Orlando City Youth Soccer

Policies and Pledges

Players and Parents

\*Portions of this have been adapted from the United State Youth Soccer Association Code of Conduct and will be in effect for all Orlando City Youth Soccer Club activities.

2020/2021 Seasonal Year ECNL/Academy Fees and Dues\*

2019/2020 fees

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Birth Year/Level | Deposit | Annual Club Dues | Total Club Fees |
| 2012 | $400 | $799 | $1199 |
| 2010-2011 | $400 | $999 | $1399 |
| 2001-2009 | $400 | $1599 | $1999 |
| 2001-2007/ECNL | $400 | $2450 | $2850 |

**Payment of Registration Fees and Annual Club Dues**

* Payment for the deposit and annual club dues can be made by credit card or by submitting a check or cash to the OCYS office at: 1900 Seminole Soccer Loop, Sanford, FL 32771
* **If an installment plan is selected a credit card must be added to the player profile for installment payments.** Payments will automatically process on the 1st of each month beginning July1, 2019. Individual monthly statements will not be mailed out; therefore all monthly payments are the responsibility of the player’s guardian. There will be a late fee of $25 charged after the 30th of each month if your draft is declined or payment has not been received. Failure to pay your fees within thirty (30) days of the fee payment due date, for both Club Dues and Team Fees, may result in the revocation of the player’s pass by the Club Registrar and will be held by OCYS until past due payment is received. Player’s will be unable to participate in any and all team practices camps, games and tournaments until account is in good standing. OCYS does realize that emergencies may result in financial strain on the family and in order to keep the player from being placed in Not in Good Standing, the Club will work with the family. Please contact the Club Administrator immediately, in the event of such emergencies.
* **Installment plans are set up to cover the full seasonal year. Installments are to be paid regardless of time off due to high school, minor injuries, vacations, etc. \* Installment plans do include a finance charge.**
* **No Registration fee deposit or Club dues will be refunded or forgiven because of player absences(s), withdraws, or release from the club.** Exceptions would only be:\*
  + In in the event of medically documented proof of player injury that prevents him/her playing for more than sixty (60) days. .
  + Due to a parent’s job relocation out of the area, beyond 100 miles. Proof of the location shall be accompanied with the online release form.
  + Proration will be applied with proper documentation accompanied with the online release form, available in Resources and Forms on the OCYS web site

\* ECNL – no player can be dropped from an ECNL roster during the seasonal year – August 31st – July 31st.

* + **Financial Hardship Considerations:** If you need to make alternate payment arrangements or to extend payments, please contact the club administrator immediately. Should you wish to apply for financial assistance, you must complete the online Financial Aid Application and submit the required documents with that form. The form is available in Resources and Forms & Financial Policies on the OCYS web site. Required documents are as follows:
  + **A copy of previous year’s federal income tax return or international equivalent.** If you do not file federal income taxes, please call 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676) for a verification letter.
  + **Two most recent paycheck stubs or letter from your employer verifying your employment** and stating your annual salary. If you are unemployed, draw social security or a full-time student; please provide a summary of your unemployment benefits, SSI paperwork, or student financial aid benefits.
  + Acceptance of the financial aid award will require volunteer hours to be served in addition to the club service hours. **A $100 commitment fee is required at the time of signing, regardless of financial award.** Any financial aid monies that are granted are for Club Dues only. Team fees are separate, are not included in any financial aid award and are the responsibility of the player’s guardian.
  + **Sibling Discount:** Families with two (2) or more children registered with OCYS in the same playing season will receive a discount in the amount of 10% off of the Annual Club Dues for each child. The sibling discount does not include the deposit.
  + **OCYS Coach, Board Member, and Full time Employees of OCYS and OCSC**: These members will receive a discount on program/registration fees for the child(ren). Contact the Administration Manager for details. The discount is a 50% reduction in team fee and cannot be combined with any other discount. Should the OCYS coach, employee, BOD member or OSCS employee leave their position the discount is null and void and the full registration fee will be applied.
  + **Discounts cannot be stacked. Discounts are not applied if financial aid has been applied to an account.**

Fees include, but not limited to:

* A non-refundable deposit
* Team Camp
* League Registration Fees
* Club Administration Fees
* Field Usage Fees (outside of the complex)
* Maintenance and upkeep of Seminole Soccer Club fields (owned by 501(C) (3) Seminole Soccer Club, dba. OCYS)
* Seminole Soccer Complex/Office Utilities
* 1st League Referee fees
* Referee Assignor fees
* Club Training Fees, including coach salary
* Coach Education
* Specialized training sessions
* Goalkeeper in season training sessions
* Player registration fees, as set by ECNL, FYSA and US Club Soccer.
* State Competition Application fee or other team appropriate Competition

Team Fees include, but not limited to:

*\*It is important to note that the individual Team Fees are separate expenses from the Annual Club Dues*

Team fees must be paid directly to the team manager/treasurer by check or through the online team snap payment portal.

Team fees include:

* Elective tournament entry fee as determined by Club and/or Coach for each individual team.
* Coaches travel expenses, as specified in the OCYS Financial Polices under Coach per diem in Resources and Forms available on the OCYS web site.
* Participation in Annual Cancer T-Shirt Fundraiser
* College Coach Pamphlets
* Team Snap Payment – paid to OCYS
* Non-league referee fees or 2nd league referee fees
* Scrimmage referee/Scrimmage game fees
* Team basket for annual OCYS Golf Tournament

**OCYS Uniform Kit:** **Purchased from Soccer.com by player’s guardian.** Level 1 - Full kit including 2 game jerseys, 2 game shorts, 2 game sock sets, 2 training jerseys, 1 training short, 1 training sock set, 1 warm-up (jacket & pant), and 1 back pack; approximately $350-$375 depending on size. Kit without warm-up, approximately $260-$275, depending on size. The kit changes every 2 years; 2019/20 Season will be the first year of a cycle.

**Additional Considerations**

Player/Family Travel Expenses: Possible additional Player/Family travel expenses. The amount varies depending on the mode of travel, hotel and meal expenses incurred by the player/family for each tournament and/or league play. These expenses are the personal responsibility of each player/family.

**Pre-Season Camp**

Pre-Season Camp will start on or about August 3rd **. This camp is mandatory.** All players and teams should be in town and prepared to start on that date. The Pre-Season Team Camp will also include day-time training and evening training during the week. In-house friendlies may also be planned during the weekend.

