not lined out will be considered activated. The referee will designate on the game day roster which of the activated players have been checked in for the match. The referee will collect and hold the player passes for only the players who are activated for the game. Send offs will be served in accordance with “PLAYER / TEAM OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE (SUSPENSION)” as designated in CYSA PIM 08-3 and in accordance with Rule XXII as cited in the rules for CYSA Cups.

Deactivated players in the technical area must be clearly identifiable and must wear attire that distinctly differentiates them from the activated players. (For example the alternate team uniform jerseys or warm up pinnies/practice bibs that are a different color than those worn by any activated players who are in the technical area).

So as to avoid any misunderstandings after rosters are already set, league and club officials should make it abundantly clear to the coaches, players and parents affected by this rule change that when more than 18 players are rostered on a team only a maximum of 18 of those players are eligible to participate in any specific game. The pros and cons of rostering more than 18 players on a team should be considered carefully by all concerned before forming teams.