

MCSL Policy for Men Under 30 in 8v8s

MCSL requires men to be 30 years of age or older to play in events and games. This policy outlines the procedures for making exception to this rule for the 8v8 sessions. Our primary goal is to provide a safe and fun environment for our community. We also recognize that some players want to enjoy playing the beautiful game with underage family members, significant others, and friends. MCSL would like to accommodate these requests if the underage players can play responsibly and in the spirit of our soccer community. The 8v8 sessions are less competitive than the 11v11 games because teams are formed at the field and we don't keep score, making them more conducive to participation by underage men. We have experimented with a small number of underage men over the past few seasons and these players have integrated well into the community.

Exception Request

Any "of-age" member of our soccer community that is already registered for the current 8v8 sessions can request an exception for a man under 30 years old to play. The request must be submitted in writing to the 8v8 Coordinator(s) with the name of the player(s), the reasons for the exception, and a pledge to inform the underage player about the rules and spirit of the community, to monitor their behavior on the field, and to take corrective action if the underage player is playing too aggressively or physically.

Decision Process

The request will be reviewed by the 8v8 Coordinator(s) and a decision will be communicated back to the requestor in writing within 2 weeks. The decisions are made on a case-by-case basis and will consider the following criteria:

- Age of the player
- Relationship to the requestor and other members of our soccer community
- Reason for the exception (for example: "I want to play with my son when he's home from college", "I want this player to join my team when they turn 30 next year and want to start bringing them into the community now")
- Number of sessions the underage man is expected to play
- Number of underage men already granted exceptions (reason: we want to limit the number of exceptions to 10 or fewer per season)

All underage men approved to play will be on probation until they turn 30. At any time, the 8v8 Coordinator(s) can revoke the exception and inform the player in writing that he can no longer play in the 8v8 sessions.

Complaint Process

Any member of the 8v8 community can file a complaint about the behavior of any underage 8v8 player. All complaints will be investigated by the 8v8 Coordinator, who may choose to solicit

help from the MCSL Disciplinary Committee if needed. The 8v8 Coordinator(s) may choose to revoke the exception or may give the player a final warning and specific feedback to see if they are able to change their behavior.