**Club Expectations:**

1. A professionally licensed coach for all games and training.
   * Should your coach need to miss a game or should a coaching change be necessary at some point in the season for any reason, arrangements will be made to cover for /replace the coach with another professionally licensed coach.
2. Placement on a team that best fits the player’s ability based on coaches’ evaluation at tryouts and throughout the season.
   * Rosters are subject to change throughout the season based on individual player development and progress.
3. Training space at the Seminole Soccer Complex, Boombah Sport Complex and/or Econ Sports Complex
4. Participation in an organized league that suits the skill level of the team as determined by OCYS Directors of Coaching and the respective league.
5. One formal player evaluation.
6. Instruction based on OCYS Curriculum

**OCYS Mission**

Orlando City Youth Soccer Club (OCYS) is committed to providing opportunity for all and to the development of players, coaches, referees, parents, staff and volunteers. OCYS takes great responsibility in being a leader in Florida as a soccer club that offers programming for all levels and ages by providing quality coaching and training in a positive and safe environment. We promote the development of character and work with integrity.

**C**ommitment

**I**ntegrity

**T**eamwork

**Y**ou

Community Service Program/Volunteers – How can you help? Contact Us.

As a non-profit 501(C) (3) Orlando City Youth Soccer greatly depends on volunteers. Volunteers play a critical role in making the club the best we can be for our players, our families and our communities. All families are required to volunteer 5 hours per seasonal year to assist with running various club events including Orlando City Cup, Winter Classic, ECNL Showcases, Tryouts and our Annual Golf Tournament. Families receiving financial aid are expected to volunteer up to 10 hours.

Information about Community Service opportunities will be communicated throughout the season through club email, coaches and team managers. If you have any questions about community service opportunities or have expertise in a specific area (marketing, fundraising, special events etc.) with which you can donate your time, please contact Nick Calo at ncalo@ocyouthsoccer.com.

**Player and Parent Responsibilities**

Playing for Orlando City Youth Soccer ECNL and Academy teams is done through a selective tryout process and it comes with certain obligations and commitments by both the player and the parents/guardian of the player/s. These commitments and obligations are set forth below and are expected to be adhered to when you accept the officer to join on of our teams.

**Player Pledge**

* Players are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner which is in keeping with representing OCYS and not bring discredit upon the organization. Players shall maintain the highest standard of conduct and good sportsmanship.
* Players shall refrain from using profanity during training and games.
* Player will show respect toward referees, opposing teams, and fans. They will not harass abuse or berate a referee for any reason.
* Players shall not participate in physical violence or threats thereof during training or games.
* Attendance at training and all games is mandatory for development. Failure to attend will impact playing time and continuation on the team.
* Players should bring cleats, running shoes, shin guards, water, and properly inflated soccer ball to training.
* Players are expected to show respect for all coaches and adhere to all instructions.
* Players shall be on time and prepared for all practices and games as outlined by their coach. All team training, meetings and activities are essential for player development; the coach or team representative must be notified in each instance in which a player is unable to attend scheduled team activity.
* Players will play within the Spirit and Laws of the Game.
* Players are expected to wear the approved club attire during training and games.
* Playing time is not automatic; it is earned. Players normally will receive enough playing time for their continued development. However, the coach will determine an individual player’s actual playing time. Playing time may not be equal in a game or weekend. Playing time should be measured over the course of the season.
* Players should strive constantly for high academic achievement and scholastic standing. Players need to know that to participate in high school athletics, FHSA requirements state that each player maintains a 2.0 in each subject. Also academic achievement will be the athlete’s best ally or worst enemy when pursuing the college of his/her choice. Coaches may periodically ask players for a copy of his/her report card.
* Player use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action – including dismissal from the team.
* OCYS’s Academy program is a full year commitment, running nine to ten months, depending upon the team. Players continued participation on the team they are originally placed on will depend on this commitment and effort. Players may be asked to move to a different team if their commitment and effort is deemed insufficient for the team they are on.
* Players will check in at OCYS office before training and/or using in any way the fields at the Seminole Soccer Complex. Players will abide by any field closed signs.

**Parent Pledge**

* Parents/Guardians will be their player’s biggest fan, not their biggest critic.
* Parents/Guardians participate in a game by watching, cheering and supporting the efforts of all participants
* Parents/Guardians will respect the game officials/referees by not engaging with them by any means.
* Parents/Guardians must understand that the game is for the players, their participation and enjoyment is the most essential element.
* Parents/Guardians shall not coach or otherwise instruct players during practices or games.
* Parents/Guardians will not speak negatively about any coach/referee/player at training or on the sideline during a game.
* Parents/Guardians will maintain a professional relationship with the team coach and/or covering coach and avoid a confrontation immediately following the game. Should a parent need to talk with a coach, a full 24 hours is required before contact can be made.
* Parents/Guardians will encourage their player to speak with their coach regarding; missing training, match/game availability, playing time etc.
* Parents/Guardians will exhibit good sportsmanship and refrain from foul language and verbal abuse of players, coaches, referees, opponents or spectators.
* Parents/Guardians shall avoid “reply all” email chains with concerns regarding the team and shall interact directly with the coach to address those concerns.
* Parents/Guardians are expected to have their child on time for training and games.
* Parents/Guardians or Player are expected to notify the coach or team representative in each instance in which a player is unable to attend a scheduled team activity.
* This is a team/club commitment. All players are expected to attend all training, games and team events. I pledge to adhere to that commitment.
* Parents/Guardians shall stay current on all financial obligations to OCYS and the team.
* Parents/Guardians are encouraged to get involved with the Club and promote the game in a positive way.
* Parents/Guardians will refrain from parking in the Handicap Parking or Office/Concession Parking Lot during training and/or games.
* Parents/Guardians will remain off of grassed training area during training. Parents/Guardians will remain in a pavilion and/or parking area, allowing their player to fully focus on their coach and team.
* Parents/Guardians will pick up or make arrangements to have their player picked up directly following training or a game. A team representative will be notified directly if an emergency arises to which a player’s ride is late or cannot make it.
* Parents/Guardians will not use alcohol, tobacco, or drugs on or near the training or game fields.
* Parents/Guardians will check in at OCYS office before training and/or using in any way the fields at the Seminole Soccer Complex. Parents/Guardians will abide by any field closed signs.

