

As you start to think about tryouts and registering players and teams for the upcoming 2017-2018 season, we want you to be aware of some significant changes.**

US Youth Soccer Association Rule 201 requires that a youth player must register each seasonal year in the State Association in which he or she resides. Any youth player wishing to play on a team of a member of a State Association other than the State Association where the player is registered, must receive written permission from the State Association where the player is registered; and the other State Association of the team on which the player wishes to play.

Several states have entered into agreements whereby Rule 201 was modified to bypass this requirement to allow players in each state to more effectively and efficiently register and participate in the state of their choice.

Effective at the start of the 2009/2010 seasonal year, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota entered into such an agreement called the Cross Border Agreement. Under this agreement, players wishing to register in a non-resident State Association could register directly with that non-resident State Association without first getting permission or registering through their resident State Association.

In March 2017, Missouri terminated their participation in the Cross Border Agreement. The effect of this termination is as follows:

1. All players residing in Missouri must first register through Missouri Youth Soccer Association ("MYSA") and then ask to be transferred to the Kansas State Youth Soccer Association ("KSYSA") if they want to play on a Kansas team. Likewise, any player not residing in Missouri who wants to play on a Missouri team, must first register with their resident state and then ask to be transferred to MYSA.
2. There will be fees to register in the resident State Association and also fees to transfer to the non-resident State Association.
3. Additionally, if a team is comprised of at least 51% of residents from a certain state, they must register the team with that state. For example, if a team has 51% Missouri residents, that team must register as a Missouri team and vice versa.
4. If a team wishes to play in their state's National Championship Series, i.e., State Cup, President's Cup or Jr. State Cup, they will need to play in a qualifying league of their State Association during the season. For example, MYSA now requires that if you want to play in the MYSA National Championship Series, you must register to play in a MYSA qualifying league.
5. MYSA has voted to reject Heartland Soccer Association as a qualifying league. Missouri teams may still play in Heartland, but they will also have to play at least four games in a MYSA qualifying league if they want to be eligible to participate in MYSA National Championship Series.

We will work closely with your team/club registrars to make this transition as seamless as possible. However, please allow extra time to register players this year. This extra step does add time to the process. Missouri teams should contact their MYSA representatives with any questions or comments.

Kansas, along with Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota are all still members of the Cross Border Agreement.

** Please note that US Youth Soccer may be implementing rules that would eliminate the restrictions requiring players to register in the State Association in which they reside. Thus, the above would all be moot before the start of the 2017/2018 season.