

## **Premier Developmental League District Counter Proposal Draft 1**

We're all here to do something great for soccer in our State. We would like to focus on our common ground before we begin debating the finer points of what we can achieve together.

We the District Commissioners of Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 realize the seriousness of the DOC proposal. We recognize the need for change. We want to meet your needs and meet our representative requirements within realistic timelines. We feel we can achieve all these things given the appropriate chance.

We agree that the current league and administrative structures do not provide the best possible leagues at U11, U12, and U13.

We agree that uniform policies and procedures among Associations are necessary for equal footing among clubs across District boundaries.

We agree that positive, long-standing change can only be achieved by working together. Evolutionary steps taken too fast or too slow result in a system failure; while the clubs have had opportunity to evolve into their current state, administration would ask for that same opportunity. We are committed to more efficient representation, clearer and more consistent rules, and better playing environments.

### **Introduction:**

In the lifetime of soccer as a sport in the U.S., its growth in popularity has spurred many evolutionary steps. As Select soccer once evolved out of Recreational, Premier Developmental can now evolve out of Select.

To be the best, you must play against the best. To develop appropriately, you must play at the appropriate level and have sufficient opportunity to participate in advanced individual training commensurate to the highest levels of play. Current league formations and administrative structures do not support this model at the highest level and as a result all levels are hampered in the developmental years. WSYSA must adapt to better serve the needs of the players.

### **Purpose:**

To maximize the developmental opportunities for soccer players to achieve their highest potential through established criteria of sound principle.

### **Scope:**

To find common ground for a CYL, hereby referred to as the PCDL, for ages U11 to U13, state-wide, regionally grouped by coaching and training programs that meet the developmental model criteria to minimize travel considerations.

### **Criteria:**

For the purpose of initial and ongoing assignment, programs will be evaluated each year on criteria of coaching certification, training outreach, consistent

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success in developing top teams, and an encouragement of a balanced playing lifestyle:

- Developmental excellence identified by the consistent, historic development of teams competing at the highest levels of WSYSA Premier League play.
- Clubs intent on developing players must have an appropriately licensed (USSF B or A) Coaching Director actively working on education. Coaches and trainers participating in the club must have youth certification and licensing for the appropriate ages.
- Training programs and academies to promote the game, provide a growing base of developmentally educated coaches working in recreational and select clubs, and/or refine the skills sets of players younger than 13 without forming competitive teams at ages 9 and below.
- Recognizing and educating the need for very young players to participate in other sports and/or take time off without pressure or requirements to play year round.

Method:

- Create developmental leagues based on similarly competitive groups of select teams from clubs that qualify under the developmental criteria.

The number of teams each club places in Premier Division 1 and Division 2 leagues from U14 to U18 illustrates successful team development and club coaching strength. For initial placement in the **PCDL**, clubs able to field 3 or more teams in each gender, or 6 overall, in Division 1 and 2, will be considered (a 60% success rate). This method represents 70% of all teams in Premier Division 1 and Division 2 and a pool of up to 16 clubs.

Conditions:

The **Player/Club Development Committee** will be formed with 7 seats, chaired by a representative named by the Commissioners. Clubs will be represented with 3 seats. Districts will be represented with 3 seats. Initial assignment of the seats will come from the participating pool of Districts and Clubs. The **PCDC** will hear and adjudicate all ethical and league rule issues related to the **PCDL**, and charged with the following tasks immediately:

PDC Assignments:

- Developing and implementing a **Player Pass**. The **Player Pass** is a roster exemption for developmental shifts with a guarantee of at least 30% playing time for all upward or lateral shifts, and 60% playing time for all downward shifts.
- Refining the methods for evaluating the coaching programs across the state by the **PCDC**, based on the above listed method and criteria. Clubs showing commitment to those developmental principles will be included in the **PCDL**.
- Determination of division size, composition and league dates for both the spring and fall leagues will be determined by the **PCDC**. Clubs participating in the

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**PCDL** can field up to 3 teams in each age bracket in the first year, amendable by the **PCDC** in successive years.

League Proposals:

U11 and U12 based on Coaching Director input via the **PCDC**. Utilize 12-16 team leagues with cross-over matrix for leagues with possible interplay.

U13 established like a CYL using (weighted) league RPI, State Cup RPI, Spring League RPI and Coaching Director input via the **PDC**.

Timelines:

1. January - Ratification of the charter Developmental League; seating the **PCDC**; rules and ethics ratification for **PCDL**.
2. March – Tryouts and team formation.
3. April - Registration in the **PCDL**; 8 to 12 game regionally run Spring Leagues or Open Academies (April – June).
4. Encouraged, but optional, Summer Academy (July – August) or jamborees.
5. **PCDL** 8 to 12 game Fall League (September – November)
6. State Cup (January – March)

**This charter resolution will be enacted upon seating the PCDC.**

**In recognition of the developmental needs of members in the WSYSA organization, we the undersigned, are charged with setting, resolving and enforcing the highest standards of ethically and developmentally sound principles in soccer for the benefit of the player.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (PCDC Seat 1)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (PCDC Seat 2)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (PCDC Seat 3)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (PCDC Seat 4)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (PCDC Seat 5)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (PCDC Seat 6)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)