**Goalkeeper Program Expectation**

The goalkeeper program at Orlando City Youth Soccer is designed to provide players who are interested in, part-time, and full-time dedicated goalkeepers to develop the technical, tactical, physical, and psycho-social skill-sets to be successful and grow in the position. In line with the club’s player-centered development philosophy, the mission of the program is to provide player-centered instruction and training within as close to match-realistic constraints as possible. Training and instruction provided through field sessions, classroom sessions, and written evaluations.

This program is provided as part of the club fee and does not require additional cost.

Expectations of Goalkeepers

* All GKs
  + Attend at least one of the 2x weekly GK training sessions based on age-band and team level
  + Wear proper GK training clothing (gloves, boots, shin-guards, OCYS training kit, long sleeves preferred but not required)
  + Communicate with coaching staff if unable to attend GK training by 4pm on day of training.
  + Journal to record training goals, training outcomes, and match performance/reflection.
* ECNL GKs
  + Attend all scheduled GK training sessions (2x per week) – In addition to team sessions
  + Wear proper GK training attire (Black OCYS training top, Black shorts, Black Socks) – long sleeve underneath and long tights recommended but not required.
  + GK Gloves
  + Training Journal to record sessions, coaching points, and goals.
  + Watch game film, cut clips, and email to GK Director for feedback.

**Zero Tolerance For Abuse**

**ABUSE TOLERANCE**

Orlando City Youth Soccer (OCYS) has a **zero tolerance for abuse** in all youth soccer teams, programs or activities. It is the responsibility of every coach, employee and volunteer to participate in the effort to create a safe environment for all soccer participants.

**Definitions**

**OCYS ACTIVITY**

“OCYS” Activity includes Orlando City Youth Soccer club and our registered members registered through the United States Youth Soccer Association, Florida Youth Soccer Association, or US Club Soccer. OCYS activities include but are not limited to, National Championship Series, (State, Regional and National), National President Cup Series (State, Regional and National), Elite Clubs National League, as well as regional competitions/leagues, National League, Olympic Development Programs and State Association soccer related activities that qualify any coach, assistant coach, team trainer, team manager , team treasurer, referee, or any other individual over the age of 18 who is affiliated with OCYS who has direct or indirect contact or influence on a youth layer whom seeks risk management certificate within the State Association shall qualify as an activity.

**Reporting Abuse or Suspicions of Abuse**

**REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES**

Given Orlando City Youth Soccer’s **zero tolerance for abuse**,OCYS encourages a culture of communication regarding matters that place athletes at risk.

OCYS supports and encourages a culture of communication related to abuse or suspected abuse of athletes. If you see o or suspect inappropriate interaction with or between athletes, it is your responsibility to report the inappropriate interaction to a coach, supervisor, team official, club administrator, or other designated OCYS representative.

Because sexual abusers ‘groom’ athletes for abuse, it is possible that a coach or volunteer may witness behavior intended to ‘groom’ a child for sexual abuse. “Grooming” behavior related to children includes, but is not limited to, befriending and establishing an emotional connection with a child, and sometimes the family, to lower the child’s inhibitions with the objective of sexual abuse. Players and parents are encouraged to report ‘grooming’ behavior, any policy violations, or any suspicious behaviors to a supervisor, team official, club administrator of OCYS, or other designated OCYS representative.

All reports of inappropriate behaviors or suspicions of abuse will be taken seriously and will be reported, in a concordance with the Policies and Pledges and state law, to law enforcement, Child Protective Services, or other appropriate agency.

**HOW TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT**

**Who is required to report child abuse?**

All OCYS staff, coaches and any other adults who are authorized to interact with minor athletes at a facility under the jurisdiction of OCYS, MUST REPORT any suspected child abuse/neglect, including sexual abuse, WITHIN 24 HOURS of being made aware of the suspected abuse.

Failure to report suspected child abuse is subject to criminal penalties.

**What is required?**

All individuals who are required to report must report suspected child abuse to **EACH AND EVERY** entity pertaining to specific case per listed below:

* Florida Department of Children and Families: 800-962-2873 information needed: <http://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/abuse-hotline/howtoreport>
* Orlando City Youth Soccer Club Executive Director:
  1. Laura Halfpenny 407-321-5264 or
  2. Tanya Neidert Administration 407-321-5264
* When involving a U.S. Soccer Representative –
  1. U.S. Soccer Integrity Hotline Number 312-528-7004
  2. U.S. Soccer Integrity Hotline website: <https://www.ussoccer.com/integrity-hotline>

**RESPONSE TO REPORT OF ABUSE**

When a report of abuse or neglect occurs, team or Club representatives will take the necessary and appropriate action to ensure a safe environment for the person at risk. Moreover, OCYS will not retaliate against anyone that repots an abuse issue.

**PROHIBITED PHYSICAL CONTACT**

Prohibited forms of physical contact include, without limitation:

1. Asking or having a minor athlete sit in the lap of a coach or volunteer;
2. Lingering or repeated embrace of a minor athlete that goes beyond the criteria set forth for acceptable physical contact;
3. Slapping, hitting, punching, kicking or any other physical contact meant to discipline, punish or achieve compliance from a minor athlete; (e.g., “butts up” game)
4. “Cuddling” or maintaining prolonged physical contact of a minor athlete furing any aspect of training, travel or overnight stay;
5. Playful, yet inappropriate contact that is not a part of regular training, (e.g., butt pats, tickling or wrestling-type “horseplay”);
6. Continued physical contact that makes a minor athlete obviously uncomfortable, whether expressed or not;
7. Any contact that is contrary to a previously expressed personal desire by the minor athlete for decreased or not physical contact, where such decreased contact is feasible in a competitive training environment.

**Misconduct**

**BULLYING**

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at any OCYS Activity and will not be tolerated. Bullying is counterproductive to team spirit and can be devastating to the victim. OCYS is committed to providing a safe, caring and friendly environment for all participants. If bullying does occur, incidents, incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. Any minor athlete who is aware of bullying behavior is expected to tell a coach, team official, OCYS Administrator or other OCYS representative.

Objectives of OCYS’s Bullying Policy and Action Plan:

1. To clearly communicate that OCYS will not tolerate bullying in any form.
2. To define bullying and give minor athletes, coaches, volunteers and parents a suitable understanding of those behaviors that constitute ‘bullying’.
3. To make it known to minor athletes, coaches and volunteers that a policy and protocol exist should a bullying issue arise.
4. To clearly communicate how to report bullying behavior.
5. To communicate to minor athletes, coaches, volunteers and parents that OCYS takes bullying seriously, and will immediately investigate and address all reports of bullying.

