

Guiding Principles of CESC.

Registration

1. Registration will remain open for a designated period of time and all registrants will be accepted; there are no space limitations during the open enrollment. Late registration is NOT always available if numbers following open enrollment work for team formation. Kids who move to town in the summer and did not have the opportunity to enroll and wish to play will be placed on a team only if space is available.
2. CESC does NOT want to cut kids.
3. CESC does NOT want to send kids to play with other towns.
4. CESC will work hard to keep kids playing within their age groups and with their grade peers. This is not always possible based on registrant numbers, but every effort will be made, and should movement be necessary, potential players' families will be consulted.

PLAYING TIME:

U8/9-U11: CESC expects equal playing time for all players.

U12: CESC expects at least 50% playing time, and coaches at these levels may also use discretion to address behavior and attendance issues.

U13-14: No minimum; coaches at these levels may use discretion.

All playing time policies are in accordance with Soccer Maine guidelines for teams. It should be noted that "equal playing time" and "50% playing time" is over the course of a season, NOT in each and every game.

Lastly, it should be noted that in rare instances 50% may not be possible if a team has more than double the number of kids on the field. This could happen if the number of registrants pushes team numbers to the maximum allowed but does not allow for the formation of an additional team.

COMPETITIVE LEVELS

All U8/9-U11 teams participate in a developmental, non-competitive league. This means that scores are not recorded, no standings are kept, and no playoffs are held. Each team will attend one tournament in mid-October and a Festival to end the season.

At U12-14 Soccer Maine has two competitive levels for league play to determine seeding for year-end playoffs – Division 1 (highest competitive level) and Division 2 (lower competitive level). Currently, Soccer Maine takes the top 16 Division 1 seeds for Division 1 playoffs (Champions Cup) and the remaining Division 1 teams and all of Division 2 are in the Classic Cup playoffs. CESC has determined that all U12-14 teams should attempt to compete in Division 1, unless there is compelling reason, as determined by the board, that a team should compete in Division 2. This is intended to maximize player development over results.

It should be noted that at U12 if two teams exist at a gender group, they will both participate in the same Division 1 or Division 2 level. This decision will not affect the end of year possibility of playoffs for any teams.

Team Formation:

U8/9-U12 Team Formation:

Teams at the U8/9-U12 levels will be formed as balanced teams. This means that we attempt to balance the skill level of all of the teams in the age group, such that they are as even as reasonably possible. There will be no assessments or try-outs. Skill level will be determined by coaching staffs and travel directors' observations over the course of a season. At U8/9 a best attempt will be made based on general knowledge of players, prior soccer experience, and general observations.

New U13 and U14 Team Formation Process:

CESC will form competitive teams based on player evaluations and assessments at U13 and U14 that participate at the D1 level. This will bring our U13 and U14 teams in line with other towns. Please see our U13 and U14 Policy and Q and A statement to fully understand this change.