

TOURNAMENTS

Tournaments provide an opportunity to compete against teams from other cities and states and aid in the team bonding process. The Club's Directors establish a yearly estimated tournament plan for each team. This information will be published on the approved "Team Plan" that is given to the parents at tryouts. Players are committing to attendance at team tournaments when they enroll on the team.

Some tournaments are very selective and accept only the top-ranked teams. Others accept almost any travel team that applies. Therefore, it is imperative that you consult with the team's coach immediately following tryouts to determine your team's tournament options and begin to apply to any with pre-season deadlines.

You will want to encourage attendance and take a poll to make sure all players will be attending.

APPLICATIONS

Tournament applications need to be submitted by the manager two-three months before the tournament date. Each age group and team level has a different number of tournaments allotted to them each year. These are listed in the team plan handed out at tryouts. Additional tournaments will need to be paid for by collecting extra funds from your players.

Note the following information on your team's application:

- If your coach has multiple teams attending, note those teams on the application.
 - Most tournaments will coordinate coaches schedules for up to three teams.
- For Division Placement in the tournament consult with the coach first.
 - Advanced or Developmental
 - New team or experienced team

PAYMENT

● Manager will apply for the tournament and receive a confirmation email from the tournament. Send this to passimpactsoccer@gmail.com for payment. The fee amount and tournament mailing address must be included in your email.

TOURNAMENT RULES

Check each tournament's website for specific rules for their tournament. Email a link of the rules to your coach. Read through and understand the requirements for the check-in process and paperwork. Make sure you fill out and gather the necessary forms and paperwork from each family as soon as possible.

GUEST PLAYERS

Most tournaments allow up to 5 guest players. If you are bringing guest players you will need to check the specific rules for each tournament as they may vary. Generally guest players within your own club only need their player card and team roster. Guest players from another club will need to fill out the guest player form on The Tournament Center website. htgsports.net

OUT-OF-STATE TOURNAMENTS

If you are traveling out-of-state, an electronic "Permission to Travel" form will need to be completed and approved by MSYSA for your team on The Tournament Center website. htgsports.net Once the request has been approved, print a copy to provide at tournament check-in. Each player will also need to sign a Consent to Travel form found on the MSYSA website. www.michiganyouthsoccer.org

HOTELS

For out-of-town tournaments, you may see the words “Stay to Play” in the tournament rules. This generally only pertains to teams attending from more than 80 miles from home and requires team accommodations be made through the tournament approved listing. These will be checked by the tournament.

- Select a hotel and reserve a block of rooms if necessary. Parents will be responsible for contacting the hotel directly to secure their reservation.
- Provide your team with the following:
 - Name of Hotel, the address and contact information
 - Hotel rate, block name and reservation deadline

COACH'S HOTEL ROOM

Arrange for your coach's stay if they will be staying overnight. For tournaments 60 miles or more away the club will pay for the coach's room. Most hotels will comp a room for every 10-15 rooms reserved so please ask during the hotel selection process. If more than one team is traveling, it is beneficial to stay at the same hotel to receive more free rooms for coaches.

If the club is paying for the room you may either pick up a club credit card or be reimbursed for the room (either you or your coach can pay for it up front and turn in the receipt for reimbursement).

COACHES STIPEND

In the past, coaches were given a weekend stipend from the club for gas and food. This is now part of their pay so they do not receive anything extra for the weekends away. If your team is attending meals together for additional team bonding, it is a nice practice to invite the coaches and collect money for their meals.

TEAM BONDING

Tournaments are a great time to plan team bonding time. Tailgater Tent/picnic between games, Team Dinners, Movies, Professional sporting experiences, etc. Remember to invite your coach and offer to pay their way by collecting extra from parents.

SCHEDULES

Tournament schedules generally come up the week or two prior to the weekend. Division may be posted prior to that. It is very important that you and your coach check the division before the schedule is made if given the opportunity and reiterate with the tournament director or scheduler if your coach has multiple teams or any special scheduling request. Generally once the schedule is released no changes can be made.

COMMUNICATION TO PARENTS

- Make sure everyone has the schedule as soon as it is posted.
- Provide addresses (or instructions to locate the link) to all fields your team will be playing on, including the Finals game.
- Plan a team dinner or bonding activity around the team's tournament schedule. (If coaches are invited you may want to start collecting \$ from parents now).
- Remind players to bring both uniform kits and additional socks, cleats, etc.
- Consult with the coach for specific recommendations on curfew, hydration and nutrition and make sure all players know.
- Communicate if breakfast is served at the hotel and verify the serving hours to ensure your team has ample time to eat breakfast prior to the first game or upon return from their early game.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Keep Medical Waivers with you during the tournament in case medical treatment is needed at a hospital for a minor traveling without their parents. Make sure your coach has copies in his/her equipment bag.
- Encourage players and their families to support other PASS FC teams by providing them with schedules and field locations for each team. Our younger players especially enjoy watching the older teams play.
- Engage the Parents to help!
 - Purchasing healthy snacks, water, Gatorade for the team
 - Organizing team dinners
 - Creating team door signs for your players for their hotel room.
 - Pinning together and washing team uniforms between games.
 - Provide plastic trash bags for player/coach gear when raining.
 - Bringing and setting up canopies to protect players from the sun/rain. (check if tourney allows for this).
 - Shower curtains work great for players to sit on and cover with during rain.
 - Create a Plexiglas sign with team schedule and curfew information to be placed in the hotel lobby. (check with hotel for approval)