**HARASSMENT**

Harassment is the repeated pattern of physical and/or non-physical behaviors that

1. Are intended to cause fear, humiliation or annoyance;
2. Offend or degrade;
3. Create a hostile environment;
4. Reflect discriminatory bias in a n attempt to establish dominance, superiority or power over an individual athlete or group based on gender, race ethnicity, culture, religion or mental or physical disability; or
5. Any act or conduct described as harassment under federal or state law.

Examples of harassment prohibited in OCYS Activities include, without limitation:

**Physical offenses;** Behaviors that include

1. Hitting, pushing, punching, beating, biting, striking, kicking, choking or slapping a minor athlete or participant;
2. Throwing at or hitting a minor athlete with objects including sporting equipment.

**Non-physical offenses;** Behaviors that include

1. Making negative or disparaging comments about an athlete’s disability, religion, skin color or ethnic traits;
2. Displaying offensive materials, gestures, or symbols; and
3. Withholding or reducing playing time to an athlete based on his or her disability, religion, skin color, or ethnic traits.

**HAZING**

Hazing is defined as coercing, requiring, forcing or willfully tolerating any humiliating, unwelcome or dangerous activity that serves as a condition for

1. An athlete joining a group;
2. An athlete being socially accepted by a group’s members; or
3. Any act or conduct described as hazing under federal or state law.

Hazing does not include group or team activities that are meant to establish normative team behaviors or promote team cohesion.

Examples of hazing prohibited in OCYS include, without limitation:

1. Requiring, forcing or otherwise requiring an athlete to consume alcohol or illegal drugs;
2. Tying, taping or otherwise physically restraining an athlete;
3. Sexual simulations or sexual acts of any nature;
4. Sleep deprivation, otherwise unnecessary schedule disruption or the withholding of water and/or food;
5. Social actions (e.g. grossly inappropriate or provocative clothing) or public displays (e.g. public nudity) that are illegal or meant to draw ridicule;
6. Beating, paddling or other forms of physical assault; and
7. Excessive training requirements directed at a particular athlete or group of athletes.

Activities that fit the definition of hazing are considered to be hazing regardless of an athlete’s willingness to cooperate or participate.

**WILLFULLY TOLERATING MISCONDUCT**

It is a violation of OCYS’s Pledge, if a coach, volunteer or participant knows of misconduct, but takes not action to intervene on behalf of the minor athlete(s). Al forms of misconduct should be reported to a coach, team official, OCYS Administrator or other designated OCYS representative.

**PEER-TO-PEER SEXUAL ABUSE**

Approximately 1/3 of all reported sexual abuse occurs at the hands of other children or minors. Parents and players are encouraged to report peer-to-peer sexual abuse. Whether sexual interaction between athletes constitutes ‘sexual abuse’ depends on the existence of an aggressor and whether there is an imbalance of power between the parties (e.g. an age difference between the athletes, disparity in size or the existence of a physical or intellectual disability). If you have concern that an interaction between minor athletes may constitute sexual abuse, report the interaction to a coach, team official, OCYS’s Administrator, or other OCYS representative.

**Local and Team Travel**

For some OCYS activities, travel is a standard aspect a competitive season, and OCYS provides the following policies to reduce the risk of abuse and misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase athlete safety and improve the competitive experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

We distinguish between travel to training, practice and local competition **(“local travel”)**, and team travel involving a coordinated overnight stay **(“team travel”).**

**Local Travel**

Local travel occurs when the team does not sponsor, coordinate, or arrange for travel. For local travel, athletes or their parents/guardians are responsible for making all travel arrangements. In these instances, it is the responsibility of the athlete or their parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the athlete maintains all safety and legal requirements, including but not limited to, a valid driver’s license, proper insurance, well maintained vehicle, and compliance with all state laws.

To minimize one-on-one interactions, a coach or volunteer, who is not also acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated athlete. If travel with an unrelated athlete is necessary, the coach or volunteer must drive with at least two other athletes or another adult at all times. In any case where a coach or volunteer is involved in the athlete’s local travel, a parental release is required in advance. Efforts must be made to ensure that a coach or volunteer is not alone with an athlete or participant, by, e.g., picking up athletes in groups.

A coach or volunteer who is also an athlete’s guardian may provide shared transportation for any athlete(s). We encourage guardians to pick up their athlete first and drop off their athlete last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement. We also recommend completing a shared travel declaration form signed by the parent/guardian of any minor athlete who is being transported as part of such a carpool arrangement.

**Team Travel**

Team travel is overnight ravel that occurs when the team sponsors, coordinates or arranges for travel so that the team can compete locally, regionally, nationally or internationally. Coaches, volunteers and chaperones must often travel with athletes because of the greater distances involved in team travel. Team travel requires adequate supervision throught coaches, volunteers and other adult chaperones.

If necessary, athletes will share rooms, with 2-4 athletes assigned per room depending on accommodations. A team representative will notify hotel management regarding any special arrangements; for example a team representative will requires the hotel to block pay-per-view channels and will request an additional large room or suite such that athletes may socialize as a group. Team meetings do not occur in hotel rooms (of the coach or an athlete); a team representative will reserve a spate space for adults and athletes to socialize.

To ensure the propriety of athletes and to protect coaches and volunteers, there will be no male athletes in the rooms of female athletes, and no female athletes in the rooms of male athletes (unless the athletes are siblings accompanied by a parent/guardian). A coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an athlete, unless the coach is the parent, guardian, sibling or spouse of that athlete.

When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theaters, tec., athletes will stay in groups of no less than three persons. Athletes who are 12 years of age and under will be accompanied by an adult chaperone at all times.

Athletes are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Athletes are not to leave the competition venue, the hotel, a restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered, without the knowledge and permission of the coach, volunteer or chaperone.

We encourage family members who wish to stay in the team hotel to do so. If family members do not stay in the team hotel, we encourage all athletes to call parents and guardians regularly. A team representative will allow unscheduled calls to the athlete by a parent/guardian, if requested by either the athlete or the parent/guardian.

Additional policies regarding OCYS team travel:

* We strongly encourage players to travel together as a team when possible.
* An itinerary should be given to all the players by the coach or manager before departure to any out of town tournament.
* Players must follow the itinerary at all times.
* If 5 or more players are flying to a tournament together, they should wear khaki pants or shorts and their OCYS training shirt or OCYS warm-up jacket. All players must dress the same.
* Teams should travel from the hotel to the fields and back together when possible.
* Players must dress uniformly when departing for games.
* Using the swimming pool, Jacuzzi, exercise equipment or the like smut be done with permission from the coach.
* Every person associated with the Orlando City Youth Soccer Club must follow the rules of the hotel in which they are staying.
* Players are not allowed to run around, play soccer in the hotel hallways, or walk around barefoot or shirtless.
* If the tournament allows both male and female teams, casual association during free time will be allowed in public areas, but NO player will enter the rooms of players of the opposite sex.

**Electronic Communications & Social Media**

All electronic communications between a coach and minor athlete must be professional in nature and for communication information about program activities.

As with any communication, the content of any electronic communication should be readily available to share with the athlete’s family. At the request of a parent or guardian, any email, electronic text, social media or similar communication will copy or include the athlete’s parent or guardians.

FACEBOOK, INSTRAGRAM, BLOGS AND SIMILAR SITES

Any coaches or volunteers that communicate with minor athletes through sites like Facebook or Instagram must communicate only in group and public form (no private communication). If a Facebook page is used for a team, all coaches and parents must be included. Coaches may not have athletes join a personal social media page. All posts, messages, texts, or media of any kind shared among athletes or between coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for communicating information about team activities or for team-oriented motivational purposes.

TWITTER, INSTANT MESSAGING AND SIMILAR MEDIA

All communication is to be public in nature. Coaches and minor athletes may “follow” each other. Coaches cannot “re-tweet” athlete message posts. Coaches and volunteers are not permitted to “direct message” minor athletes through Twitter (or similar media).

EMAIL AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Athletes and coaches may use email to communicate if the athlete is at least 14 years of age. All email content between coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for communicating information about program activities. Where possible, the minor athlete’s parent should be copied on email communications. Email communication between coaches and minor athletes is allowed during the hours of 7am and 10pm.

TEXTING, SNAPCHAT, AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Texting is allowed between coaches and a minor athlete if the athlete is at least 14 years of age. Where possible, texts between a coach and an athlete must be a group text – the text should include another athlete, volunteer, a parent, or another coach/assistant. All texts between a coach and an athlete must be professional and for communicating information about team activities. No texting is allowed between a coach and an athlete before 7am or after 10pm, unless there is a specific soccer activity that requires a text communication.

The use of Snapchat (and similar apps) with minor athletes is not permitted.

ELECTRONIC IMAGERY

From time to time, digital photos, videos of practice or competition, and other publicly obtainable images of the minor athlete – individually or in groups – may be taken. These photos and/or videos may be used for athlete instruction (i.e. practice and game films), team videos, team websites, or offered to athlete’s families. The use of photos/videos is permissible if the athlete or athletes are in public view and such imagery is both appropriate and in the best interest of the athlete and the program. Photo or video imagery must not be contrary to any rules or guidance outlined in this Code of Conduct.

REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE

The parent or guardian of a minor athlete may request in writing that their athlete not be contacted by coaches through any electronic communication; that request must be honored. Additionally, a parent or guardian of a minor athlete may request in writing that photographs or videography of their athlete not be posted on program or team websites, understanding that group photography or videography may render this impracticable; to the extent this request is practicable, it should be honored. Any such requests shall be in writing and provided to the coach AND a OCYS representative.

MISCONDUCT

Social media and electronic communication can be used inappropriately. (i.e., emotional abuse, sexual abuse, bullying, harassment, and hazing). Such communication by coaches, volunteers, official, administrators, parents or other athletes will not be tolerated.

Electronic communication should not contain or relate to any of the following:

1. Drugs or alcohol use;
2. Sexually oriented conversation, sexually explicit language or sexual activity;
3. An adult’s personal life, social activities, relationship or family issues, or personal problems; and
4. Inappropriate or sexually explicit pictures.

Any communication concerning a minor athlete’s personal life, social activities, relationships, family issues or personal problems must be transparent, accessible and professional.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Orlando City Youth Soccer (“OCYS”) recognizes the importance of the Internet in shaping the public’s perception of our organization. OCYS also recognized the importance of our players, parents, coaches, directors of coaching, administrative staff, and board of directors in leading and setting the tone of social media interactions in a manner that advances OCYS’s mission and goals.

Applicability

This Social Media Policy applies to all OCYS players, parents, coach’s directors of coaching, administrative staff, and board of directors (“OCYS Members”). This Social Media Policy applies to all social media content posted by OCYS Members in their professional and person capacity to the extent such content is related to OCYS.

Guidelines

All OCYS Members shall abide by the following guidelines when using social media:

* OCYS members shall not post content that would harm OCYS or damage OCYS’s reputation. Remember that even while you are on your own personal time, you are a representative of OCYS, ad people may interpret your online postings or social interactions as though they were official OCYS statements.
* OCYS members should use good judgment when posting comments on any official OCYS sites. OCYS members should keep in mind that his/her comments can create liability for OCYS. If a OCYS member is unsure whether a comment is appropriate to post, the member shall either not post the comment or obtain prior approval from the OCYS staff.
* OCYS members shall use good judgement about what he or she publishes on Social Media. Once something is posted, it exists online forever.
* OCYS members shall encourage others to engage in positive interactions on social media. If a OCYS member is concerned about any OCYS member’s use of social media, he/she should bring his/her concerns to the attention of a OCYS director of coaching or member of the OCYS Board of Directors.
* Personally identifiable information (information, such as a name and date of birth and/or a street address which, when taken together, can identify a particular individual) should not be disclosed in any manner on official OCYS social networking sites without the approval of a OCYS Director of Coaching or OCYS Board of Directors.
* OCYS members shall take full responsibility for their online profile, including their posts and any photos, videos or their recordings posted by others in which he/she appears.
* OCYS members shall not degrade their opponents before, during or after games.
* OCYS members shall post only positive things about his/her teammates, coaches, opponents and officials.

Violations of the Social Media Policy

OCYS shall have the authority to monitor and enforce this Social Media Policy. OCYS reserves the right to remove any inappropriate or offensive comments from official OCYS sites and to block any individual or organization from posting on any official OCYS social media platform if they determine, in their sole discretion, that such removal or block is in the best interests of OCYS.

The failure of any OCYS Member to adhere to this Social Media Policy shall be considered a violation of the OCYS Code of Conduct, and any OCYS Member who fails to adhere to this Social Media Policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of such individual’s involvement in OCYS, in accordance with the OCYS Disciplinary Procedures.

**Parental Contact and Involvement**

Parents of minor athletes will be contacted if their athlete becomes ill, injured, or has a severe disciplinary problem while participating in a USYS Activity.

It is a general rule that parents are not allowed to coach their own child’s team in the Academy or ECNL program*. Exceptions may be made at younger age groups based on staffing issues that best suit the organization.*

**Equal Treatment**

Any non-consensual physical contact, obscene or profane language or gesture, or other threatening language or conduct directed towards any player, official, parent, or OCYS personnel having any connection to OCYS is strictly prohibited.

Officials and players will be treated with respect during all OCYS events. While coaches are permitted to question an official regarding a call, coaches, parents, players and spectators are not permitted to disparage, ridicule, or otherwise engage in threatening or harassing conduct toward an official or player. Only coaches or their designees are permitted to give direction to players during games and/or practices.

**Physical Restraint**

Physical restraint will be used only when necessary to protect the child or other children from harm. When physical restraint is administered, the situation must be immediately documented in writing to the appropriate Director of Coaching.

**Recruitment and Guest Playing**

A competitive and/or recreational player is obligated to his/her team for the seasonal year from the time he/she signs a contract or is rostered to a team until the end of the current seasonal year.

Soccer is a team sport; a player makes a commitment to the team at initial registration as well as to the affiliate for the seasonal year.

FYSA Rule:

401.5 Player POACHING There is to be NO improper contact between the prospective team and the player/parents of currently registered and/or rostered players. Any coach or member of a team having contact with a player after a player is registered and/or rostered, without first obtaining written permission from that player’s coach, will be construed as having had improper contact with a player, and such action can result in a charge of poaching.

1. Improper contact is defined as any communication with a player other than the most casual, cordial communication necessary such as congratulations at the end of a match or similar such conversations. This contact specifically includes, but is not limited to, players participating in practices, training sessions, scrimmages or other soccer-related functions.

2. Improper contact shall also include, but is not limited to, meetings with players/parents, attendance at team social functions when the player is not registered to that team, etc.

3. Any such improper contact, no matter how generated, is prohibited without prior written notification and written consent of the player’s current head coach, the club director of coaching and/or players, or the Agent of Record of the club to which the player is currently registered and/or rostered. A coach/volunteer or member of a team having contact with a player is charged with the knowledge of that player’s registration and/or roster status and shall be held accountable for any unauthorized contact with any player currently not rostered to his team, regardless of how that contact is initiated or by whom.

A. No coach, assistant coach, trainer, team representative, registered player, parent or advertisement may offer any kind of inducement to recruit a player and/or to transfer from his/her respective team, during

the seasonal year as defined September 1 through August 31.

Inducing a player includes, but is not limited solicitation to leave the current affiliate, offering a currently rostered player a roster spot on an existing team, or a roster spot for the next seasonal year.

Coaches are responsible for the actions of the all of the above listed participants of their team.

B. Players: Players shall be allowed to attend publicly announced tryouts held in accordance with Rule 401.6 for the next seasonal year of any FYSA affiliated club. Players will not be required to obtain written permission from their current affiliate.

All currently registered players shall become free agents at the completion of FYSA’s State Cup Final Four or elimination from National Championship Competitions (whichever is later) or at a date as may be set by the BOD.

At this time, all restrictions as to guest playing and contact between parties shall be lifted until such time as the player (and parent) executes a contract or registration for the next seasonal year.

C. Coach: All coaches are obligated to the registering affiliate for the complete seasonal year defined as September 1 through August 31. Agreement by contract between the parties may shorten or lengthen this period. A coach shall be bound by the following conditions:

1. For an affiliate to recruit the services of a registered coach, the requesting affiliate must first notify in writing the agent of record of the coach’s current club. There shall be no contact with any currently registered coach prior to March 1st, unless permission is granted in writing by the affiliate’s agent of record, or designee.

2. A currently registered coach may not contact a prospective club prior to March 1st, without written permission of their currently registered affiliate’s agent of record, or designee. After March 1st contact may be affected with written notification to the current affiliate. Once tryouts have commenced, coaches are bound to the affiliate.

3. A currently registered coach who decide during a seasonal year to change clubs shall not solicit, entice or induce in any manner players they are currently coaching to move to his/her new club until after the completion of State Cup Finals or further National Championship competitions.

4. Violation of any of the above standards is tantamount to poaching.

ECNL No Drop Policy:

No ECNL registered player may be dropped from an ECNL roster during and ECNL season, except pursuant to the release and transfer regulations.

A player may only be rostered to ECNL teams within one (1) ECNL member club, each ECNL season, except pursuant to the release and transfer regulations.

Criteria to Transfer:

The following must be met for a player to be eligible to transfer during the ECNL Regular Season:

1. The ECNL Registered Player’s family moves to a new geographic area or the Director of Coaching of

both the prior ECNL Member Club and the proposed new ECNL Member Club consent to the transfer in writing

(email chain is suggested);

1. The new ECNL Member Club has an available permanent roster spot on an ECNL Roster; and

3. The ECNL Commissioner consents to such transfer in writing.

4. ECNL reviews all player transfer request on a case-by-case basis

US Club:

* 1. Club Loyalty Rule. 2.9.1 Rule 2.9 applies to all FPL Registered Players except for the enumerated exceptions provided in Rule 2.9.3. After being registered as a FPL Registered Player for a FPL Season, a FPL Registered Player may only participate in competitions for that FPL Club for the duration of the FPL Season. (For purposes of clarification, the FPL Registered Player may appear in any competition in which the FPL Club participates during the FPL Season.) If a FPL Registered Player plays in a competition for a different club besides the FPL Club to which the player is registered as a FPL Registered Player after the date the player became rostered as a FPL Registered Player (“Multiple Club Rostering”), the eligibility of the FPL Registered Player will be reviewed by the FPL League office. If it is determined by the FPL League Office, at their sole discretion, that the FPL Club to which the FPL Registered Player is registered was aware of the Multiple Club Rostering, US Club Soccer may take any or all of the following actions: (i) declaring the FPL Registered Player ineligible for the remainder of that FPL Season; (ii) declaring all games in which the FPL Registered Player appeared on the FPL Roster as forfeits by the FPL team on which such player was rostered; and / or (iii) recommending immediate revocation of the FPL Club’s membership in the FPL.

OCYS Policy:

1. Following the binding date, recruitment of a player who has appropriately executed a Commitment to a Club and/or has been rostered is prohibited.
2. Prohibited recruiting is defined as effort to induce a registered player of any team after the binding date, who has appropriately executed a commitment with an USYS and/or US Club member association, to join a team with another member association during the current seasonal year or the next seasonal year. Recruiting is any action or statement, made by any team representative as defined, either verbally or in writing that encourages or entices a plyer to register with a particular coach, team, association or other programs.
3. Efforts to induce a player to transfer will include but shall not be limited to the following:
4. A player participating in any type of unauthorized practice or tryout with a team other than the one the player is currently registered. This restriction will not apply for a player who freely chooses to tryout out for another team during Open Try out period.
5. An offer or promise of college scholarships, free uniforms, discounted team fees, and/or negative statements, which could affect the decision of a player regarding choice of teams.
6. Team representatives include parents and players.
7. Guest players must have a direct request in writing, phone call, or email to the head coach of the team that the player is currently rostered, or from the director of coaching of the players association. Failure to contact the coach or Director of Coaching can be a violation of recruiting.
8. Prospective players are not permitted to attend any OCYS training/event in order to be evaluated for a team if the player is currently rostered with another Club. Coaches must have the OCYS administrator verify through the USYS/US Club that the player is not currently rostered with another affiliate prior to the player attending any OCYS event.

GUEST PLAYING PROCEDURE:

1. The following process is mandatory in order to have a player currently rostered to another team participate in any capacity with another team. Participation includes tournaments, scrimmages, league play, practices, trips, camps or any other activity that the team is a participant.
   1. The head coach desiring the participation of a player must direct a request in writing, phone call, or email to the head coach of the team that the player is currently rostered, or from the director of coaching of the players association.
   2. The individual contacted must grant approval for such participation prior to the player partaking in any event or activity.
   3. If the player’s current coach or director of coaching does not grant approval for the player to participate in the event or activity, then that player is not permitted to participate.
2. Non-compliance with the guest playing provision by a coach shall be deemed both unethical and a violation of the recruitment provision.
3. A player that participates in any event or activity as a guest player without the permission of their current coach or director of coaching shall be subject to disciplinary action.

**Release Request Policy**

In order for a release request to be reviewed and approved or declined, an online request form must be completed. This form is available on the Orlando City Youth Soccer website, available in Resources and Forms. All necessary documents must be uploaded with the initial request. The following procedure will be followed:

* June 10th, all contacts are binding and must be paid in full prior to requesting a release.
* As of December 1st, release requests are not mandated to be processed for any reason.
* No Registration fee deposit or Club dues will be refunded or forgiven because of player absence(s), withdraws, or release from the club. Exceptions would only be:\*
* In the event of medically documented proof of player injury that prevents him/her playing for more than sixty (60) days. Online request must include pertinent medical documents.
* Due to a parent’s job relocation out of the area, beyond 100 miles. Proof of the location shall be accompanied with the online release form.
* Proration will be applied with proper documentation accompanied with online release form.
* Financial Aid is awarded to players committed for the full seasonal year. If a release is requested during the seasonal year, OCYS reserves the right to withdraw financial aid.

\*ECNL – no player can be dropped from an ECNL roster during the seasonal year – August 31st – July 31st. Please see ECNL Handbook.

**Uniform Policy**

**OCYS official Home Jersey – WHITE OCYS official Away Jersey - PURPLE**

**Purchasing Policy**

Every two years, all teams will be required to purchase a new uniform kit, unless a new Adidas style has not yet been introduced, in which case a new kit will be required upon the introduction of a new style. Purchased uniforms will be worn for the following two years in all USSF, USYS and US Club league and tournament play.

**Soccer.com**

Soccer.com is the exclusive team apparel supplier of the Orlando City Youth Soccer Club and their affiliates. Prior to ordering players will receive an email directly from soccer.com prompting your order. This email is sent out in June, in purchasing years and to new players throughout the seasonal year. Jersey numbers are supplied by the Club. Soccer.com Team services can also be reached at 877-308-7989.

**Uniform Embellishment**

Nothing may be added to any team uniform without the permission of the OCYS BOD.

**Back Pack Embellishment**

Soccer.com is responsible for all back-pack embellishments.

**Training Gear Policy**

The following are required attire for all OCYS training sessions: the OCYS training shirt, black Adidas training shorts, black Adidas socks, and soccer ball. OCYS warm up jacket and/or training pants may also be worn at training.

**Uniform Requirements**

Orlando City Youth Soccer approved uniforms are required at all OCYS games, friendlies, tournaments, etc. However, OCYS uniforms are to be worn only to OCYS approved events. DOC approval must be obtained to wear OCYS uniforms at any events without an OCYS representative. This includes 3 v 3 and Futsal Leagues. OCYS is an Adidas Club and as such Adidas is our preferred provider for all soccer gear. When purchasing new soccer gear, it is recommended that you choose the Adidas brand where possible.

Coaches and/or managers will direct each team as to which uniform color to wear for each game. Players should always bring both full uniforms to each game in the event that a uniform switch is necessary.

Shin guards must be worn with socks pulled up over the shin guards.

**Logo Policy**

Orlando City Youth Soccer and its logo are property of Orlando City Soccer Club and Orlando City Youth Soccer, Inc. We believe it is important to protect the use of the club name and its logo, so they are used only in a manner pre-approved by Orlando City Youth Soccer and Orlando City Soccer Club and with only authorized vendors. Thus, no one shall use the logo in any manner without the prior written authorization from Orlando City Youth Soccer and Orlando City Soccer Club. Failure to abide by these use restrictions may result in player/team suspension, expulsion or prosecution.

**Fundraising Policy**

**Product Sales**

All spirit wear sales will be coordinated through the club.

**Approved Team Fundraising Activities**

* Restaurant spirit nights – sponsored by Orlando City Youth Soccer
* Car Wash at the Club – sponsored by Orlando City Youth Soccer

**Use of Funds**

Money earned via fundraising activities will be kept in your team account and must be used for Club mandated expenses such as Club dues, Team Fees, uniform, and player travel. Payments made to any individual must be documented with receipts that support the payment for the soccer related expense. Receipts should be submitted to the team treasurer.

**Team Sponsors**

At this time, individual teams will not be allowed to have sponsors. Teams may accept donations but cannot offer any advertising in exchange.

**Grievance Policy and Procedures**

It is the opinion of the USSF, the governing body of FYSA and Orlando City Youth Soccer Club that the vast majority of concerns and/or complaints received by a youth soccer organization can be adequately addressed internally by the club’s coaches, Director(s) of Coaching and /or the clubs Executive Director.

Orlando City Youth Soccer encourages direct communication among coaches, players and parents. Parents have the right to make complaints about issues regarding the treatment of their child but must follow the procedures set forth below.

**Procedure for issues regarding soccer coaching actions or decisions**

If an OCYS player or parent has an issue with their coach regarding a coaching action or decision, the following steps should be followed:

* Any player or parent that has an issue with a coaching action or decision should first wait at least 24 hours following the event to address the issue. This provides all parties time to process the circumstances at issue.
* Following the 24 hour waiting period, the player and/or parent should contact their head coach to discuss the issue.
* If the issue is not resolved after speaking with the head or lead coach, the parent/player should contact the appropriate DOC with the following information: name of the person making the complaint, player’s name, coach’s name, team name, and a detailed description of the issue at hand, steps taken to resolve the issue, along with a recommended solution.
* The DOC will address the matter as soon as reasonably possible and if necessary, the DOC will meet with all parties involved to discuss the issues and come up with a resolution.
* If the issue cannot be resolved after contacting the head coach and the DOC, the player/parent may contact the Executive Director within ten (10) days of the DOC’s decision. After gathering and reviewing all the necessary information, the Executive Director will notify all parties involved of his/her decision. All decisions by the Executive Director regarding soccer coaching issues are final.

**Procedure for issues regarding violation of OCYS policies**

If a coach, parent or player is in violation of OCYS policies (including but not limited to, OCYS,s Player Pledge, Parent Pledge, Coach’s Pledge or any OCYS Policies, that individual and/or incident should be reported to the DOC.

Once a violation is reported, the following steps will be taken:

* The appropriate DOC will contact all parties involved and gather all of the pertinent information
* The information gathered will be submitted to the OCYS Disciplinary Committee
* The Disciplinary committee will schedule a meeting with the parent, player, or coach accused of policy violations and allow the accused an opportunity to present their version of the facts at issue
* The Disciplinary committee will review all of the information gathered and make a disciplinary recommendation to the Executive Director.
* The Executive Director will give the proposed disciplinary action and then notify the accused of the final ruling

The OCYS Disciplinary committee will include five (5) OCYS Directors.

Any coach, parent, or staff member who is the subject of a complaint may not serve on the OCYS Disciplinary Committee for the duration an purpose of the grievance in which they ae involved. That individual will be replaced by another OCYS Director or staff member not names or involved in the complaint.

**Private Training Policy**

The purpose of private training lessons is to enable the players to receive individual/small group instruction in specific areas of the game which would be difficult to teach in a large team environment. OCYS is in support of layer development and allows private lessons with or professional coaching staff.

Private training must be cleared with Operations be emailing [dnolan@ocyouthsoccer.org](mailto:dnolan@ocyouthsoccer.org) with dates, times and field needs for private training.

All parents/guardians and coaches must be aware of the following:

* A parent/guardian must be present for players U16 and below
* Private training is strictly voluntary. No coach may use the fact that a player participates or does not participate in private training as a factor in any team decisions, including playing time.
* OCYS does not endorse or facilitate any private training; all such sessions are based solely on an agreement between the parent/guardian and coach.
* Because private training sessions are done by a coach on his/her own time, OCYS does not keep a list of coaches that offer private training or make recommendations on coaches for private training.
* OCYS does not have any role in setting fees for any private training offered by a coach, nor does OCYS receive any fees related to such private training.
* Coaches, parents and players are reminded that they are held to OCYS’s Policies and Pledges. Even though private training sessions are not OCYS events, coaches, parents/guardians, and players should ensure that nothing related to the private training sessions would create a violation of OCYS’s Policies that would affect the coaches or players standing or participation in OCYS programs.

**Lightning Policy**

Thor lightening system we have at Seminole Soccer Complex and our expectation when the system alerts us. We expect all players, families, spectators, coaches, employees alike to follow the below in order to keep us all safe.

1.      Thor Guard predicts lightning based on electrostatic charge in the atmosphere. The system can predict based on this information that a lightning strike is possible. It gives an 8-20 minute notice prior to any strike hitting the ground within 2 miles in any direction of our sensor.

***a.    When the sensor predicts lightening one long horn will sound, and the light atop of the stadium locker room will continue to flash until clear.***

***b.    All people on the complex must seek shelter in a car or building, but not an open pavilion as it is not safe space.***

***c.    Players MUST take their belongings with them (so they do not have to return to retrieve them)***

2.       Thor Guard continually measures the static charges in the atmosphere.  Once the charges are low enough that a cloud to ground lightning strike is no longer possible within 2 miles, the system will give you the “All Clear” to resume outdoor activities. ***Three (3) horns sound to alert all it is safe to resume. At this time, and only at this time, can activities resume.***

a.   The system is not waiting a defined amount of time or waiting for lightning to be hitting a certain amount of distance away.  It is only looking to see if lightning is going to hit the ground where you are.

3.       As always, if you are at the Seminole complex and you believe there is imminent danger present due to weather activity, do not wait for the system to warn you, remove the players from the field and get to a car immediately.

**Concussion Policy & Procedures**

Florida Statute 943.0438, requires the parent or guardian and the youth who is participant in athletic competition or who is a candidate for an athletic team to sign and return an informed consent that explains the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risk of continuing to play after a concussion or head injury, each year before participating in athletic competition or engaging in ay practice, tryout, workout, or other physical activity associate with the youth’s candidacy for an athletic team.

Under Florida law a player who has a suspected concussion or head injury must be removed from play or practice. Before the player may return to practice or competition a written medical clearance to return stating that the youth athlete no longer exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or other head injury must be received from an appropriate health care professional trained in the diagnosis, evaluation, and management of concussion. In Florida, an appropriate health-care professional (AHCP is defined as either a licensed physician (MD, as per Chapter 458, Florida Statues), a licensed osteopathic physician (DO, as per Chapter 459, Florida Statutes), a licensed physician’s assistant under the supervision of a MD/DO (as per Chapters 458.347 and 459.022, Florida Statues) or a health care professional trained in the management of concussions.